

The Legal News.

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THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

Two meetings of the Montreal bar have been held recently, at which various suggestions for the better administration of justice were discussed. The result was that the following received the unanimous assent of the members present :—

1. That there be only one division, except in cases of emergency as hereafter mentioned.

2. That the Court shall sit every juridical day except Saturday.

3. That cases be inscribed on the *role* generally, and not for any fixed day.

4. That on receipt of each inscription by the Prothonotary he shall immediately assign the nearest possible day for the hearing of the case inscribed, which shall be more than eight days after the filing of the inscription, unless both parties consent to a shorter delay, and thereupon the inscribing party shall notify the opposite party of the day so fixed for the trial of the case.

5. That the Prothonotary shall assign the days for trial of the several cases inscribed, according to the order of the receipt of each inscription, and shall put down five, and not more than five cases for each day of the sitting of the Court.

6. That each Judge shall only sit for one week at a time.

7. That the presiding Judge shall have power in his discretion to direct that a case which he may be incompetent to try, or which he may deem likely to be of a protracted character, be tried in another division, and it shall thereupon be the duty of another Judge of the Court to take the trial of such case in another separate division.

8. That the Court shall open at half-past ten in the forenoon, and shall sit till five o'clock in the afternoon, less the usual recess of one hour for lunch. And that the Court should not finally adjourn before three o'clock, unless all the parties interested in cases on the *role* for the day declare that they do not intend to proceed that day.

9. That any case which has to be continued beyond the day fixed for trial shall be put at the foot of the general *role*.

10. That in the taking of evidence stenographically, only the material parts of the evidence shall be taken down, under the direction of the judge.

11. That the rule with regard to deposit be strictly enforced.

12. That the stenographer shall read over the evidence to the witness before he leaves the box and in the presence of the Court, and shall transcribe and deposit the same, so transcribed, with the Prothonotary within three days from the examination of the witness, under pain of suspension, and that he be paid therefor at the rate of ten cents per 100 words.

The following suggestions, with regard to cases inscribed for hearing on the merits, were also approved :—

1. That the Court shall sit during the first ten juridical days of each month, over and above the Saturdays, which shall not be computed among such days.

2. That cases be inscribed on the *role* generally, and not for any fixed day.

3. That on receipt of each inscription by the Prothonotary he shall immediately assign the nearest possible day for the hearing of the case inscribed, which shall be more than one clear day, when inscribed in term, and four days when inscribed in vacation, after the fixing of the inscription, and thereupon the inscribing party shall notify the opposite party of the day so fixed for the hearing of the case.

4. That the Prothonotary shall assign the days for hearing of the several cases inscribed, according to the order of the receipt of each inscription, and shall put down six, and not more than six cases, for each day of the sitting of the Court.

5. That any case which has to be continued beyond the day fixed for hearing, shall be put at the foot of the general *role*.

6. That each judge shall only sit for one week at a time.

STENOGRAPHERS' FEES.

It is well known that a previous reduction of stenographers' fees in the Montreal Court House, from thirty to twenty cents per hundred words, had the effect of driving some of the most com-