

boundaries limit them, and the legislation of the other provinces is mutually exclusive of them. There is no suggestion in this that the autonomy of the provinces or of the law societies should be interfered with, but that they all should work in harmony to bring about better things for the profession and the people. Already the Association is accomplishing good work. This was very noticeable in a recent visit made by leading members of the profession in Manitoba to the cities in Saskatchewan and Alberta to which I have referred.

The suggestion has been repeatedly put forward that there should be a western section of this Association. This no doubt would help to broaden the views and spirit of those in the west, but it would draw a distinction between the east and west of Canada, one of the very things the Association was formed to overcome. If the members of the Canadian Bar, men of education, experience and public spirit, are unable to overcome the exclusiveness of province, if they find that distances are too long, and the expense too great to come together for conference on matters of great importance professionally and in the public interests, how can we expect the people of Canada generally to possess the broad outlook, or to break through their isolation, or how can we hope for a great nationality, a Canada with a single dominant soul?

The theme of Lord Haldane in his Imperial address was on the power of our profession in Great Britain, Canada and the United States to create a sense of international good form, a healthy, persistent public opinion which would draw those three nations into such intimate relations that they, thus united in common purpose, would command the peace of the world. Our ambition is not so pretentious, and should have for its object the more practical scheme of how we can draw into closer union the provinces of a nation in which we have a common interest: to develop that national spirit which will overleap distances and geographical barriers, which will bring into co-operation to the accomplishment of its work its people of all races, languages and creeds and make a Canadian people strong in body, great in intelligence and upright in character. There may be diversity, but that diversity should be in unity. Canada above everything.