

Bench and Bar.

ONTARIO BAR ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Ontario Bar Association was held at Osgoode Hall, Toronto, on February 9th and 10th, 1921, with the President, Mr. J. H. Rodd, of Windsor, in the chair.

The proceedings commenced with the President's annual address. This was followed by reports from the various standing Committees, of these the two most important were concerned with Law Reform and Legal Education.

LAW REFORM.

The report on this subject was presented by Mr. R. J. MacLennan, in the absence of Mr. W. D. Gregory, convener, and dealt with the following, amongst other matters:—

1. Revision of the method of election of Benchers with a view to making the same more democratic and representative.

2. That in respect to future appointments of King's Counsel, the Benchers or the Bar Association, or both, might be asked to make nominations for the guidance of the Committee appointed by the Attorney-General to make recommendations to him, and that future appointments should not be limited to those members of the Bar who have become skilled as counsel before the Courts.

[Although at present no action was taken on this recommendation, strong views were expressed in favour of the principle above enunciated, and as far as could be judged from the discussion which took place the feeling of the meeting was strong that if the future appointees on whom this honour is conferred are to be more meritoriously deserving than in some cases of the past a broader policy such as outlined is requisite.]

3. The amendment of the law relating to corporations, so as to give more adequate protection to minority shareholders.

4. The conferring of statutory authority upon the Courts to amend or annul inequitable or unreasonable building restrictions, and in proper cases to relieve from the same.

LEGAL EDUCATION.

This subject has of late years tended more and more to become a battle-ground of controversy amongst the ranks of the Association. The feeling has continued to grow and ripen into conviction