

case; and of conveyancing work. The solicitor will be at liberty in matters of negotiation to charge a lump fee, in the fixing of which there can be taken into consideration the magnitude of the interests involved. In connection with real estate work, sanction is apparent given to the principle underlying the County Association tariffs. When a client brings to a solicitor an agreement to purchase real estate which has been signed by him, for the purpose of having the solicitor put through the transaction, it will apparently not be necessary for the solicitor to render a bill shewing in detail the whole time spent in connection with the matter and each step taken in bringing it to a conclusion. It would seem that it will be sufficient if he renders a bill with one item somewhat as follows:—"Fee to cover searching title, revising deed, and closing purchase of property to the value of \$....." This undoubtedly is a great step in advance, so far as the profession at large is concerned. It seems, however, to be a logical result of the recent decision, and, after all, it is results that count.

PUNISHMENT BY FINE.

In the day when the cares of state consisted chiefly in devising new methods of compelling the subject to contribute to the royal revenues, the punishment of crime by fine was deemed a very happy invention. No nice theories of reformation or deterrent marred the regal satisfaction with the device; it was sufficient that it got the money. By sheer force of tradition this device of impecunious kings has survived to an age in which the raising of revenue is a secondary interest of government. Viewed as a measure of reformation punishment by fine is of course an absurdity.

As a deterrent, it is deprived of most of its value by its inevitable inequality. To the proprietor of a family flivver, the possibility of a twenty dollar fine is an adequate deterrent against speeding. To the class of drivers by whom most of the speeding is done it is no deterrent at all.

As applied to violations against regulations of business, the fining system, unless the fine is so large as to exceed by far the