

him in the discharge of his duties as Master, goes without saying. That position is in fact, though not in name, a judicial one. The principal duties in connection with it have been for some years the administration of company law, under the winding up clauses; a most important branch, and one to which Mr. Hodgins has devoted great care and research. As a legal writer he has done excellent work. On questions of constitutional law he has few equals, and Canada owes much to his contributions in that regard. Whatever subject he takes up he makes his own, and gives the public the benefit of his learning. Referring again to the recent vacancy, it is right to say that the late judge really undertook more work than one ordinary person could do. Being a man of untiring industry and large capacity he managed to do it, and did it well, but it shortened his life. It would be better, both in the interests of the public and of his successors, that the duties which fell upon him should be divided, and this seems to be the policy of those in authority.

#### *THE SURROGATE COURT, COUNTY OF YORK.*

Since the decease of the late able judge of the County Court of York, discussion has arisen as to the offices he held.

Under Dominion appointment, Judge McDougall was senior judge of the County and judge of the Maritime Court. As a provincial officer he was Surrogate of the county, sat as a Police commissioner, and had to do with the selection of jurors and the examination of lunatics, to which duties fees are attached. His income from the Dominion offices seems to have been \$2600 as Judge, and \$600 at least from the Maritime Court. From his provincial offices came an addition of \$3500 or thereabouts, making the positions of more value than a High Court judgeship. Additional work and income were not refused, his services being sought as arbitrator.

It is peculiar that, while occupants of the Superior Court bench are never found acting as arbitrators for private individuals, judges of lesser dignity seem to be generally ready to take such extra employment. When the jurisdiction of the County Courts is increased, as has been more than once proposed, are all these duties still to be performed by the same officer? The growing