

"The Committee sits in an old building on the north side of Downing Street, Westminster, not far from the Abbey and the Parliament Buildings. The Board is on the floor toward the middle of the room; the counsel upon a raised platform to the east side, communicating with the robing rooms, etc. The platform is accommodated with a small reading desk upon which counsel addressing the Board may rest his books and papers—all the proceedings in the courts below are in printed form as also the points relied upon by each side. Whenever a case cited is not thoroughly well known the report is brought at once from the book cases lining the walls of the room; and each point, as a rule, is thoroughly threshed out at the time by court and counsel, so that even if judgment should be reserved counsel generally know pretty well what the result will be . . .

"There is an advantage that the members of the Board are removed from the scene of the facts upon which litigation arises—they cannot be thought to be influenced by public opinion or public clamour; in questions of great constitutional moment which have awakened party discussion and party feeling, they are away from and above party; in matters of public policy they cannot be conceived of as influenced by any other consideration than justice and the public good. They also are in a position to do much toward making the law uniform in all common law countries."