PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



GOOD arbitrators.

The commercial community and other users of arbitration want them. The judges want them.

Your Institute wants them.

The arbitrator will not be deemed to be good in the eyes of these people if he does not have their respect.

An increasing number of courts are encouraging arbitration, both by enforcement of the arbitration clause and by reference out to arbitrators of commercial and construction disputes. Nevertheless, in more than one State, judges have said that, in order for them to do this, there must be readily available good arbitrators, who have:—

(a) an in-built sense of natural justice; and

(b) knowledge and experience in at least contractual/legal issues.

Internationally, also, the support for arbitration is the same. A judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia recently said:

"Everyone talks to-day of a mechanism for 'alternative dispute resolution'. Here (arbitration) is just such a mechanism. That mechanism should be allowed to flourish."

Are our arbitrators good enough? The demands are there. The challenges are there. Let us meet them both.