

thought seems to prevail in this country. We hardly think, however, that it is correct to say that there is any rule on the subject.

It is difficult to see why those who distinguish themselves in one judicial capacity should not, when the opportunity offers, be moved into another more important and responsible position, of the same kind, where the public may have the benefit of their learning, ability, and experience; nor does it seem reasonable to say that they have no right to expect promotion. The lawyer who distinguishes himself in his profession very properly looks to a seat on the Bench as a laudable object of ambition. We see no reason why this should not apply to a County Court Judge as well as to a barrister.

In discussing the subject, it must be mentioned that the County Court Bench is recruited from the local Bar, and appointments have been very generally made in view of political expediency and influence; and whilst we may gladly admit that this has not resulted as disastrously as might have been expected, it is admittedly a fact. On the other hand, appointments to the Superior Court Bench have not been so much affected by this practice. Moreover, inferior men would naturally be selected for inferior positions, and the best men would not take the paltry salary paid to County Judges; in fact, it is impossible to tempt the leaders of the Bar to take seats even on the Superior Court Bench.

We should not, therefore, expect to find many of the County Court Judges who would be entitled to promotion, though some of them undoubtedly are and have been. We could also imagine that from a political and party standpoint there might be reasons why men should not be selected from the Bar direct to fill vacancies in the Superior Courts. The late Premier of the Dominion, we believe, did not favour taking men from the District or County Courts; though we do happen to know that he pressed upon the late distinguished Chairman of the Board of County Judges to accept a vacancy at Osgoode Hall. Judge Jones, of the District Court at Brockville, was made a Judge of the Queen's Bench, and Judge Burns was also promoted. We must say that if it became a question between two men equally fit for the position, one having the experience of a judicial training in the County Court, and the other practising at the Bar, we should feel very much disposed to favour the appointment of the former rather than the latter.