

7

sion of Candidates both to the study and practice of these professions. But that these professional bodies should become *Close Corporations* with power to bar the doors against all but persons whose Liberal Education has been carried on only after the progr' mme of each profession, is a monstrous evil which needs only to be mentioned to be condemned.

So long as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council—the Head of the State—exercised a power on behalf of the citizens at large, all was well, more especially as it was understood that there would be no interference except in case of some acknowledged abuse, but to transfer this power to a professional body which, by its very nature and constitution, must be considered onesided and partial, is on the face of it open to very serious objection.

The danger lies in the fact that the proportion of Protestants to Roman Catholics in this Province is only as one to six, and by the Constitution of the General Council of the Bar, that body will have a large number of its members, perhaps all, Roman Catholics.

There was a certain amount of danger when the control lay with the Councils of Sections, but as in Protestant districts there was a tolerable certainty of Protestant representation in the Council, there was nothing serious in this danger.

But the programme of the General Council ignores Protestant Education altogether by the introduction of subjects extraneous to the system.

They put aside the well known fact that so diverse are the systems of Roman Catholics and Protestants, that two Committees of the Council of Public Instruction exist.

The provisions—quoted above—made at the time of Confederation recognize this divergence, and guard the rights of Minorities, whether Roman Catholic or Protestant.

Your Sub-Committee can come to no other conclusion than the following:—

1. That the attention of the Government be formally called to the serious disadvantages from which the Protestant population of this Province are now suffering, through the operation of the Bar Act of last session, which in many of its clauses infringes on their rights and privileges.

2. That a demand be made for the abrogation of the objectionable clauses of the said act.

3. That in order to guard against a recurrence of the evil complained of, the Legislature be requested to make provision for the appointment of two Examining Boards for the examination of Candidates seeking to enter on the study of all or any of the professions.

4. That one of such Examining Boards be Roman Catholic, the other Protestant, and that each Board be appointed by its own proper Committee of the Council of Public Instruction.

5. That the Arts degrees of the Universities be recognized, as entitling the holders of such degrees, to enter on the study of any profession without preliminary examination, on the ground that these degrees constitute in themselves the best possible evidence of a Liberal Education.