

claims or wage claims, or those claims disposed of in the Municipal Court, or in criminal cases, there is not so much there; but in our regular Trial Courts we are sadly behind, and we find a situation which is demanding our attention. Judges have tried to remedy it of their own motion, but it is hard to hold the line exactly without going too much on one side or the other. For instance, the Judge may be altogether too strict. Different calendars are assigned to these Judges, and they take a certain pride, and there is a certain rivalry, in disposing of the cases, and keeping up with their work. Some Judges have gone to the extreme. I have known of a Judge having a list of one hundred cases, and he expected the people to be ready right away in those cases for trial; and if it should happen that the first case was ready for trial there would be no trouble, but if, for some reason or other, there were grounds for continuance, or the case should go off, there would be a run on the calendar which is almost as bad for lawyers as a run on the bank; and the Judge would go down the list, and if he was inclined to be severe he would dismiss the cases wholesale, which was of course a greater injustice to the people interested. On the other hand, it often happens that where there is a run on the calendar the Court cannot find any case to try during that day. He is practically, to use a common expression, put out of business that day; he has nothing to do. The first case goes off, and perhaps lawyers have relied on the first attorney or two being ready, and he at the last minute is disappointed, or perhaps he is called hurriedly into the trial of a case ahead of that one, and is actually engaged, which is ground for passing the case; and so we have a great deal of confusion. We are grappling with that problem and we hope to solve it.

[The speaker then referred at length to the work done by members of the Illinois Bar during the great war. This began by their valuable and energetic efforts to assist in suppressing and bringing to justice those engaged in the insidious and treasonable propaganda of the pro-German population. This was followed by an immense volume of work in connection with the war, most interesting, but which we have not space to refer to. Mr. Rathbone concluded as follows:]