

3. If so, is this encroachment excusable in the public interest ?

It will be seen that I make the " public interest " the ultimate test.

In connection with the first of these questions, it will, I think, be admitted, that it is desirable in the public interest that none but trained minds should enter in the practice of the professions, and it is of importance that there should be training schools for the instruction of candidates in the theory as well as in the practice of the professions.

The only training schools in this province where " theory " can be studied are those founded and maintained by the Universities, —Familiarity with practice is obtained in Law in the office of a practitioner ; in Medicine by attendance in the hospitals.

Each part of the training is important, the one as important as the other—but both together assist in educating the professional man.

Now if the effect of the Bar Act is to close the University Schools by imposing a Curriculum in them which they cannot follow, not the professions only, but the general public must suffer. And this, it is declared, will be the consequence of the committal to the General Council of the Bar of the power of prescribing the course of study to be followed in the Universities ; a course of study be it remembered which does not carry with it any privilege of practice, but simply gives the University graduate the privilege of one year's shortened service with a practitioner—and does not exempt him from the Bar Examination.

The Professors of the two Protestant Universities unhesitatingly declare that the obligation to give 1050 lectures in a three years's course, is neither necessary nor of advantage to the student, and yet involves such a sacrifice of time on the part of the Professors themselves, that very few of the leading practitioners will give the time for the work of preparing and delivering the lectures.

The student also, who has to follow such a course, must give his whole time to his lectures, and thereby lose to a great extent the benefit of his practical training in the courts and in the office of his " patron."

I am quite aware that it is a moot question, but there undoubtedly seems to be " point " in the argument, and it surely cannot