

nevertheless a truism to those who have made a study of the subject.

These things being so it is high time that we should see the wisdom of pulling together as a class, and that we should also appreciate the influence which we could and ought to wield in the halls of the legislatures. Let it be remembered, that this influence has never been exercised towards the aggrandizement of the profession—quite the contrary. It is also noteworthy that all measures which have resulted in simplicity and speed in procedure and in lessening the cost of litigation have been initiated by lawyers. Some of these changes have indeed been largely detrimental even to the scanty emoluments which have been accorded to us. The trouble has been that lawyers so far have been more loyal to the call of party politics than to the claims of their profession.

The subject of appeals was the one which most largely engaged the attention of the speakers at the recent meeting of the Ontario Bar Association. We are glad that it has received full enquiry, for the investigation of those who spoke on the subject has destroyed the bugaboo created by the lay press. The statistics for the Province of Ontario settled the matter, and came as a surprise even to members of the profession.

In 1905 there were 866 cases tried by High Court judges. Some of these went on appeal to Divisional Courts and some direct to the Court of Appeal. The appeals from trial judges and from Divisional Courts to the Court of Appeal amounted to 94. The appeals to the Supreme Court were 21 and to the Privy Council none at all. In 1906 out of 1094 cases tried by High Court judges 79 went to the Court of Appeal and of these 28 went to the Supreme Court and only one to the Privy Council. In 1907, out of 1020 cases tried, 94 went to the Court of Appeal, 23 to the Supreme Court and 5 to England.

Put in another way it would appear that the average number of cases tried by High Court judges in each of the years 1905, 1906 and 1907 was 960. The average number of cases in which there were two appeals (in Ontario) was 31. The average number of cases in which there were two appeals (two