so that there may be as little overlapping and competition as possible.

Even when we are legislating upon new questions of general interest which transcend the bounds of the province and which have no foundations in the past, we work in isolation instead of in concert. The Workmen's Compensation Acts are not based on the existing law of torts in the several provinces, but on the contrary involve a distinct departure from traditional principles. They embody a new theory which recognizes the inadequacy of the ordinary legal principles of responsibility, and which substitutes therefor the view that risks incidental to a business should be a charge on that business. This was pre-eminently a case for co-operative effort in order to produce uniformity of treatment throughout the whole Dominion, instead of allowing separate provincial commissions to create diversity and conflict where none previously existed. As a result we have confusion, uncertainty and contrariety, where it would have been humane to make the law simple, sure and uniform, and to produce a measure that would not have compelled the unfortunate victim to go through two or three courts before ascertaining what his rights are.

Not only does the substantive law invite the efforts of the reformer, but also the law of procedure. Many a suitor is deterred from pressing his claim in a sister province by the unfamiliar terms and methods employed in another forum than his own. Here, at least, we should not be hampered by the traditions of the past, for archaic forms and practices are survivals of a period when the rights of the litigants were too often lost sight of in the intricacies of procedure. Procedure should be the obedient handmaiden and not the arrogant mistress of substantive law. Some of our provinces have made greater strides than others in their emancipation from rigid and technical forms of practice, and nothing but good would result from an attempt to assimilate the different systems.

The subjects which I have selected for your consideration do not by any means exhaust the list of those which might be