

sion in Ontario, but it is their duty, to see that the Bill at present before the Legislature is made effective, not only for the purposes of the corporations, but also of the public. Company law has become more specialized, and it is to the profession alone that the Government may look with confidence for suggestions regarding the Bill. No doubt many business men have views upon the subject that are worth considering, but the layman can only express what the result should be, and his means of attaining it are usually ineffective.

The number of special statutes relating to companies has multiplied. It is in the public interest that the multiplication should cease, and that these Acts should be consolidated. This has led to a great increase of the statute law and created legal difficulties as well as anomalies. In the Timber Slide Companies Act are found many provisions relating to the rights and duties of owners of river improvements, which are repeated in the Act respecting Public Property in Rivers and Streams. There are at least four methods of proceeding in cases of expropriation. There are three methods of incorporating companies, and in two of them the record of incorporation is defective, and no means of ascertaining the public to ascertain who may be the officers or what may be the scope of the corporate powers is provided. The Cemetery Companies Act makes proper provisions for the care and protection of cemeteries owned by companies, and the way of interring bodies. There is nothing in the statute law making similar provisions for other cemeteries. The statute overlooks the fact that a cemetery company as a company is no different from another company, but a cemetery is very different from another piece of land.

However, in the consolidation the greatest care should be taken. Many companies have been incorporated under these various Acts which if repealed may leave the companies without means of carrying on their business or perpetuating their existence. For instance, many insurance companies incorporated under the Provident and Benevolent Societies Act are carrying on extensive businesses throughout the province and elsewhere.