

470  
May  
Tenth  
1921.

Honorable Hugh Guthrie,  
Minister of Militia & Defence,  
OTTAWA.

Dear Mr. Guthrie:-

You will, I hope, pardon the liberty I am taking in writing to you this letter.

I have been told that some changes are likely to occur in the personnel of the Supreme Court and the Appeal Court in British Columbia, that Mr. Justice Clement and Mr. Justice Ebert may retire shortly. I have no doubt the claims of many will be put forward, but I would like to mention the name of Mr. P. S. Lampman, now County Court Judge in Victoria.

Judge Lampman had held that position for a great many years and is noted for the careful attention he gives to his work and for the eminent common sense displayed in his decisions. I believe he knows as much law as any judge on the Bench in British Columbia and he has as much common sense and a great deal more than some. He is a man held in the highest regard by the people of Vancouver Island and I am sure by the Bar of the Province generally.

I should think it would be a very good practice to promote County Court judges to the Supreme Court Bench when they were thoroughly well-qualified. It would raise the dignity of the County Court Bench and would result in greater care being exercised when appointments to that Court were made. On the other hand, if the man promoted were in all respects fitted for the superior position the Supreme Court Bench would not lose in any way.