

Provinces to provide such limited relief as their jurisdiction permitted, and as public opinion called for. In Quebec the old procedure has been revived, and from time to time amended. In an indirect way a debtor is compelled to make an assignment for the general benefit of his creditors; because while theoretically not bound to make an abandonment when demanded, he may on refusal be arrested on a *capias* and can obtain his release only by making the abandonment. Even if he should refuse, and remain in prison, rateable distribution may still be enforced by making what is called an opposition alleging the debtor to be insolvent. Hence in Quebec the right of creditors to rateable distribution of the proceeds of an insolvent's effects may be said to be thoroughly established. The method however is still cumbersome and expensive. A good commentary on such method, is the language of Montreal correspondents recently asked for some explanation of the apparently interminable delays in securing payment of moneys realized by a sheriff. These delays they say "are the result of the fearfully wonderful system of procedure which we have inherited from the French founders of this Province." Moreover there is under that complicated system, no means whereby a debtor may obtain release from liability, except with the concurrence of each individual creditor.

In Ontario rateable distribution has been secured in another way. The debtor may assign for the general benefit of creditors. If he refuses to do so, there is a qualified rateable distribution under what is known as the Creditors' Relief Act; whereby the former right of execution creditors to receive payment in the order in which their executions have been placed in the hands of the sheriff, has been abol-