- 4 Judicial Positions.—Appointments to the Bench through political exigencies or financial necessities of the aspirants should be discouraged, and legal attainments and other judicial qualities should be sought in making such appointments. The present method, it is alleged, is the result of the patronage system, and it is strongly urged that these appointments should be independent of patronage control and that recommendations from the Bar Associations and Law Societies, as to the fitness of those available for such positions, should be solicited and should have weight.
- 5. Judiciary as Arbitrators, Commissioners, etc.—Members of the judiciary should be suitably rewarded for their service to the state, and should not find it necessary to increase their annual allowances by using their time and impairing their efficiency for the service for which they are appointed, and their duties and privileges should be defined and limited by statute, so as to secure to the state the services intended when the position was accepted and appointment made, namely, that all their time, skill and legal attainments should belong to the state. This meaning of the acceptance and appointment is too often overlooked, and absence from duty as arbitrators, commissioners and the like, has become very prevalent and is conducive of neglect of duty, of adverse criticism, and tends to lessen the esteem and dignity of the position.
- 6. Multiplication of Magistrates and Justices.—It has been called to the attention of the committee that in some Provinces, happily not all, the appointments to these positions have far exceeded reasonable requirements.
- 7. Marriage and Divorce.—That the Parliament of Canada be requested to enact uniform grounds of divorce and the administration of the law be entrusted to superior Provincial Courts, provided that this shall apply only to such Provinces as pass Acts putting the law in force.
- 8. Procedure.—The adoption of the Judicature Act and rules of practice has become so general, that there should be no exception, save probably in Quebec. In most cases the English Judicature Act and Rules of Court have been closely followed, and this procedure in the English speaking Provinces should be made