

property through the operation of local statutes *intra vires* of the legislatures. Doubtless, however, the burden of establishing a case for the execution of the power lies upon those who allege it, and, although the undersigned is not prepared to express any approval of the statute in question, which he feels must be regarded as a most remarkable execution of legislative authority, he is, nevertheless, not satisfied that a sufficient case for disallowance has been established, either on behalf of the bondholder, the bank or the companies, especially when it is considered that the legislation sanctioned by the Assembly evidences as it does a very deliberate and important feature in the policy of the local government."

JOURNALISTIC ETIQUETTE.

We have received from a firm of solicitors a letter complaining that an article appeared in this journal commenting on and criticizing a recent decision of a Divisional Court, in the Province of Ontario, and stating that, acting for the defendants, they were "instructed to say that they consider it highly improper that an editorial should be written commenting on the decision of the Divisional Court while an appeal is pending to the Court of Appeal."

We are, of course, aware that it is not proper while a case is in litigation to publish anything in any way calculated to prejudice the fair adjudication of the cause. But it comes somewhat as a surprise to us to learn, that there should be any member of the profession who would think that a fair discussion of the law of any reported case would be an invasion of that rule. It is needless to say that articles from the solicitors or counsel of parties engaged in a pending cause might be objectionable, but the comments and criticisms of independent and impartial writers reviewing and criticizing the decisions of the courts as they from time to time appear in the reports stand on a very different footing. Indeed, it is the very fact that the courts are open to this fair and reasonable criticism of the decisions which is one of the safeguards for the proper administration of justice, and, therefore, one of the principal duties of a legal periodical.