

On the other hand the expenditure instead of decreasing has increased in about the same ratio, so that if the contribution was reduced, the sum which we now have at our disposal, would soon be exhausted.

I can in this short exposé neither point out the causes of this decrease nor suggest any counter-active measures thereto.

We must also remark, that the interest which this sum yields, largely contributes to swell our yearly receipts. I believe it to be important that the board should always have in hands, what I will call a reserve fund to meet any emergencies which may arise and to enable us to check the encroachments which the legislature of our Province is only too inclined to favor, to the detriment of our profession.

Unless we are vigilant and if no one attends to our interests before and in the Legislative Assembly, it may soon come to pass that all deeds will be allowed to be drawn under private seal, in the Province of Quebec, as well as in the other Provinces.

Would it not be advisable for instance to cause to be repealed that dangerous clause of the law concerning the cadastre which allows any person to sign and cause to be registered a notice of renewal of hypothec.

During the last session of our Legislature, a committee was appointed to suggest reforms to our system of laws concerning hypothecs but nothing seems to have been done as yet and we know what is generally the result of the appointment of such committees.

In my opinion this question of changing and improving our system of hypothecary laws, is one of those which interest, in the highest degree our profession and the public at large.

Let us suppose for instance that the law should require that the registration of deeds be effected by depositing such deeds, and that the copies of all Notarial deeds subject to registration, should be made on stamped paper, furnished by the government. In such a case, Notaries