

government forced the government at Ottawa to make him a judge.

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—I said the provincial government of Manitoba refused to allow the Act to be brought into force by order in council, until this government agreed to a Conservative as one of the three judges constituting the Court of Appeal, and in that way Judge Phippen came to be appointed. No doubt he was appointed because of his ability; he was one of the foremost lawyers in the profession.

Hon. Mr. WATSON—Does the hon. gentleman know what he has stated to be true?

Hon. Mr. LOUGHEED—Yes. I assume the responsibility of saying it is true. If the Manitoba government had not taken that stand, three Liberal judges would have been appointed.

Hon. Mr. WATSON—As one of the parties consulted in recommending judges for appointment, I never heard of the proposition which the hon. gentleman has mentioned. Judge Phippen was appointed because of his fitness. I do not think it is a good thing to have a strong partisan appointed. My experience is that when they are appointed, they are so very much afraid of being regarded as partisans that they are inclined to lean the other way. The hon. leader of the opposition says that one of the two commissioners to be appointed under this Bill should be a Conservative. I hope the government will select men who are neither Liberal nor Conservative—men you could not brand as belonging to either party. They may be hard to find, but there are such gentlemen to be found. Any minister ought to have his officials in close touch with him, in political sympathy with him, because such men will try to popularize the minister and the department. If a change of government were to take place, deputy heads would be removed if they were bitter partisans. If the hon. gentleman were Minister of the Interior, he might not be satisfied with the present deputy head of that department. It would be a great mistake to carry out the idea that we should say to what political party the commissioners

should belong. In conclusion, I wish to state emphatically that the selection of Judge Phippen to the King's Bench was not done at the suggestion of any of the hon. gentleman's political friends.

Hon. Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL—Can any one tell us why the Act in Manitoba was held up for about a year and a half before it was brought in force?

Hon. Mr. WATSON—No, I cannot tell.

Hon. Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT—Speaking with some considerable experience of the Civil Service, I say that it is eminently desirable that civil servants should, as far as possible, be removed from politics. In my own department, I have acted on that principle. I have paid no regard to the political proclivities of those under me that I found there. Of course the appointments I made were for my own friends, but any one I found there has received full consideration from me, whatever his proclivities may have been. A great stride is being made in the provisions of this Bill. The entrance into the Civil Service from this time forth will be by merit, decided on competition, as in England. That is a very great improvement, and will lead to great improvement in the service. Furthermore, I can say in the case of most of my colleagues, and I am bound to say I have observed it to a considerable extent in the case of my predecessors, the heads of departments, if they have good men under them who are capable of carrying out their wishes and carrying on the business of the departments, will be glad to promote such men and do all they can for them. I think that was the case to a very reasonable extent under my hon. friend opposite (Sir Mackenzie Bowell) and I know that it has been the case in a good many other departments. It is very much the interest of a minister in charge of a department to have good and capable servants under him, and allowing without distinction of party or prejudice every man who chooses to go into the Civil Service to compete in the form proposed by this Bill, will, I believe, shortly produce very important results. I should be very averse indeed to anything approaching the United States spoils system