

*THE MEETING OF THE COUNTY JUDGES.*

The County Court judges of Ontario have held their sixteenth annual meeting at Osgoode Hall, but no official report of the proceedings is published, and therefore the profession and public are not in possession of any information concerning the business transacted or the conclusions arrived at by the learned judges who assembled there for the interchange of opinions and the discussion of topics of interest to the judiciary and, we suppose, in most instances, to the public as well. There are obvious reasons why no official report of these proceedings is issued, yet we think that many of the topics discussed and conclusions reached are of so much professional interest that they should be published in outline at least, and we have been at some pains to ascertain such particulars as may usefully be laid before our readers.

It may readily be supposed that, as many of the county judges are revising officers, much attention was given to the Franchise Act. It seems to have been concluded that there is no necessity for taking the oath of office, except where appointments have been made since 1886. It was, in the opinion of the meeting, discretionary with the revising officer, where the voters exceed 300 in an existing polling sub-division, to sub-divide that polling division before the final revision of the list. But sub-division or re-arrangement is obligatory if there should prove to be more than 300 registered voters. The order making changes in the sub-division need not be posted elsewhere than in the divisions affected. The divisions may be numbered consecutively for the whole riding, or for each municipality, the former course being generally preferred, but there are obvious advantages in giving a local designation to each sub-division, and the practice is free from objection.

It was properly held that when declarations are made on information and belief, as they so often are, the nature of the information and the grounds of the belief should be set out with clearness and fulness, and that such declarations should be accepted only when this is done, and where the grounds on which the information and belief rest are, in the opinion of the revising officer, satisfactory. Some attention was also given to departures from the form of declaration prescribed by the Act Respecting Extra-Judicial Oaths, and it was considered that where the declaration does not state that it is made under that Act, it should be rejected as deficient.

It was urged that parties should not include in one declaration names from several divisions, so that all papers relating to each division could be kept separate.

By sec. 75 of the Assessment Act the clerk of each municipality is required to transmit to the county clerk a certified copy of the assessment roll of his municipality, as soon as it is finally revised and corrected. This furnishes the revising officer with a convenient means of access to the assessment rolls. Considerable diversity of opinion, we are informed, exists among the judges as to whether names already on the list for income should be allowed to remain or