

Canada Law Journal.

VOL. XXXIX.

JUNE 1, 1903.

NO. 11.

It is not a matter for regret that there is an increasing tendency on the part of Provincial Legislatures to provide for the appointment of Boards of Commissioners for various matters which would seem naturally to fall within the original scope of municipal government. A notable example is in the new Ontario Assessment Bill as to the appointment of a Board of Commissioners to deal with the assessment of franchises of companies. Apart from the question as to whether the assessment of franchises is wise (and we much doubt the wisdom), there is no doubt but that this inroad is a step in the right direction. Municipal management in country places is a very different matter from that in large cities. In the latter municipal government has not proved an unmixed success. This is not surprising when the power of dealing with matters affecting large financial operations, and incidentally the investment and safety of large amounts of capital is in the hands of aldermen whose seats mainly depend upon the vote of those who have practically nothing at stake. Labour unions and popular unreasoning clamour are not consistent with the careful, not to say honest, dealing with great financial interests and economic questions.

The subject of lawyers advertising for business is referred to in a case in the Supreme Court of Illinois with some appropriate remarks by the editor of the *Central Law Journal*. It appears that a certain attorney of that state published an advertisement as follows: "Loyal, wealthy, atty., guarantees family freedom in month; no advance costs; witnesses quietly volunteered," intending thereby to advertise to obtain divorces which it was claimed was in violation of a statute on the subject and that such conduct showed such a lack of good moral character as unfitted the advertiser from practicing law and justified his disbarment. The Court made absolute a rule nisi to that effect filed by the State Attorney of Cook County, and the offender was very properly struck off the roll of Attorneys. We have some unprofessional advertisers in this