

LAW JOURNAL

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EDITORIAL

WELCOME TO NEW STUDENTS

WE welcome the new students who have this year joined the Intermediate Course of Arts and who intend to join the Course of Laws. We should like to remind these new students that the Law Society is their own society more than any other University Society and we invite them as from now to take an active interest in the society and in its activities, for it is they who in the near future will be called upon to guide the fortunes of the Law Society.

THE LAW JOURNAL

It is indeed a pity that our Journal has not seen the light of day during 1953. We cannot understand why the University authorities have remained deaf to our requests for an increased annual grant to cover the meteoric rise in printing costs. They know well enough that the Society cannot be expected to raise sufficient funds for this purpose from among its student members. Formerly, the Law Journal used to be published twice a year, then lately, owing to increased printing costs it began to be published only once a year, and unless financial help is forthcoming it looks as if it will have to be published once in every two years. This is most unsatisfactory considering that the Law Journal is still the only legal publication in Malta. We think that the University is in duty bound to see that the Law Journal is not allowed to die a slow death.

APPEAL TO LAW STUDENTS

Just as it is the duty of the University to help financially, so it is also the duty of all law students to take an active interest in the Law Society. It is regretted that during the last two years, law students have shown a marked lack of interest in the Society's activities. The Society has been further weakened by petty dissensions among its members, some of whom boycotted its activities. This attitude is foolish in the extreme and it is sincerely hoped that the new academic year will see an increased harmony

between law students and that they will unite in a common determination to give the Society renewed vitality.

THE LAW COURTS

It is indeed gratifying to see that at last the Government has seriously in mind the rebuilding of the Law Courts on their old site. The present accommodation is most inadequate. The Superior Courts have been occupying premises which are woefully inadequate and are besides urgently needed for a National Museum. The position of the Inferior Courts is even worse. It is hoped that a decision will soon be taken as to where the latter Courts are to be accommodated pending the reconstruction, so that rebuilding can start in earnest.

GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT

The true gravity of the problem was brought home to most of us during the National Congress of Students which was organised by the Students Representative Council during October-November of last year. In our opinion, the problem confronting law graduates is even more serious than that confronting other graduates. In our present state of overpopulation, it is no surprise that emphasis is being laid on emigration. People in all walks of life are going overseas to seek a livelihood in less populous countries. But law graduates have little or no opportunities open to them overseas. Little can be done until a reciprocal recognition of degrees among Commonwealth countries is agreed upon. The openings which are or may be made available in Malta to law graduates can at most offer only a partial solution to the problem. It is therefore most distressing to learn that the Chamber of Advocates does not intend to avail itself of the invitation to send representatives to a conference among Commonwealth legal associations which aims to bring about reciprocal recognition of law degrees. We hope most sincerely that the Chamber will after all decide to avail itself of this opportunity which may mean so many benefits to law graduates in the shape of opportunities abroad similar to those open to medical graduates. Such benefits will be beneficial to all law graduates but more especially to those of the younger generation and it is hoped that this will be kept in mind when the Chamber takes a final decision on the invitation.