

Not only have the members of the Faculties of the Universities an equal interest in the profession, but they have also the reputation of their University to conserve by not sending candidates forward into any profession who will afterwards bring reproach upon their *Alma Mater*.

This latter interest is a guarantee to the Bar that the candidate who comes forward with a degree has merited it, and has become qualified to enter into the profession if otherwise worthy.

There are many other reasons why it is in the interest of the profession to encourage and foster legal education at the Universities.

The exigencies of the present day have forced upon practising advocates the necessity of doing their office work by the aid of stenographers and typewriting, to such an extent as prevents the intercourse between patron and student, which, fifteen or twenty years ago, was wont to exist.

It has become almost impossible in the office of a practising attorney, to give any useful assistance to a student in his legal education, while the demand for a higher standard has undoubtedly increased the severity of the final examinations.

Unless a student at the present day attends one or other of the Universities of the Province, he can only come forward at the end of his term a self-educated man, and under great difficulties.

This fact has become so universally recognized, that a large per centage of the candidates—a per centage annually increasing—are now coming from the Universities, where they realize they can alone obtain that assistance and those advantages so necessary to the advancement of the student, and which he can no longer obtain in the office of his patron. It will therefore be in the best interests of the profession to encourage by every possible means the legal education afforded to the young men of the Province by the Universities.

In the consultations had with the Law Faculties of Laval and McGill, your Committee are pleased to know that both are prepared to meet any reasonable demands that will tend to improve the standard of legal education in these Universities, and are willing to make some changes in their examinations before granting degrees.

After a careful consideration of the whole subject, your Committee have no hesitation in suggesting an amendment to the present law affecting examinations of candidates for admission to practice, and of recommending that, in the event of the Universities granting the degree of B. C. L. only after a final examination on all subjects at the end of the course, the Bar examiners should receive the degree as sufficient evidence of the qualifications of the candidate, so far as his legal attainments are concerned, and dispense him from any examination further than the investigation of his certificates as to moral character and fitness in other respects.

This change would overcome one of the causes of difficulty, by lessening the number of candidates to be examined; remove many of the grievances complained of, and would not lessen public confidence in the profession.

With this in view, your Committee have framed the amendment which they suggest, the adoption of which would also have the effect of lessening both the labors devolving upon the practising members of the profession who are members of the Board of Examiners, and the expenses of the corporation under the present system.

Your Committee believe that the change recommended by their proposed amendment to Art. 3554 would not only be the most simple, but would prove the most effective remedy for the evils complained of.

The whole respectfully submitted.

(Signed)

TH. CHASE CASGRAIN,
WM. WHITE,
JOHN DUNLOP.

Montreal, 27th April, 1895.