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code which supplanted this chaotic condition came into operation seventeen years ago and gave uniformity of law to the whole of Germany. This materially assisted in the great commercial expansion of that country. What has been beneficial to these countries would be beneficial to us.

What is the argument against such uniformity? Only one. It would place some moral restraint upon the respective provincial legislatures to stop them from muddling the law and thereby to some extent restrict their full prerogative right to make bad law in every subject within their legislative powers.

Arguments for Uniformity

1. It saves money.—In the first place diversity in the different provincial laws places a fixed charge on business. This burden uniformity removes. The farmer who has experience with a uniform law in Saskatchewan does not have to relearn his law if he goes to Alberta or buys property or lends money there. The same applies to the business man. The cases decided on the Alberta Act will fix the law in Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well. Uniformity of legislation will greatly facilitate the business and trade of Canada, will cheapen money and goods to the merchant and farmer and will be to the advantage of the customer as well as to the dealer or investor.

2. It gives better and more certain law.—A Uniform Act is in itself better, clearer and more just, for it is the work of experts from several provinces, who have experience of the practical difficulties and bring the necessary skill for applying adequate remedies. The Uniform Act will embrace all that is best and eliminate all that is unnecessary and injurious in the present laws. It will improve and simplify them and render them more easily understood by the people at large and approach much nearer to the ideal—a law so clear that he who reads may understand. Uniform Acts will be joint productions of representatives of several provinces. These representatives will necessarily be experts with practical knowledge of their subjects. With the principle of uniformity established, legislatures will hesitate to make hasty and ill-considered amendments. Changes will hardly be made without joint approval. The law relating to business matters would have general or national application and provincial boundaries would no longer interfere with the free working of principles which are in their nature universal. Uniformity will clarify, improve and nationalize our law and enable business of every kind, farming commercial and financial, to be carried on more easily, more satisfactorily and more cheaply.

3. It promotes better administration.—A Uniform Act will enable administration to be carried on more efficiently and more cheaply. Administrative practices in one province can be a guide in another, thereby saving the expense of experiment. Conferences of officials who act under the same statute aid in further simplifying and improving the administrative system. It gives the officials a broader outlook and experience and makes them more useful in their respective spheres of activity.

4. Common laws, like common language, common history and tradition, and common literature tend to strengthen common national sentiment. Uniformity of laws not only promotes individual prosperity but forwards the great patriotic purpose of national unity, national spirit and national strength.

5. The war has intensified industrial and commercial activity throughout the world and largely eliminated waste. The result will be keen competition in all lines after peace comes. Money will be loaned in areas where the least expense and worry brings relatively the highest returns. Business will likewise be conducted first and goods sold most cheaply and produce bought most readily where there are the least difficulties to be met. More than ever before business of every kind will have to be conducted with a maximum of efficiency and a minimum of waste. The quick, accurate and inexpensive determination and application of the law will increasingly be a business necessity for every part of the community. In this, uniformity of law will greatly assist.

Our Own Experience
When the Torrens' system was introduced in the middle eighties, before

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