

C O P Y

September 22nd, 1930.

M. A. Jodoin,  
General Secretary,  
Quebec Bar Association,  
5 St. James Street, East,  
MONTREAL.

Dear M. Jodoin:-

At a meeting held on September 19th, the Faculty of Law requested me to forward to you its views on the proposal of the Bar Council to add a year to the curriculum of legal studies. They are as follows:

1. The Faculty believes that it would be inexpedient to add another year to the University study of law, being of the opinion that three years, when the course is based on the full-time principle, that is to say on the assumption that the student is devoting his entire working time to his University work, is quite sufficient. The three-year course of theoretical study is the standard in most countries. When a fourth year is added it is generally spent in office work. Given a good general preparation, the student can obtain in three years an adequate knowledge of legal principles and the broad lines of procedure. Anything beyond that ought to be recognized graduate work, which would attract and profit only the most able and interested law-students.

2. The addition of a fourth year at the University would mean an increase in expenditure on staff and equipment of at least 30%. This expenditure--if and when the Universities could undertake it--would, in the opinion of the Faculty, be incurred more profitably in the establishment of graduate courses for select students in legal philosophy, advanced civil law, research in legal history, and kindred subjects.

3. If a fourth year is to be added to the time required to prepare for admission to the Bar, the Faculty thinks that the best use to be made of it would be to render compulsory what is now an optional mode of preparation--namely to prohibit clerkship during the University course and require one year of serious full-time office-work after the student has taken his degree. If this plan