

ple? Simply because the judges felt themselves perfectly independent. It would be a discreditable thing if such a Province as Ontario should attempt to break faith with her judges, for it amounted to that. A thousand dollars or ten thousand dollars was a small matter as compared with the dignity and rectitude of the Bench.

Mr. DEACON suggested to the Chairman that this item was one upon which this House could not vote, and it therefore should be ruled out of order. He thought it a most unfortunate thing that a discussion should have taken place upon it.

The CHAIRMAN ruled that, as this item had been voted upon every year, it was one upon which a vote might properly be taken.

Mr. PAXTON said that in a sum of this magnitude the motion was a wise one, and he would support it.

Mr. FERRIS said the legal fraternity in the House were a unit upon anything affecting gentlemen of the long robe. He did not believe that our judges were overpaid, but he would like to quote from the list of salaries in a country quite as able to pay as the Province of Ontario. The judges of the Supreme Court in the United States were paid \$10,000, and the others received \$6,000.

Mr. BETHUNE—These are the National judges. The Superior judges of New York get \$15,000 a year each.

Mr. FERRIS continued that legal gentlemen in the House seemed to think that though any other part of the Civil Service might be treated in any way they pleased, when it came to a question affecting the legal profession the House should not touch upon it.

Mr. CODE agreed with the last speaker that this item was one which might well be voted upon. He was prepared to vote against granting the amount, on the ground that the increase had been made by the Dominion Government and should be paid by them.

Mr. BRODER thought it an unfortunate thing that this discussion had degenerated into a dispute between the laymen and members of the legal profession. Every hon. member would be willing to give the judges of the land such a position and such support as to remove them completely out of the reach of any taint of dishonour. He thought gentlemen did not accept the position of judge because they got a certain salary with it. A seat on the Bench was to be considered an honour, and gentlemen who accepted it recognized the honour conferred upon them. He believed there was no understanding with the Dominion Government as to what salary should be paid to the judges—if there was that contract should be kept. The Dominion Government having appointed the judges should take the responsibility of paying their salaries.

The resolution was lost on division.

The item was declared carried.

The amount of \$4,900 was voted for Practice and other Courts.

With regard to the item Criminal Justice, \$164,000,

Mr. MEREDITH desired to have an explanation concerning the item \$10,000 for Crown counsel prosecutions, as he found it \$11,200 the year before.

Mr. MOWAT said it was almost a matter of conjecture as to what the amount would be, but it had been thought that the amount asked for would be sufficient.

Mr. MEREDITH thought the members of the Ministry should take more active part personally in these cases, as nearly all of them were in the legal profession. This would save the feeing of so many lawyers.

Mr. ROSS desired to direct the attention of the Government to the saving which might be effected by being more careful of the number of witnesses paid in criminal cases. A large number of witnesses were called and paid who were not at all necessary to the cases in connection with which they appeared in Court.

Mr. MEREDITH said there appeared in the Public Accounts an amount of about \$3,000, which the Province paid for the Lincoln Election Case. He thought this should not be borne by the Province at large.

Mr. MOWAT said that under the present

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Mr. Wood—On Wednesday
Committee on
following resolution:—
ernor in Council may
his discretion, invest
of two hundred thou
in the tenth section
Drainage Act in the
ventures issued und
deposited with the
culture, together with
Reeve in the form of
and C. of the said Act
and in respect of w
of Agriculture shall
propriety of investm