

have now \$7,000 a year, and two \$4,500 each. This makes an annual addition of \$60,356 to the cost of administration of justice in Quebec. There is manifestly a want of proportion when we compare the salaries of the judges of the Superior Court of Quebec with those of the County Courts of the other Provinces.

The Chiefs of the Supreme Courts of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba, British Columbia and North-West Territories are to have \$7,000 each, and the puisne judges of these Courts \$6,000 each. The Chief of the Supreme Court of Prince Edward's Island has \$6,000, and his assistants \$5,200 each. All this is also as it should be; indeed, it would not have been unreasonable if all judicial salaries (with the one exception above referred to) had been made even larger. In proportion to Parliamentary and ministerial salaries, as now fixed, they should be larger. But we are very glad that an increase has at last been made.

The judges of the County Courts are also better paid than formerly, the sum of \$3,000 per annum being now the standard.

As stated by the Premier, the question of judicial salaries and the apportionment of judicial work is "undoubtedly one of the most vexed and most complicated questions with which the Parliament of Canada is called upon to deal. The reason has been stated more than once in the course of this debate; it is because there is divided legislative authority over this matter. The constitution of the Court belongs to the Province, but the appointment of judges belongs to the Federal Government. I agree that there is less litigation in some parts of the country than there was, but at the same time there is more in several other parts. In the cities there is a new class of litigation which has arisen from new inventions. The tendency has been to transfer legal and judicial business from the rural parts of the community to the centres, to the large cities. The real trouble arises not so much from the fact that the Bench is over-manned as from the defective distribution of work. We are inheriting a condition of things created many years ago. Speaking for my own Province (Quebec) it would not be a disadvantage, and I suppose in Ontario there would be no disadvantage if we would remove one-half the law Courts which are scattered over the Province, but the difficulty is to do that. If there is to be, as has been said