

The subject matter of the judgment delivered by the Chancellor of Ontario referred to in *Re Solicitor*, post p. 575 is of much interest to the profession. A correspondent takes exception to the conclusion arrived at, but we cannot, of course, without a full understanding of the facts and reasons given by the learned Chancellor for his decision, criticise his findings. But assuming that these are in accordance with the existing state of the law as to costs between solicitors and clients, the thought arises whether the ancient law of champerty is entirely in keeping with the business relations and social conditions existing in the beginning of the 20th century. It has been, and often is a hardship on clients to prevent an agreement whereby the solicitor is to share with the client in the proceeds of a litigated claim as compensation for services rendered. A poor man may thus be prevented from recovering a claim to which he is justly entitled. The subject, however, is a large one, and any change in the law could only be made after careful consideration, and ascertaining, as far as possible, the result in other countries of a change in the old law of England to one which many contend is a more beneficial system and more in accord with present conditions. We should be glad to hear from some of our subscribers as to their views on this subject.

According to the *Law Times* a remarkable feature of the legislation in England of the last twenty years is the manner in which it has resulted in the separation of the law of England and Ireland. Common law and equity, of course, form the basis of the law in both countries, but the statute law of the two countries is drifting farther and farther apart. An evidence of this development is the fact that English text books are becoming less useful in Ireland than they formerly were. That such a retrograde movement in matters appertaining to jurisprudence should take place in the twentieth century is curious, and it would seem to be only possible in the case of the "sister kingdom" and that for a reason well understood by those who live there, but which apparently is impossible of remedy.