

care of the librarian, who, in addition to other duties, notes up in the Revised and Consolidated Statutes the amendments of subsequent years.

It is with regret, however, that your Trustees are unable to report any increase in the membership of the association.

Early in the year the President, accompanied Mr. W. F. Burton, of the Hamilton Law Association, and other gentlemen, in a deputation to the Minister of Justice for the purpose of asking that the Government legal publications, such as the Dominion Statutes, Orders in Council, Supreme Court Reports, and *Canada Gazette*, be given gratis to the various law associations of Ontario, to which request the Minister at once acceded.

The limited accommodation afforded to the judges and barristers in the court house having long been the subject of complaint by the profession, the President and Vice-president, accompanied by His Honour Judge Mosgrove, attended before the County Council at its June sittings and pointed out the bare and inefficient condition of the judges' retiring room and the barristers' consulting room. The Council, while not granting all that was asked, has since provided a retiring room for the County Judges, refurnished the rooms occupied by the Assize Judge and the barristers, and repainted the court room and the corridors.

The subject of decentralizing legal business also received the attention of the association. An opinion prevails with many members of the profession that the interests of the litigating public would be better served by the residence of one or more of the Superior Court judges in the districts situate at some distance from Toronto, such as Ottawa and London; that such judges should hear and determine all matters for those districts, which must now be sent to Toronto. At the meeting of the association held to discuss the matter there was considerable difference of opinion, but a resolution was ultimately passed favouring an increase of the jurisdiction of the County Court judges, as preferable to what was proposed. The Secretary was authorized to correspond with the other associations in the Province on the subject, but only one reply has been received.

At another meeting a committee was appointed to confer with the judge of the Exchequer Court respecting changes in some items in the tariff of costs allowed practitioners in that court. This committee has not yet concluded its work.

During the year Mr. Winchester inspected the library and books of your association, and he expressed himself as pleased with everything in connection therewith.

Your Trustees desire to record the presentation to the association by their President, Mr. J. A. Gemmill, of portraits of the first two judges of the county, the late Judge Armstrong and the late Judge Lyon.

The particulars required by the By-laws accompany this Report, being: