

mitted against the laws of the Dominion and for those against the statutes of the Province. These prosecutions at the Assizes are conducted by counsel appointed by the Attorney-General, and at the General Sessions and County Judges' Criminal Courts by the County Attorneys; but cases are constantly arising upon which the advice and direction of the Department is required, while in many offences of a serious character the evidence has to be obtained through officers directly instructed by this Department. In connection with criminal prosecutions arise applications for bail, which in all cases *may be* made to the Judges at Toronto, and in many serious cases *must be* so made; also applications to be relieved from forfeiture of bail. These can be favorably entertained only where the circumstances are of a very exceptional nature, and careful inquiry into the facts upon which it is claimed relief should be granted is always made. It advises as to proceedings before Justices of the Peace and other inferior magistrates, for, notwithstanding the forms provided for ordinary cases, the applications made to discharge prisoners on *habeas corpus*, or to quash convictions on account of irregularities, or insufficiency in the proceedings before these officers, are very numerous. In many of these, this Department finds it necessary to make inquiry and to intervene. Cases of difficulty are also from time to time reserved by Judges at the Assizes and other criminal Courts for the opinion of the Judges of the High Court, sitting together at Toronto; and these are, wherever practicable, argued by the officers of this Department. To the Attorney-General also belongs the consideration of applications for leave to appeal under the Criminal Code, for leave to file informations in his name in connection with supposed invasions of public right, for *fiats* for petitions of right, for prosecutions for criminal breach of trust, for the entry up of records of acquittal, for entries of *nolle prosequi*, and for the admission of criminals as King's evidence, etc., etc. It is his duty also to make appointments to all offices connected with the administration of justice, such as Justices of the Peace, Police and Stipendiary magistrates, Coroners, County Attorneys, and the officers of the various courts in the different counties. The following matters are also dealt with by this Department: Administration of Estates of Intestates who have no heirs, or next of kin; Consideration of cases of Escheat and Forfeiture; Remission of Fines and Penalties.

**BUILD UP ONTARIO**