

the attorneys general of some of our provinces, instead of adopting a similar attitude, have seen fit to give a great many opinions on various matters. The subject matters may come before the law courts and the attorneys general are judicial officers.

Another amendment which I should like to see the department introduce is with regard to juries, to provide, for instance, that the judge shall enter verdict without any comment, because the functions of the judge and the jury are clearly defined. I trust that the jury system will not be interfered with in the code, because it has done good work and is badly needed at the present time.

Another matter to which I might refer is the question of appeals to the privy council. The former member for St. Lawrence-St. George had a bill before this house for the abolition of such appeals, and the matter went to the supreme court. I hope the bill will be left in abeyance. Appeals to the privy council are one link we hold within the empire. Under the Supreme Court Act I should like to see a reference to the Supreme Court of Canada of a bill I introduced to provide that the judges in this country shall follow the decisions of his majesty in his privy council. The case on marriage laws here came up and a decision was given on validity. This has been supported by Chief Justice Greenshields of Quebec, a very able judge, who laid down that they are legal and no canon law should upset them, I have no doubt that if there were an appeal on a question of law to the Supreme Court of Canada under the Supreme Court Act, they would establish the decision of Mr. Justice Greenshields as the law of this country long overdue. The courts are subservient to the legislature, and it is the duty of judges to interpret the law as it stands, as it is found in the textbooks and the authorities and by the court of last resort, the privy council, one court where a litigant is always sure of substantial justice. I submit that the department should come to some decision in this matter. Many requests have been made to have such an appeal taken. The minister, after all, has a function to perform as Attorney General to enforce the law and clear up the law.

In passing, may I request the right hon. gentleman's attention for a moment as Minister of Justice. I see the hon. member for Parkdale (Mr. Bruce) in conversation with him. I do not like to interrupt them, but I suggest that the subject I am discussing at the moment is of sufficient importance to call for a little of the minister's undivided attention for a few minutes. Yesterday, humorously he was talking about some of the

"N.G.s" on this side. I was not one selected for the minister's team by him of the "N.G.s" "N.G." means "no game," "no goal," "no guts," "no girl," no anything you like. I hope my good friend the hon. member for Parkdale did not go over to get on the Minister of Justice team to tell him what "N.G." means, and how to play if he gets on the team, because the minister has a keen sense of good humour.

I would ask in all seriousness that the minister state a case to be referred to the supreme court in order to determine that question of law, that judges shall follow the decisions of his majesty in his privy council, because the decisions of the privy council in London are binding on all the courts of this country in every province.

I have already referred to the question of motor car accidents, but the situation to-day is so serious that I refer to it once again by way of emphasis. I hope the minister will seriously consider an amendment that will give us a real remedy. Why, fifty-four soldiers, some by hit-and-run drivers, have been knocked down and killed in the various military districts in one year. I do not want to see the minister himself knocked down, but I know he has been in danger himself. I saw him walking in front of the Rideau club one day and he had a close shave. He may not have seen the car of which he might easily have been a victim. I should not like to see the hon. member for Parkdale or the Prime Minister, or the leader of the opposition or the learned Minister of Pensions run any risks, because they do not step as lively as they used to, nor do any of us sometimes.

It is impossible for the Minister of Justice efficiently to discharge his duties unless he is given additional help along the lines I have suggested, namely, on the judicial and the administrative sides and in connection with work similar to that done in England by the Home Secretary.

Many recommendations have been made with regard to amendments to the code, and I do hope that something will be done to implement some of the most urgent of them. I think the minister is to be commended for bringing down his estimates so early in the session, so that judges and others in authority may have an opportunity to express themselves with regard to any statutory amendments that may be contemplated. The department is a very good one; there is an active minister, and I hope that during the recess he will take these suggestions into consideration.

Canada is away behind the times in law reform. It has been talked of for twenty-