

—require an early re-adjustment of the scale of judicial salaries.

A more sordid and selfish reason might be suggested, and it might be urged upon the Statesmen who have the matter in charge that the public interest cannot be properly served if, in the administration of justice, those concerned labour under a feeling of injustice and resentment, conscious that their work is inadequately remunerated.

Let us hope that the ignoble parsimony which continues a glaring injustice may, before our next annual banquet, have been removed, and that Parliament will have listened to the blended appeals of fair play and self interest, and have established the emoluments of the judicial office on a scale commensurate with its dignity and the sacred duties attached to it.

I need make no apology for having referred to this familiar and family grievance in the presence of our guests, for no classes in the community are more deeply interested in the proper administration of justice than our municipal institutions and those who are concerned in our commerce and manufactures.

It is of vital import that the most inflexible independence should be displayed by our judges and even-handed justice dealt out to high and low, citizen and alien.

We are grateful for the countenance which the Board of Trade and La Chambre de Commerce have recently given to the efforts being made to remedy the existing grievances, and I feel persuaded that the Chief Magistrate of our City will, in view of the importance of the subject to his corporation, recognize that as no small share of the additional burdens of the Montreal Bench is due to the work