

requires the services (one might say, almost, the undivided services) of a staff of thoroughly competent men, with trained legal minds, who could devote their time almost entirely to the education of those committed to their charge. Such men, for example, as Frederick Pollock, and others well known in England. If the Law Society cannot afford to pay the sums required to secure the services of men of that stamp, and if the much larger resources of the University of Toronto can be utilized for the establishment of a law school which would be a credit to the English speaking Provinces of this Dominion, it certainly would be desirable for us to sit down quietly and discuss the situation and examine the proposed scheme, and, if no better one is suggested, make it as perfect as possible and adopt it.

Whether the scheme now formulated is the best that can be adopted, we are not at present prepared to say. Whatever is done, there should be for everyone desiring to enter our profession, in the first place, the foundation of a liberal education and the thorough training of the mind of the student, then a careful study of the theory of law in its wider aspect, and then a sufficient time given to learn the details of statute law, and the practice of the courts, and to acquire a knowledge of general business. As a rule, the three year university men are, at the end of their course, better fitted for the duties devolving upon them than those who take the longer course of five years without having the advantage of previous university training. It may, therefore, fairly be argued that the four years proposed by the new scheme, two years being devoted to theory, and two to practice, would give better results than the five years where students so frequently learn nothing except what they inhale from being surrounded for that length of time by a legal atmosphere. On the other hand, there are many who think that two years only devoted to practical study in an office is insufficient; and it certainly would be a serious evil to do anything which would lessen the number of those who are willing to take a course in arts before they study law.

In reference to the present suggestion, we gather that there is in the minds of some who discuss it a tinge of jealousy of Toronto University, which, perhaps, is not altogether unnatural; those interested in some of the smaller universities may not like the idea of any scheme which appears to them to give an undue preference to the University of Toronto. But, in answer to this, it may be said that if the latter can give the greatest advantages to the legal profession, these advantages should not be lost because other universities are not in a position to do as much. All these bodies are, however, we believe, to be consulted, and we presume nothing will be done without paying careful attention to any suggestions which they may think proper to offer.

We shall, doubtless, hear from others on the subject, and hope to refer to the matter again at an early date.