

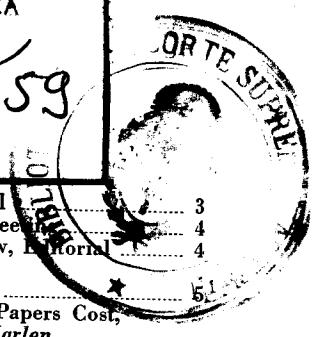
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Justice Costs Too Much

JUSTICE ought to be free, but it is not. It takes money to maintain a court system. And while we may wish we did not have to fight for our rights, it is worth something to have a forum in which to fight for them when necessary.

But justice costs too much. Legal aid has taught us that a person should not be denied justice simply because he cannot pay for it. But nobody—prince or pauper—can afford to spend eleven dollars to collect ten, or eleven thousand to collect ten thousand.

The high cost of justice may fall more heavily on the upper and middle classes than on the poor. Nearly everywhere now, thanks to legal aid, there is someone to plead for the man who has no money. But how many times does his more fortunate neighbor settle for less than he deserves, or accept an unjust judgment, because he cannot afford to litigate any further?

Especially prohibitive is the cost of appellate justice, as shown by Professors Willcox and Karlen and Miss Roemer in their article in this issue. They not only state the problem, but also offer sound, sensible, practical, tested suggestions that will result in both better and cheaper justice.

In the summer, organizations lay plans for the season ahead. To bar association officers we commend the project of reducing the cost of justice. The Willcox-Karlen-Roemer article points the way.

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★ *The Judiciary Under the
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★ *Is the Trial Bar a Cause
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