

opportune for doing away with the present system and substituting a better and more convenient and less expensive one in its place.

The following is the memorandum sent by the Lindsay Law Association :—

1. We are of opinion that there is no general demand for the increase of the jurisdiction of Division Courts, and that the jurisdiction should not be increased. The only request, therefor, is that worked up by the Division Court Clerks Association for personal purposes. We are also of opinion that the costs in Division Courts are excessive, the disbursements in most cases being as much as or more than for similar services in the County Court. It may be urged that the earnings of Division Court Clerks and Bailiffs are small. This is not the case in towns and large centres, and in outlying districts we are of opinion that there are too many Courts and that a reduction would be in the interest of the public. Better officers could be got, they would have more work and be more experienced, and a reduction in fees could well be made.

2. We are of opinion that there is a demand for a reduction in and limit to the costs in the County and High Courts, which we think in justice to the public and profession might be fairly met by providing for an outside limit of costs which the losing party may be ordered to pay, based on a scale according to the amount involved, say from 10 to 25 per cent. of the amount involved, somewhat on the principle of The Mechanic's Lien Act.

3. That in our opinion costs are greatly increased by interlocutory motions and that the costs thereof should be limited; that there should be no examinations for discovery in County Court cases, except for special reasons, in which case the costs should not exceed \$10.00 and that the cost of copies for examinations in any Court should not exceed 5 cents a folio for three copies, and 1 cent a folio for each additional copy.

4. That in our opinion the County Court should be merged with the High Court, and that County Judges should be Local Judges of the High Court with full jurisdiction in all matters of practice and procedure (except trials) in all cases in the County (subject to appeal), and that they should have power to try cases to double the present jurisdiction of the County Court, or a jurisdiction increased within certain reasonable limits, and the right to try all cases where the other side does not object; that there should be sliding scales of costs according to the amount involved; or if the fusion of the Courts is not practicable then we are of opinion that the jurisdiction of the County Court should be doubled.

5. That in our opinion the idea of having one jury for both High Court and County Courts is a good one, and there should be two or more sittings annually in each County, as might be necessary, according to the amount of business in the particular County.

6. That in our opinion solicitors should be allowed to make any contracts they may please with their clients; that the same should not be subject to the revision of any Taxing Officer or Judge, that it should be subject only to be set aside the same as any other contract between private individuals; that it would be unfair to allow any other person to judge of the risk and hazard after the result is known. The only limitations there should be are that the contract should be in writing, and that the client should have the right to cancel the same before anything happens materially changing the prospect of success, upon paying the regular tariff or charges.