

ADMINISTRATION OF INTESTATE ESTATES.

Where a person dies without having left a will, it becomes necessary to take out letters of administration to the estate. The recent change in the law of Ontario, under which realty as well as personalty devolves upon the personal representatives of deceased persons, requires that the parties petitioning for administration of the intestate's estate shall give security for double the value of both the real and personal property; thus greatly increasing the risk and responsibility of individuals who undertake such duties. If an administrator has only to realize upon the estate and distribute it to the heirs, the responsibility, of course, continues for a shorter time; but if infants are interested in the estate and the funds have to be invested and cared for during a long period, the difficulties and objections in the way of appointing private individuals as administrators are vastly increased.

So long as these duties could be discharged only by individuals it was unavoidable that these responsibilities should be imposed upon some friend, who in turn might demand a similar responsibility to be assumed on his behalf. The organization, however, of *The Toronto General Trusts Company* relieves all persons in Ontario from any hesitation in declining to act as administrator, and also from the unpleasantness of soliciting any friend to undertake similar responsibilities on their account.

The Act incorporating the Company (34 Vic. Cap. 83), provides that in case of its appointment by the Court, the Company shall not be required to give any security; but the court, if it deems it necessary, may from time to time appoint a suitable person to investigate the affairs and management of the company, who shall report thereon to the court.