

Do the judges think that "the boys will get better as they grow older?" and are they trusting to time to quiet the turbulent spirits? Are they prepared to allow themselves to be insulted until human nature changes? If not, they must put aside some of their good nature and come down with heavy and vigorous hand sharply upon all transgressors of propriety, and save our courts from sinking beneath the level of the bar-rooms.

BRIBING A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT—IS IT A CRIMINAL OFFENCE?

THE following is the judgment of the Toronto Police Magistrate in a case recently before him, so far as it contains an exposition of the law. It is of general interest and importance, and will not appear in the reports.

"The defendants are charged with unlawfully conspiring to corrupt, deprave, impair, alter, and frustrate the constitutional procedure and action of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario and the members thereof in their votes and proceedings therein at the last session by bribing members of the said Legislative Assembly to vote in opposition to the existing administration of the Executive Government of the Province of Ontario and the members of the said Assembly supporting such Government upon questions arising and to arise in such Assembly. Conspiracy is defined to be an agreement of two or more to do an unlawful act or to do a lawful act by unlawful means. The object of the conspiracy charged is said to be to defeat the Mowat Government and the establishment of another in its place. This in itself is not an unlawful object, if accomplished by lawful means, within the spirit of the constitution, but if done by bribery and corruption the effect might be to change the whole course of legislation in this Province from its proper and