

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Two ugly words have appeared on the scene in Fredericton during the past season—*Racial Discrimination*.

Certain students at the University of New Brunswick happen to have a darker colored skin than their classmates. On going into some of the barber shops in the main section of Fredericton they discovered certain barbers did not do business with "colored people." The Student Council of "Up the Hill" after investigating the matter have declared a boycott on *four* barber shops.

It is indeed a sad reflection on our intelligence when such a thing happens, especially in a civilized country.

Slavery has been abolished for many years. The last case concerning slavery was that of Nancy Morton, a black woman, which was tried before the Supreme Court in Fredericton in 1800. In this case the Court divided, Chief Justice Ludlow and Judge Upham being in favor of the return of the slave to her owner and Judges Isaac Allen and Saunders being against such action. Although the argument was not followed by a judicial decision, slavery thereafter practically ceased to exist not only in New Brunswick but in the Maritime Provinces.

Now we find that certain minds apparently believe themselves back in the eighteenth century when the freedom and equality of all was not the established rule. The student body should be heartily commended in their outcry against fellow students being subjected to such an outrage.

Equality has been and should continue to be the rule in New Brunswick as well as the rest of Canada.



THE FIRST LAW STUDENT

Jonathan Sewell was born in Boston in 1766. After leaving the newly-constituted United States and residing in England, his parents moved to New Brunswick and he became the Province's *first law student*.

After admission to the bar he practiced for a year at Saint John and then moved to Quebec, where he met with great success. In 1793 he was Solicitor General, in 1796 Attorney General and Judge of the Court of Vice-Admiralty and in 1808 he became Chief Justice.

Jonathan Sewell's father was a graduate of Harvard in 1767 and was Attorney General of Massachusetts. He died in Saint John in 1796. ⁽¹⁾

Thus we see that New Brunswick's first student-at-law rose to an eminent position in the Judicial and Legal world. This should serve as an example and inspiration to all those who are fortunate enough to be studying in preparation for the greatest of all professions, that of *Law*.

(1) Taken from "Early Lawyers and Judges of New Brunswick and Their Times."