

realty incumbered and unincumbered, and by a later clause devised other realty and the residue of his personalty to pay his just debts (including mortgage debts) and funeral and testamentary expenses. It was conceded that this latter fund must be first applied *pro rata* in payment of all debts including mortgage debts and funeral expenses; but the main question presented for decision was how the residue of the debts was to be paid? Did the opening words of the will create a general charge of debts on all the realty, so as it were to pool them and make all the realty answerable for all debts including mortgage debts? Sargant, J., held that the opening words being followed, as they were, by a specific devise for payment of debts, had not the effect of creating a general charge of all the debts on all the lands; but he held that all the realty specifically devised was ratably liable for payment of the residue of the unsecured debts and funeral expenses, which the special fund was insufficient to pay, and that in ascertaining the amount for which the incumbered realty was liable to contribute the amount of the incumbrance thereon not discharged out of the special fund must be deducted, and that the remainder of the mortgage debts not discharged out of the special fund were to be borne by the respective mortgaged properties.

SOLICITOR—ADMISSION OF WOMEN AS SOLICITORS—INVETERATE USAGE.

*Bebb v. Law Society* (1914) 1 Ch. 286. Miss Bebb, a lady ambitious to pursue the profession of a solicitor, made application to the Law Society to be admitted to the necessary examinations, but the Society, having refused her application, brought an action against the Society, which having been dismissed by Joyce, J., she appealed to the Court of Appeal (Cozens-Hardy, M.R., Eady, and Phillimore, L.JJ.), but that Court was equally obdurate and held that the inveterate usage excluding women from the legal profession must prevail until altered by express legislation. That Lord Coke had said "a woman is not allowed to be an attorney" was in the opinion of the Master of the Rolls, conclusive as to what was the common law on the subject, and the court held that the Solicitors Act (1843) was not intended to, and did not in fact, confer any new right.

CORPORATION—SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS—DISSOLUTION OF CORPORATION—ASSIGNMENT OF UNDERTAKING—LIABILITY OF ASSIGNEE TO PERFORM STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS—REVERSION OF LAND TO GRANTORS.

*In re Woking* (1914) 1 Ch. 300. This is a somewhat important contribution to company law. In 1777 an Act was passed