

faculties at universities." Waiving, for the present, your difficulties about my references, the subject-matter came up in this way. On different occasions it was urged publicly there should be a faculty of law in connection with the Toronto University, and the matter was pressed upon me privately. I discussed it with members of the profession, students, and I think one lecturer. The contention I make is, that it is better to have a first-class law school, unexcelled by any other, equipped to furnish the highest possible standards of legal attainments, and thereby holding off any necessity for law faculties in our universities. You put it correctly, I think, when you state, "but three or four lecturers, speaking a few hours a day, cannot hope to create an atmosphere favourable to the growth of a really scholarly handling of the law in actual practice." That sums up briefly what has been stated to me on different occasions, and that the time had come when the Benchers must be alive to the necessities of the time, and to keep ahead of the times, in furnishing the best education possible to afford law students.

It seems to me that the Benchers are not unwilling if they can be made to realize that the time is opportune. It would be too late to wait until our universities establish law faculties. One good school, in every way up-to-date, is preferable to three mediocre ones. That we are a long way from the ideal of profound, and yet practical scholarship, which ought to be our goal, may be a correct statement of the fact, and apparently some think so, and if so, the improvement suggested would be a step in the right direction.

I hope that your article will bring out further criticism and friendly discussion of the subject so as to create an interest in the Bar as well as the Bench, as the active practitioner, no doubt, does not take the personal interest in the law school that might contribute to its greater prosperity. I hope our present and future law students will have more before them than merely, as you say, to engage in the active practice of our profession for a living. It is deplorable that so few of our members are willing to devote any time to law reform, and the general interests of the profession. We must not forget either that the quality of our judges and legislators as well as of lawyers depends upon the foundations which are laid and the inspiration which is given in the Law School.

I shall be pleased to do what I can to further the main object which I was the instrument of bringing to the attention of the profession.

Believe me, etc.,

W. J. McWHINNEY.