

it was (shall we say) obtained repugnant to one's ideas of British fair play. Of course, no unnecessary obstacle should be placed in the way of the detection of crime; but it would seem to be more in accord with the instincts of our administration of criminal law that the accused should be advised before making any statement to consult some friend or professional man, instead of being merely warned, as in this case, during the long examination to which she was subjected, that anything she should say might be given in evidence against her. The crime was so terribly blood-thirsty that one would like to believe that the woman, if indeed she be the criminal, was out of her mind at the time. It is a very sad business altogether, and none the less because the victim is unable now to give evidence as to the alleged act which is assigned as a motive for the crime.

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A COURT of the kind which is at present sitting in Toronto under the provisions of section 477 of the Municipal Act is, happily, somewhat of a novelty in this country; but we forbear at present from discussing some points in connection with it which are of interest from a professional point of view. Whilst one cannot but deplore the corruption which has been exposed, it must be conceded that it is better to apply the knife at once and so prevent the evil spreading. Whether the exposure will lead to any proceedings of a criminal nature remains to be seen. One thing is manifest, and that is that our municipal system as applied to cities is a lamentable failure. The enquiry has so far been conducted with marked ability by those who have charge of it; but it is not very pleasant to note, on the other hand, that a member of the profession who was examined as a witness does not appear in an enviable light. We trust there may be some explanation given of what at present appears to be a very questionable transaction on his part; and it would seem to be a case which the Discipline Committee of the Law Society should make a subject of enquiry, though probably it would not be proper for them to act until Judge McDougall has made his report.