

what certain lines of evidence may, perhaps, relate to. You have all these things to consider.

The law itself may be comparatively simple, and indeed there may be little or no law in the case at all. Perhaps that is one reason why you very often find the solicitor who is not much known, who may not be known beyond practically his own firm, making a splendid judge. You find, of course, that if you have a leading counsel with great knowledge of human nature, with good business capacity, and with good judgment, he, generally speaking, makes the best judge you can get, because his knowledge extends beyond the mere technique of the law and embraces all that goes to make up the action at law.

But taking the view I have of the matter and looking at what the objective point of an action is, one is forced to the conclusion, that what our efforts are more directed to is to prove our own case or to disprove the case of our opponent without very great regard to what the legal situation is beyond the general principles governing the particular issue before us. In the great bulk of cases to-day, the law is well settled. Occasionally one comes across a case in which even the ablest lawyers are at sea and in which even the most learned judges find difficulty in coming to a conclusion; but, as a rule, the ordinary run of cases is found to embrace matters which depend largely upon fact and upon the personal, individual management and control of the case itself. Therefore, I deal with the matter, as I say, more from the psychological standpoint than I do from the actual legal condition.

I shall try and be as practical as possible in what I have to say, because I am speaking, I think, perhaps more with an object of addressing the younger lawyers than some of those I see before me, whose knowledge of law is greater than that of the beginner, and whose skill in matters of this kind is unquestioned.

The conditions under which every young lawyer begins his career are not favourable to absolutely sound advice, because his mind is not taken up so much with the question of that particular case as it is with himself. Why do I say that? In the