

the judicial robe does not always, in the thought of the public, as it should, eradicate all remembrance of party politics or political proclivities. For their own sake, and their high office, as well as for the good of the public they should be protected from such entanglement, or even the suspicion of it. We must not, however, be misunderstood in this matter. It will be the duty of the Attorney-General to lay down the standard for these appointments, and it will be for those who are asked to make recommendations or selections to keep this standard in view. The standard doubtless will be professional eminence and reputable character alone, politics or friendships being unknown. We are believers in the doctrine of *noblesse oblige*, and are quite sure that the advice of the advisers suggested will be acceptable to all.

A correspondent suggests a reason why Judges are not necessarily the most appropriate advisers, and thinks the Benchers would be better, inasmuch as the former do not come across lawyers to the same extent as do the latter. Consequently, those of the profession who live in towns and cities outside the provincial capital are not as well known to Judges as they are to the Benchers who come from their neighbourhood; and so, many who might be proper recipients of the honour are overlooked. This country, as well as others, and whether we like it or not, is now cast in the democratic mould, and the public demand elective institutions. There is, however, only one elected body of lawyers, namely, the Benchers of Law Societies. If, therefore, an advisory board is desirable, the Benchers might be requested to approve or disapprove of any list of applicants which might be presented to them by any Provincial Government. The duties for which they were elected do not touch this matter; but it would do no harm if their functions were enlarged; for, so far, they have not done much to help the legal profession to take the important position it ought to occupy in view of its intelligence, education and the influence of isolated individuals. We are glad to see the Canadian Bar Association coming to the front in that respect.

There is another matter akin to the above which was referred to in our columns some years ago, and which may come up again, and it is this: If the appointment of King's Counsel should be