

will be touched, and burdened with liability for unnecessary costs.

The Supreme Court has recently framed an admirable group of rules for determining in advance questions of jurisdiction. It should not be unable to lay down a satisfactory rule for deciding whether, apart from formal findings, liability really exists for an amount over \$1,000.00. But necessity exists for some amendment either to its rules or to those sections of the Act respecting the court's constitution and powers which will settle such a question in a rational way. If not, parties must get the habit of appealing from the Court of Appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council where the amount involved is \$4,000.00 and of staying at home in all others.

PROFESSIONAL MEN FOR LEGAL OFFICES.

The Ontario Government has fallen from grace in connection with appointments to legal and quasi-judicial offices. We had pleasure on a recent occasion (ante, page 285) in commending them for commencing a new departure by forsaking the evil practice of their predecessors of appointing laymen to positions of the character above described. It appears now, however, that Mr. Harman was not made Registrar of the Surrogate Court of the County of York, in place of a deceased baker, as expected. There has been appointed to that office a journalist (Mr. Wallis), who has had no more experience than the deceased, though being a journalist, and a very intelligent one, he necessarily knows something about most things. The position is a lucrative one and therefore an appropriate one for political necessities. Mr. Harman, however, has been given the place occupied by the late Mr. Walter Read as counsel to the Statute Revision Commission. The position of Inspector of Insurance Companies, rendered vacant by the death of Mr. Hunter, has been filled by the appointment of Mr. A. R. Boswell. Both these appointments are good ones, and the profession may perhaps think they have done well in securing even two out of the three