

there was to be an appeal direct to the Supreme Court of Canada. As the court may be reduced to one judge under this statute, the appeal is given in all cases.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. In this section you do not go to the Court of Appeal of British Columbia, but directly to the Supreme Court of Canada. There may be some reason for it, which I would like to know. So far you have made the appeal from the territorial court to the Court of Appeal of British Columbia. Now, you pass directly from the territorial court to the Supreme Court of Canada, passing by the Court of Appeal of British Columbia.

Mr. BORDEN. I observe that. I really do not know just what consideration influenced the Minister of Justice in that regard. I will be glad to let that section stand.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I would like to know; there may be some reason for it.

Mr. BORDEN. I think the inquiry of the right hon. gentleman is very pertinent. I have not consulted the Minister of Justice with regard to that, and I cannot state what his view was when he drew up that amendment.

Progress reported.

SALARIES OF JUDGES.

House went into committee to consider the following proposed resolution:

Resolved, That it is expedient to amend the Judges Act, and to provide as follows:

For an assistant judge of the Exchequer Court of Canada, at a salary of \$6,000 per annum.

For two additional judges of the High Court of Justice for Ontario at a salary of \$7,000 each per annum.

To increase the salary of the judge for the district of Montmagny to \$7,000 per annum.

For an additional puisne judge of the Superior Court of the province of Quebec at a salary of \$5,000 per annum.

For an additional puisne judge of the Court of Appeal for Manitoba, at a salary of \$7,000 per annum.

For an additional puisne judge of the Court of King's Bench of the province of Manitoba at a salary of \$6,000 per annum.

For an additional puisne judge of the supreme Court of Alberta, at a salary of \$6,000 per annum.

For an additional district court judge of the province of Saskatchewan at a salary of \$2,500 per annum during the first three years of service; and after three years of service at a salary of \$3,000 per annum.

For two additional district court judges of the province of Alberta at a salary of \$2,500 each per annum during the first three years of service; and after three years of service at a salary of \$3,000 each per annum.—Mr. Doherty.

Mr. BORDEN.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Mr. Chairman, this is rather a comprehensive motion. I have no doubt that some of its dispositions are quite necessary. I suppose there can be no objection to the additional judges in the provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan where the business has certainly largely increased. I am not so sure about some of the other proposals. I presume that my right hon. friend the Prime Minister (Mr. Borden) is not in a position to-day to give all the information which it would be valuable to have when we come to discuss the Bill, and I would suggest that it would be advisable to ask the Minister of Justice to give statistics about the work in the court of exchequer to justify the appointment of an additional judge. Then, the judge of the district of Montmagny is going to receive an addition to his salary of \$2,000. I do not think that the judge of the district of Montmagny is very much overworked, if he is worked at all, and, therefore, it would be well to get some statistics of the work that he has to do to justify this increase. I am not pressing the question to-day, but I would like my right hon. friend to get the statistics for the second reading of the Bill.

Mr. BELAND. I might remark that the judge of the district of Montmagny also attends to the judicial business of the district of Beauce.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. Yes, I know.

Mr. BELAND. In the district of Beauce there has been a great increase in the judicial business in the last ten years. I do not say that it would be sufficient to warrant an increase in salary, but I want to make this statement to the House. There is an important increase in the judicial business of the district of Beauce itself, but as to Montmagny I am not in a position to speak.

Mr. BORDEN. I have understood from the Minister of Justice that in respect of the proposals embodied in this resolution, provincial legislation has been passed, with the exception of the two provisions which my right hon. friend (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) has mentioned. As far as the judge of the exchequer court is concerned, I will ask the Minister of Justice to get the information. As far as the judge of the district of Montmagny is concerned, I had understood from the Minister of Justice, in discussing the matter with him, just what the hon. member for Beauce (Mr. Beland) has mentioned, that the judge presides over what is really equivalent to two districts, and does a very large amount of work. However, I shall ask the Minister of Justice with respect to that. And he will be prepared to give the information which my right hon. friend has asked for.