

We might add that, as the tariff of fees was prepared with great care by a Board of Supreme Court Judges, who are competent from their knowledge to deal with such matters, and who are his superior officers, it is not (to say the least) in good taste to criticise their action or judgment as he has done on this and on other occasions.

The learned Magistrate, after the obiter dicta above referred to proceeds to give his views as to how the legal business of the country should be conducted:—"Why cannot civil business be done as cheaply as criminal business. I would do away with the profession altogether. All the business now transacted by lawyers could be done just as well by the State." Surely this must have been said in joke. Comment is impossible, except to remind the speaker that no man is compelled to employ a lawyer. Any litigant has the right to appear in person, and if he does he is always treated by judges with the utmost courtesy. He then takes the judges to task: "In one Court two judges will take one side and one will take another." This is undoubtedly as sad as it is true, but it is likely to continue to the end of time, unless indeed this wonderful reformer can invent some process by which all men's minds can be run into the same mould. He is also correct in saying that "In the Court of Appeal the judgment will perhaps be adverse, and three judges will support the opinion of the minority number of the Court below, while two will agree with the first judgment. Then it goes to the Supreme Court," etc. All this may also be admitted, but how to prevent it is the problem. It is evident that the engrossing duties of the Police Magistrate have prevented his having heard that the best men at the Bar and the most enlightened patriots of the country have for half a century been and are giving their best thought towards ascertaining the best and cheapest system of legal procedure and administration of justice. Obviously, the thought in his mind is that the only way to get over the difficulties that vex his soul is to transfer all the litigation of the Province to the Toronto Police Court, where prompt justice will be administered at a "very small" cost and without the intervention of such unnecessary and objectionable characters as lawyers. Who is to do the rest of the work, now done by a thousand lawyers or so, he does not say. We fear, however, that under such circumstances the presiding Judge would not be able, as he does now, to leave his office after an hour or two's work and devote the rest of the day to his own private affairs.