

Society are not expended for their benefit but are used to educate other men to be their competitors and to divide into still smaller fractions the law business of the Province. It may well be asked if the time has not arrived when persons desirous of following the legal profession should be required to obtain the necessary knowledge at their own expense, without any assistance from the rest of the profession.

The facts and circumstances we have referred to may be ignored in the future as they have been in the past, and schemes of law reform and new methods of procedure may be devised, but we do not think the wit of man will be able to produce any other result than what has attended the like efforts in the past.

It is to the interest of the people of the Province that the legal profession should not be too easy of access, and it is not for the best interests of the public that every Tom, Dick and Harry should be assisted to enter its ranks. The standard of conduct of lawyers should be high, and we may say much higher than that of the average man, for they occupy positions of trust and responsibility and, moreover, from the ranks of the profession judges and legislators are to be drawn, and the Province can hardly pay too highly for the very best men that can be produced. Certainly men of the necessary calibre are not likely to be produced from a generation of Division Court agents. The refinement, culture and moral worth expected in the ranks of the legal profession cannot be maintained where the ordinary emoluments do not admit of attaining a decent competence. We are driven, therefore, to the conclusion that in the present condition of things cheap law means a lower standard for the profession and an inferior Bench.

This is a view which those in charge of, and who control the legislation of the Province, should take to heart. Tinkering with statutes is a cheap and easy way for an irresponsible member to gain notoriety with his constituents, but a strong and wise government will make no change, or do anything, to shake the buttress which an honourable and high toned profession forms for the well being of the State.