

Report of Committee on Legal Education

Your Committee has been so recently appointed that it does not intend to do more than submit, for the consideration of the Association, certain general propositions. Legal education falls within the statutory jurisdiction of the Law Society, and therefore it would be an assumption for this Association to do more than give its views and pass them on for the consideration of the Benchers.

For some time it has been apparent to members of the profession that we should endeavour to bring our Law School to such a state of perfection as will make it the equal of any other great schools in other jurisdictions. During the anxious years of the war, we were forced to mark time, but now that the attendance in the school has grown, and with it have come surprising revenues, we should no longer delay in making a careful survey and in seeking reforms and in bringing them about. Our desire should always be to improve our profession, and we must not object to give the students who follow us, advantages and inspiration which it was not our good fortune to enjoy.

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It is a matter of more than passing interest, that McGill University is on the eve of establishing a complete course in the principles of English-law, and proposes to attract students from the eight other provinces of Canada. McGill's aim is to set up a national school of law, which will serve in the fullest manner the legal needs of the Dominion. The following objects are set down by the Secretary of the Faculty, in a recent magazine article:- (*Can. Law Times, Jan. 1921*)

- (1) To provide a sound professional training for the practising lawyer, whether he is going to practise in Quebec or elsewhere;
- (2) To meet the needs of that growing body of men and women, who do not intend to practise law, but wish to acquire a sound knowledge of legal principles as part of their education for business, journalism or public life;
- (3) To encourage the pure scholar and research student, leading to the development of a great legal literature in Canada;
- (4) To make McGill the focus of the best legal thought in Canada, to which all may turn with confidence who wish to obtain the most accurate and scholarly opinion procurable on any problem; and (5) To stimulate other law schools and universities in a rivalry <sup>of</sup> zeal in the service of Canada, - McGill has recently added to its staff, Professor