

heavy judicial duties to perform, and his time and talents should be devoted, as should those of High Court judges exclusively, as far as possible, to such duties. It goes without saying, however, that investigations, numerous and important, have to be made to supplement the deficiencies attendant upon municipal mismanagement, and for investigation as to other public matters.

It must also be remembered that under our system of municipal government, county judges have numerous duties laid upon them which have nothing to do with those which properly devolve upon them as judges, but which are part of the municipal machine. In the result, therefore, a county judge is, in a sense, an official of the city, and as such he might be called upon in municipal investigations to enquire into and adjudicate on matters which he had already passed upon as a quasi city official; a position which is unseemly and provocative of hostile criticism.

Now as to a remedy. These investigations are often very important and must be had, and they must be given into the hands of competent persons. There are many members of the profession quite as competent as a county judge for such work, and in whom the public would have just as much confidence. It is work that can only properly be done by a professional man, of course. The government of the day is responsible to the people for the due administration of such matters, and might therefore be the proper appointing power. If, however, it were thought desirable to have such appointments made so as to free them from any charge of political bias they might from time to time be left to the selection of, say, the Chief Justice of Ontario, or some board of judges of the High Court. They have the profession continually before them, and might, in that respect, be properly charged with the choice of some one suitable for such a position.

We venture to make this suggestion to the powers that be, assuring them that some such change would be acceptable, not merely to the profession, but to the public at large.