

in cases of ambiguity. In the presence of doubt courts assume that the parties have not covenanted or accepted covenants in conflict with their actual interests in the subject matter of the covenants. In the absence of doubt courts execute the will of the parties as expressed. There seems to be no good reason for resort to other than ordinary rules of construction in the case of promises made to multiple covenantees, except, as already suggested, in the case of joint and several promises. Where the parties have shown by their language their intention *either* that the nature of their right and that of their interests *shall or shall not* coincide, there seems to be no room for the rule as suggested by Lord Halsbury. It seems naturally to apply only in cases of ambiguity. Hence the statement that it holds "even where there is no ambiguity and will be applied without regard to the language of the covenant unless the terms of the covenant unequivocally show a contrary intention," appears to be unsound. The language of the covenant must, in all cases, it is submitted, rule, except where the law, as per *Slingsby's Case*, forbids, "The current of modern decisions has been . . . to adhere to the very words of the contract when they are plain and unambiguous, and not to depart from them on grounds of hardship or inconvenience." Per Lord Fitzgerald in *White v. Tyndall*.<sup>17</sup>

(To be continued.)

Ottawa.

W. F. O'CONNOR.

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## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CANADIAN BAR ASSOCIATION, WINNIPEG.

AUGUST 26TH, 27TH AND 28TH, 1925.

In our February number it was announced that the next Annual Meeting of the Association would be held at Winnipeg on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, the 26th, 27 and 28th of August.

We are pleased to state that the preparation of the Programme is already well advanced and we hope to publish a draft of it in our June number. There is every indication that the high standard set by previous meetings will be maintained, and we expect that the 1925

<sup>17</sup> (1888) 13 A.C. at 275 (H.L.).

Annual Meeting will prove to be one of the most successful and interesting in the history of the Association.

The Committee on Arrangements has been fortunate enough to receive an acceptance of its invitation from the Lord Chief Justice of England, the Right Honourable Lord Hewart of Bury. Those of our members who had the privilege of attending the great meetings in London last July recall with keen pleasure the prominent part taken by the Lord Chief Justice, his delightful and memorable addresses and his attractive personality, while many others will appreciate the opportunity of hearing him for the first time at Winnipeg and of making his acquaintance. Added to the interest in Lord Hewart's visit which is naturally aroused by his distinguished career at the Bar, in public life and on the Bench, is the circumstance that this is the first time that the Canadian Bar Association has had as its guest a Lord Chief Justice of England, although it will be recalled that in 1896 the then Lord Chief Justice, Lord Russell of Killowen, visited the Annual Meeting of the American Bar Association at Saratoga Springs.

Another guest of distinction will be the representative of the Bar of Paris. It is expected that this will be Maitre Fourcarde, the Batonnier of Paris, who, as head of the profession, welcomed our representatives in Paris last summer and whose conspicuous abilities and charming personality made an enduring impression.

The American Bar Association will be represented by one of its leading members, but the arrangements have not yet been concluded.

There will be an excellent programme of addresses and papers by leading Canadian Judges and barristers and the Committee is making every effort to ensure that the subjects considered will be of interest and value to the members of the profession.

The hospitality of the Bar of Winnipeg is well known, and a very active and representative Committee of the Winnipeg Bar is at work preparing a programme of entertainment which, we are sure, will more than adequately sustain that reputation.

The sessions of the Association and the Convention headquarters will be at the Royal Alexandra Hotel. There are in Winnipeg other very fine, first-class hotels, including The Fort Garry and The Marlborough, and the local Committee will be very glad to assist visiting members in making hotel reservations. Communications in respect of this or any other matter relating to the meeting may be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. E. H. Coleman, P.O. Box 324, Winnipeg.