

service; or 70 years and 25 years service; or 30 years service irrespective of age.

On section 4,

Mr. SPROULE. What difference do you make between stipendiary magistrates of the North-west Territories and other stipendiary magistrates?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE. I ought to say that this is a special provision made applicable to Mr. Justice Richardson, who went to the North-west Territories a great many years ago at the beginning of the organization of the territories and who served for many years as stipendiary magistrate. During the time he performed the duties of stipendiary magistrate he really was a Superior Court judge. He is a very old man and it would be unfair to allow others who have not performed any greater service than he has, to retire on full pay and not give him the benefit. This is to provide for the case of Mr. Justice Richardson, of Regina.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria, N. S.). What does the Minister of Justice propose doing in the case of judges who are not able to act, and will never be able to act, not because of old age, but because of infirmity. There ought to be some provision for a case of that kind. I have a case in my mind now in which a young judge has been stricken with illness so that he is not able to, and will never be able, to sit on the Supreme Court bench of Nova Scotia again. There should be some provision for cases of that kind.

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE. I presume that my hon. friend (Hon. Mr. Ross) refers to the case of Mr. Justice Henry, of Halifax, and that is a case of very, very great hardship.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria, N.S.). It is to him I refer.

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE. Mr. Justice Henry is a very distinguished man who was appointed by Sir John Thompson a few years ago and who in recent years has been afflicted with an infirmity which makes it impossible for him to communicate his ideas or to perform his duties. It is one of those cases of hardship which I find it very hard to deal with, and I would prefer not to be asked to deal with it at the present moment in connection with this particular Bill. We all sympathize with Mr. Justice Henry, and I would prefer if my hon. friend would allow the matter to remain in abeyance for the present at all events.

Hon. Mr. ROSS (Victoria, N.S.). I am satisfied to leave the case in the hands of the Minister of Justice.

Mr. WADE. I also am quite satisfied that it should be left to the Minister of Justice to deal with the case, but I do not wish the matter to pass without saying a word in endorsement of the remarks made by the hon.

Hon. Mr. FITZPATRICK.

member for Victoria (Hon. Mr. Ross). The case of Mr. Justice Henry is one of peculiar hardship. He is a comparatively young man who has not sat more than ten years on the bench, and I do trust that the Minister of Justice will see his way clear to give the greatest measure of relief he possibly can. Permit me to refer to the statement made by the Minister of Justice the other night, when he said that he did not propose to do anything at present with regard to the salaries of judges. I urge upon him now, as I have already urged upon a former Minister of Justice, the total inadequacy of the salaries that are meted out to our judges in the province of Nova Scotia. They have only \$4,000 a year, although they perform quite as important duties as the judges in the other provinces. I am at a loss to understand how any hon. gentlemen can defend the payment of only \$4,000 a year to the judges of Nova Scotia, and \$5,000 a year to judges in other provinces. It is absolutely unfair, and I think we can appeal to the sense of fair play and justice of members on both sides of the House, that these salaries ought to be readjusted.

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE. The other day my hon. friend from Elgin (Mr. Robinson) mentioned the case of Mr. Justice Hughes, of St. Thomas, and I beg to say to my hon. friend that I hope to be able to meet his views in connection with that matter.

Resolution reported, and read the first time.

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE moved that the resolutions be now read the second time and agreed to.

Mr. JABEL ROBINSON (Elgin). Mr. Speaker, I asked the hon. Minister of Justice to allow the case of Judge Hughes, of the county of Elgin, to stand until he had served his fiftieth year as judge of the county, and the minister promised to do so.

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE. The case of Mr. Justice Hughes was brought to my notice by the hon. member, and I expect at a later stage to make a statement on that subject; but in the meantime, I may say that I have consulted those in authority, and we consider that this application on behalf of Mr. Justice Hughes is a very reasonable one, and one which we hope to be able to meet.

Mr. ROBINSON (Elgin). Thank you.

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE moved for leave to introduce Bill (No. 243) to amend the Supreme and Exchequer Courts Act, the Exchequer Court Act, and the Act respecting Judges of Provincial Courts.

Motion agreed to, and Bill read the first and second time, considered in committee, reported, read the third time and passed.