

enquiry, the same judicial quality which we expect, and get from the trained and experienced jurist.

I have, therefore, come to the conclusion that we should have a purely judicial tribunal for divorce cases, composed of at least three judges, in order to lessen the danger of unconscious reasoning of a dogmatic tendency. They should be of the province in which the parties to the marriage reside, and on any legal question there should be the right of appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada. Each province should be divided into districts, and the court should sit as often as expedient for the hearing of causes. They should also have power to deal with separation on well-defined grounds as set out in the report to which I have referred. If this method were adopted, the court would be available to the labourer as well as to the millionaire, and there would be practically a certainty of justice being done without any danger of the heavens falling. The procedure should be of the simplest and least expensive character, and power ought to be given to the court to assess in favour of an innocent wife, reasonable damages against her husband. The rules of evidence should be stringently applied, and the strictest proof of the merits should be demanded when the case is being tried, whilst the cost and means of getting to trial should be moderate and within the reach of worthy suppliants seeking only justice.

What other suggestion may be made? There is one of importance, and I think of great value, although I hesitate to advance it at present, because it might tend to weaken my main contentions in the minds of some of those who, on the whole, may agree with me. It is this,—In every case where the husband is found guilty of the offences, or any of them, which warrant an absolute decree against him, and a dissolution of the marriage, a punishment ought to be imposed. Let us compare other conditions of the law with the misdeeds which ought to warrant a divorce. A violation of a snow by-law carries with it a fine. A trifling matter from a moral standpoint may be ground for imprisonment. The stealing of a loaf of bread for a starving family sends a man to gaol. Yielding to temptation and taking