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The complaints of cases delayed and business blocked in the Ontario Courts are increasing in vehemence. Something should be done about it at once. The Government at Ottawa is in disrepute in this matter.

On the 7th of February war was begun between the Japs and the Russ over the question of ascendancy in Korea and Manchuria—a war that the land-greed of Russia made absolutely inevitable. There have been, up to the time of writing, no breaches of the settled rules of the laws of war; but trouble of this sort looms large on the international horizon. Notwithstanding adverse criticism by the French, Japan did not err in law by beginning hostilities without a formal declaration of war. The best modern authorities support this view. The splendid state of readiness and efficiency for the conflict on the part of Japan has caused those who have not followed the wonderful advancement in modernity of that country during the last quarter of a century, to marvel where hitherto they were prepared to doubt. That the Jap has an important part to play in the civilization of the future no thinker will deny. Although small in stature, his physique is that of which the best present day fighting stock is made, and his courage is conceded by all who have tested its mettle. Perhaps the finest qualities in the Japanese character are his freedom from dilettanteism and his faith in himself, the precise qualities in which most of the older civilizations of the world are lacking to-day. Sincerity and strength of purpose marked the conquerors of old, and Carlyle says that the deadliest of all unbeliefs is unbelief in ourselves. Just as the endemic religion, Sinitism, was able to largely assimilate the Buddhism which invaded the country in the sixth century, and just as this people have been able in a single generation to absorb the best features of an alien twentieth century civilization, so, with a like measure of success, we believe, they will force themselves forward to a conspicuous place in the councils of the world powers through the medium of the present war.