

Judges Act

years. To obtain a two-thirds pension, they would be required to work approximately 33 years. Both pensions are indexed to the rate of inflation, and there is no fund for the pensions of judges. It is creating a new class of people, those who are judges. Judges do not have to pay in anything like what they take out because they are considered by our so-called democrats on the opposite side of the House to be special people who should not have to do what everybody else must do.

● (2140)

I see my time is quickly running out. I would like to deal with a couple of other aspects with respect to judges' pensions. To obtain a two-thirds pension a judge need serve only 15 years, or in some instances, ten years. As I just mentioned, public servants, members of the armed forces or members of the RCMP would have to serve 33 years to receive a two-thirds pension. In other words, a judge is something special. A poor mounted policeman who goes out and risks his life 24 hours a day must work 33 years to get the same benefits—

Mr. Chrétien: A fallacy!

Mr. Kilgour: It happens to be the truth. I dare say it is important to appreciate the difference. As I mentioned, judges contributed 1 per cent for their indexation—

Mr. Chrétien: Following the lead of Jacques Flynn.

Mr. Kilgour: Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the Minister of Justice has been lobbied by the lawyers of the Canadian Bar Association. Two-thirds of the people in this House read the *National*, which comes out once a month, and which has a new article every time saying that the poor judges are underpaid.

Mr. Robison (Burnaby): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The hon. member is aware that this very important bill has been awaited for some time by the federal judiciary. I wonder if he is prepared to draw his remarks to a close very quickly in order that this matter might be studied in committee rather than needlessly prolonging the debate on this important bill.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Kilgour: The hon. member for Burnaby (Mr. Robison) has, I believe, been a practising member of the Bar for a total of only ten months. Is that not right?

An hon. Member: So what?

Mr. Kilgour: I appreciate the cost of living in British Columbia is quite high. Since I have the undivided attention of members opposite—

Mr. Chrétien: You would honour yourself by sitting down!

Mr. Waddell: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. member would permit a question.

Mr. Baker (Nepean-Carleton): When he has finished his speech.

Mr. Kilgour: I know the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mr. Waddell) is anxious to hear about the Casgrain report.

That report made the following recommendations:

1. Judges' salaries should be fixed by the governor in council after consultation with an advisory committee constituted for that purpose.
2. While awaiting the establishment of the advisory committee the Judges' Act should be amended to provide for an increase of at least \$5,000 in each of the years 1979 and 1980.
3. The \$3,000 allowance paid to judges since June 1, 1971, should be converted to a non-taxable allowance.
4. Pension contributions should be virtually eliminated and the discrimination between payments made by "old" and "new" judges should be eliminated retroactively.
5. The gap between salaries of Superior Court judges and those of district and county courts should be eliminated progressively.

I quite agree with that last point. I will now deal with the Dorfman report which recommended:

1. Salary increases of \$3,500 to be effective April 1, 1979, and same amount on April 1, 1980.
2. A non-taxable allowance of \$1,000 for expenditures on textbooks, law reports, court office.

I would again remind the hon. Minister of Justice that to my knowledge there is not one judge's library in any of the four provinces in which I have practised law which is not perfectly adequately shelved with books.

The Dorfman report also made these recommendations:

3. That the Judges' Act be amended effective February 17, 1975, to require contributions to supplementary benefits retirement only (1 per cent of salary).
4. Gradual reduction of differential between salaries of Superior Court judges and called for special allowance for judges of Supreme Court of Yukon and N.W.T.
5. Recognized the need for a more flexible procedure to fix judges' salaries.

Mr. Speaker, are you ruling that it is now 9.45?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): Yes.

Mr. Kilgour: Then may I claim the floor next time?

Mr. Chrétien: Shame on you!

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● (2150)

POINT OF ORDER

TABLING OF DOCUMENTS—INCLUSION AS APPENDIX TO "HANSARD"

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): As hon. members are aware it is now appropriate to call for the deferred division. First, though, I would request the kindly co-operation of hon. members in the House in assisting me to clear up a technical and procedural problem. If I may have a moment of your time I will explain it. With the unanimous consent of hon. members it can then be disposed of.

Standing Order 41(1) and (2) provides that only a minister or parliamentary secretary may table documents with respect to the department for which they are responsible. Earlier in