

In this connection the language of Michel, J., in *Lilburne's* case reported in Howard's State Trials, might well be adopted.

"You were speaking of the laws being in other tongues; those that we try you by are in English; and we proceed in English against you; and therefore you have no cause to complain."

An Act has been passed at the last session of our Legislature which will allow seven or eight of the younger men to be elected to the honourable office of Benchers of the Law Society. Benchers who have been elected for twenty years will continue in office, but their names will not be counted among the thirty elected members. Those who will be affected are, generally speaking, the elder brethren of the profession, against whom no one would vote. Indeed they are the men who ought to be honoured by the profession. Seven or eight seats which will thus be put at the disposal of the electorate, will, no doubt, be evenly divided between Toronto and the rest of the profession. At the last election the ten who came next to the first thirty included five Toronto barristers and five from outside cities and towns.

There are one or two matters which in conclusion I might bring before you. Our profession needs to wake up and insist on modern methods being adopted. We are working under a tariff over a half century old, and we still have to justify before a taxing officer each petty item of fifty or twenty-five cents. I refer not merely to the inadequacy of the tariff, but to its annoying and burdensome requirements, necessitating the keeping of dockets filled with the minutest particulars of work done and telephone messages sent and received. Some change is necessary whereby both we and our clients can ascertain by a system of block charges what the issue of a writ will cost, what a case can be taken down to trial for, what a trial would cost, and what an appeal will involve. This could readily be done if undertaken in a businesslike way.

The whole system of circuits needs reorganization; the development of legal business in Northern Ontario requiring more time to be given to that district, while in many of the Eastern counties circuits might be grouped, saving judicial time and