

We must face the situation as it is but there is no reason, however, why we should go on and accentuate the divergence once we see the advantage of creating some uniformity and we should seek to attain a desirable uniformity in our respective laws, so as to bring them in unison with the homogeneousness of our natural conditions, our ethnical situation, our needs and our mutual, continuous and frequent association with each other.

It seems clear that the people of the central prairie provinces would welcome some uniformity of laws which would simplify mutual relations of citizens of the three provinces, which would render the knowledge of the laws more accessible to the lay mind and render the practice of lawyers easier and as a consequence would redound to the benefit of the clients.

The people of Manitoba have many dealings in land and grain with the citizens of the other provinces of the west, and wholesalers and manufacturers deal as much with Saskatchewan and Alberta as with Manitoba merchants.

Many Manitobans own land, farms and town lots in Saskatchewan and *vice versa*. As a matter of fact there are few days when some law firms in Winnipeg are not called upon to advise upon some Saskatchewan transactions. And there is no business day that does not see some banking or other mercantile dealings going through between us and our sister provinces.

If we agree upon the desirability of creating some uniformity of laws between the central provinces along what lines shall the attempt be made and upon what laws shall the reform apply?

As to the former, I shall discuss a little further. But as to the laws which would need action I could say: all the laws relating to real property, to personal property, especially grain and farm stock and machinery, and to probate matters as well as to Court procedure and practice.

First, as to land. We have now in all the three provinces a Torrens system. In Alberta, Saskatchewan and the new territory of Manitoba there is practically no old system of registration but all lands are under the Torrens system. Crown patents are not sent by Ottawa to the owners, but to the Land Titles Office where