

The judges of England recognise their duty to maintain the ancient liberties of the subject, except in so far as these have been diminished by legal means." The case for the legal profession cannot be put better than in these words of a Lord Justice of Appeal.

THE SCHOOL OF LAW.

As to the suggestion that a school of law is required, the short answer is that we already have many law schools. There is hardly a university in England without one; the Law Society and the Inns of Court are each of them legal seminaries, and the suggestion that study of law in a kind of national law school is an indispensable necessity is an implied negation of the doctrine that the real school for the lawyer is the struggle for (a lawyer's) life. You are not taught how to cross-examine in a lecture theatre; the proper way to conduct a complicated negotiation is not to be found in the pages of "*Fearne on Contingent Remainders*" or in "*Smith's Leading Cases*."

A MINISTRY OF JUSTICE.

The suggestion that there should be a Ministry of Justice has much to commend it. But before accepting the new it is necessary to consider the merits of the old. The avowed object of the President of the Law Society is to place the exercise of judicial patronage in some person other than the Lord Chancellor—who is our present Minister of Justice if any there be. It is complained of him that being a member of the Cabinet whose party is in office he is subservient to the Government and that his appointments are tinged with politics. However that may be, it is difficult to see how a Minister of Justice would be better able to clear his mind of "party" than the occupant of the woolsack—when making a selection for the judicial bench.

W. VALENTINE BALL.

Temple, March 5, 1918.