

the Dominion Board up to the present should be lowered and that it should descend to the level at times reached by its prototype of Ontario."

Now as to the criticism on Mr. Drayton's action. It will scarcely be credited that a legal journal could take the ground of objection that the *Canadian Law Times* does. It appears that Mr. Drayton declined to sit on this application because he had been concerned in the matter as Corporation Counsel for the City of Toronto and had given an opinion thereon to his then clients. It is surely unnecessary to say that Mr. Drayton simply did what any professional man would have done under similar circumstances, viz., he declined to sit on the case for the reason stated. This is a proposition in professional ethics so simple as to be obvious to anyone, be he lawyer or layman. But here we have a legal journal finding fault with this most commendable and proper action, for his doing otherwise than he did would have been a gross breach of the obviously proper rule and the universal practice obtaining under similar circumstances.

We notice that even a lay journal (*Ottawa Evening Journal*) takes this ground and it may be interesting to quote its words:—

"The value of this criticism may be judged in part from the fact that Mr. Drayton is specially blamed by the Toronto publication because he has refrained from taking part in the hearing of or decisions in disputes between Toronto and certain public-service corporations. Mr. Drayton's reason for refraining is that he was the Toronto city solicitor prior to becoming Chairman of the Railway Commission. As city solicitor, he, of course, committed himself to the city side. What sort of an umpire of such cases would he be accepted as now? The *Law Times* is silly. The fact is, so the Journal believes, and this is a good time to say it, the Railway Commission never stood higher in public estimation. Mr. Drayton has more than 'made good.' And Mr. Scott, the Assistant Chief Commissioner, has always, through his ability, fairness and public spirit, been a strength to the Board not perhaps fully realised by the public.