for the performance of duties assigned to them by the provincial legislature, outside of their ordinary duties, such as matters connected with provincial election, estate bills, regulations to govern the practice of the Surrogate Courts, etc. The practice is to refer all Estate Acts, i.e., private Acts changing the legal effect of will, settlements. etc., to two judges for an opinion on their justice and expediency. By chapter eighty-four it is provided that the Government, that is, the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, may refer to the court for hearing or consideration "any matter which he thinks proper to refer" for an opinion as in an ordinary action. If the question is the constitutional validity of an act of the legislature or a proposed act, either before or after the question arises in actual case, the Attorney-General of Canada must have notice and a right to be heard, and the court may direct any interest to be notified with the right to be heard, or request some counsel to represent such interest. The opinion of the court is a judgment subject to appeal as in an ordinary action."

WHAT CONSTITUTES AN ACCIDENT UNDER THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LAWS.

Litigation in these days largely consists of actions brought in connection with accidents and workmen's compensation; so that all the light to be had on this subject is of interest there is an article in the *Central Law Journal*, which collects a number of authorities on the subject.

We are informed that in most of the United States where workmen's compensation laws exist the decisions have in general followed the English law, including the requirement that, to entitle an injured workman to compensation, his injury must have been due to an "accident." In the leading cases on the subject in England, *Fenton* v. *Thorley Co.* (1903), 89 L.T. Rep. 314, A.C. 443, 52 W.R. 81, the House of Lords has declared that the word "accident" as used in the Imperial Workmen's Compensation Act, must be understood in its popular and ordinary sense, and means "an unlooked for mishap or an untoward