

came into existence in this country, so they are of some antiquity, although they are not old; they renew their youth perpetually; never new and never old, they still go on, fresh and buoyant, refreshing their strength, rejuvenated by the best young blood of the country. But as to myself, I am here not of right at all. Sir Charles Moss should have been here. In the brotherhood of judges there is a well understood rule that each one is ancillary to the other; so far as any question of work is concerned, he is always prompt. It made one hesitate, however, when they were going to extend the rule to festive occasions, when the penalty was to attempt to speak. But I thought on the equity of the situation that it might, perhaps, be equitably extended even to a festive occasion, but to attempt to make a speech, he should be hore himself, because this room in which we are was intended chiefly and exclusively, perhaps, for the Court of Appeal and the judges of that court, and the Chief Justice of this province would have been, if well, present to-day. However, the brotherhood of judges, as I have indicated, is not the only brotherhood, but we are merged in this larger brotherhood represented here to-day—the Chief Justices and the judges and the ex-judges—I am glad to see some of them here—and the barristers and solicitors; but we are still students of the law. We are all members of one body; there will be the root and the branches and perhaps an occasional twig, but still they are all necessary to the completeness and development of the body. If Sir Charles Moss were here, he would speak as I cannot speak of the material advantages of this room and of this building, because the court has been sitting here for some time. To the lay mind it must seem strange that we should be called to attend here, at the formal opening of the north wing of this building, because there was an opening some months ago at which speeches were made and in which Sir Emilius took part, and that seemed to be an opening to the ordinary mind; but the explanation is simply this, that there was no banquet then, it was an informal opening, and, therefore, the proper and right opening is to-day; the legal doctrine of *nunc pro tunc* applying. As you must understand, gentlemen, this meeting is to have a retroactive action which does not extend to the digestion of the lunch. However, I can only join with all the outsiders in admiring the fine and elegant proportions of this room; it is simplicity itself. I think there is good light, so that we can see. I think there is good air. I hope there is good drainage (we cannot see that); and, I hope, the room has good acoustic quali-