

Adrian Gilbert, K. C.

Replies to U. N. B. Resolution

Dr. A. W. Trueman, *President*,
University of New Brunswick,
Fredericton, N. B.

Dear Mr. President:

Members of the Faculty of Law of the University were surprised to read in an issue of "The Brunswickan" published November 14th a resolution of the S. R. C. respecting the Law School.

I have been requested to correct the misleading and inaccurate statements in the recitals of the resolution in question.

Respecting the Courts in Fredericton and Saint John, the Chancery Division has 10 terms annually in Saint John and 7 in Fredericton; The King's Bench Division holds 5 circuits in Saint John and 3 in Fredericton; the Court of Appeals has 5 terms in Fredericton per year. I have omitted reference to the Divorce Court. For the law student, trials in the Chancery Division and King's Bench Division are much more instructive than Appeals.

The Barristers' Society has an excellent library in the City of Fredericton, but the Society has never expressed itself as willing to extend the facilities of its library (as has been presumed by the S. R. C.) to a large number of law students. There are now 54 students in the Law School at Saint John, and for over fifty years the Saint John Law Society has permitted law students to use its very excellent and spacious library. A fee of \$10.00 per student is paid to the Law Society by the Faculty of Law as compensation for the wear and tear on its reports and text books. The Law School also has its own library which has been greatly extended in the past few years.

That the students in the Law School are taught by practising lawyers, is correct. Four of the lecturers received their training at the U. N. B. Law School, four at Oxford, two at Harvard and one at Columbia. Not only are the Faculty members extremely well qualified but all are very conscientious in the discharge of their duties. They give freely of their time in order to serve the legal profession in the Province.

The statement that "a degree from the U. N. B. Law School is not recognized in other Provinces of Canada" is absolutely untrue. Graduates from this Law School are now practising in every Province of Canada. They have been accepted for post-graduate study in Oxford, Columbia and Ann Arbor. Since the war graduates of the Law School have been admitted to the Bars of every Province of Canada.

The fees in the Faculty of Law are the same as in the Forestry and Engineering Faculties. Cost of living in Saint John is no greater than in Fredericton and living accommodation is much better.

The proposal to raise the standards of legal education in the Province was made by members of the Faculty of Law of the University in Saint John, after the Faculty itself had taken the lead in improving the standards. The writer was the chairman of the Legal Educational Committee of the Barristers' Society and also was a member of the committee of the Law School which recommended the changes in the curriculum. I am therefore acquainted with the changes made and the reasons for them.

The Faculty has taken steps to obtain a Common Room and an additional Lecture Room which will be ready for occupancy in the new year. The Faculty has also recently recommended to the Senate the engagement of a second full-time lecturer.

It is hoped, Mr. President, that these corrections will enable the members of the S. R. C. to view the matter more clearly. It is to be regretted that such unfavourable and inaccurate publicity should be given to any Faculty of the University when the facts could have been so readily ascertained.

Yours very truly,

A. B. GILBERT,
Secretary of the Faculty of Law.



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