


THE CHANCELLOR'S GIFT TO THE LIBRARY



The Faculty of Law—for the first time in its fifty-eight years of existence—will possess through the generosity of the Chancellor, The Right Honourable Lord Beaverbrook, the nucleus of an adequate library. So significant is the gift to Faculty that facts more accurately than words speak its nature: in 1949 Faculty possessed only one-tenth of the volumes deemed necessary for a proper law school by the Association of American Law Schools; it possessed less than one per cent of the active volumes in use in the eleven Canadian law schools, eight of which enjoyed, in addition to their own, the facilities of Law Societies. Lord Beaverbrook has provided facilities not available in the Saint John Law Library and lessened to some extent dependence on facilities available in that library.

Lord Beaverbrook's interest in the Faculty library could not have been evinced at a more appropriate or necessary moment. For the student course load, consistent with the Canadian standard, has, by an increase in hours and by the addition of new courses, been substantially increased to fifteen hours a week in the second year with present plans envisaging fifteen hours a week in each year beginning next year; consistent with the trend recognized by the Canadian Bar Association and by the Association of American Law Schools, new emphasis is being given to public law subjects, each of which requires a wide collection of materials in sharp contrast with a narrow collection adequate for most private law subjects; consistent with the declared purposes of Faculty, which are to afford a thorough professional training and to develop in the student powers of analysis, discrimination and judgment, each student in each year is required to write an essay on a topic designed to stimulate independent research and analysis, and to participate once as a solicitor and once as a counsel in a Moot Court involving, independently of Faculty assistance preparation of a factum and oral argument before a member of the profession or the Judiciary. Such a program can be undertaken successfully only when the tools for the job are available.

Legal publications of every description are represented in Lord Beaverbrook's collection: law reports, textbooks, works of reference, legal periodicals, leisure reading. Faculty will be provided with an additional set each of the Dominion Law Reports and of the All England Law Reports; with a wide range of textbooks principally in subjects of the third year; with a number of standard works of reference including Williston's classic on Contracts, the extremely useful Canadian Abridgment and the very new American Jurisprudence; and with complete sets of several of the leading Anglo-American legal periodicals, including the Law Quarterly Review, the Harvard Law Review, the Columbia Law Review, the Michigan Law Review, and the Minnesota Law Review. In sum the collection, carefully selected and integrated with library development undertaken this year by Faculty, involves an accession to the library of well over one thousand volumes.

Future generations of law students will remember that in the hours of the Battle of Britain the name Beaverbrook was then inseparably linked with the names of great champions and defenders of law; they will know his contribution to legal development in New Brunswick and to their education; they will with pride recall that he was a student—and in their own Faculty.

—Contributed