

We publish in this number a letter from the Attorney-General of Ontario, addressed to the Law Associations and others, bringing to their attention some difficulties, with suggestions for remedies, in the administration of justice in this province. As will be seen, reference is made to the jurisdiction of Division Courts. As to these an increase is suggested, also an increase in the jurisdiction of County Courts, or else the merger of these Courts in the High Courts. It also refers to a suggestion for legalising agreements between solicitors and their clients as to payment of services. The Law Association of the County of Simcoe has expressed its views in a memorandum, the benefit of which we also give to our readers. We agree in the main with these views, but have some doubts as to whether the objections to solicitors and clients being permitted to make agreements respecting the amount and manner of payment for services are as great as this memorandum seems to think. That such arrangements are of every day occurrence at present cannot be denied, and, being contrary to the etiquette of the profession, we deplore them. It is suggested that it would be better to put all practitioners on the same footing, on the supposition that the suggested practice is only *malum prohibitum* and not *malum in se*. If such a change would have the objectionable result of lowering the dignity and standing of the profession it certainly should be rejected at any cost, but there are those who do not fear such a result. As a matter of fact it is said that practitioners of high standing do not make such agreements and are seldom asked to make them, whilst those of a different class make them, as we have already said, without the sanction of the law. The Attorney-General is wise in thus seeking for light from the profession before introducing legislation on the subject. A full discussion is most desirable, and our columns are open. We shall hope to be able to assist the Attorney-General in his laudable effort for help in the matter, and to this end we would ask those of our readers, who think they can throw light on the subject, to give us their views as fully and as promptly as possible.

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We are glad to notice that the protests we have from time to time made against appointments to the Bench, based upon considerations other than fitness for the office, which views have been re-echoed in several strongly written letters to the public press, recently took concrete form by the presentation to the Minister of Justice of a memorial signed by a large number of the Toronto