

YALE LAW JOURNAL

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THE editors of the YALE LAW JOURNAL, encouraged by the success of the preceding boards, enter upon their duties with the hope that their endeavors to preserve the standard which has been set for them will prosper. The purpose of the JOURNAL is to represent the Yale Law School among its contemporaries in the field of legal literature in a creditable manner, and to advance the interests of the School by keeping it before the minds of the members of the legal profession; to publish articles, interesting and instructive, furnished by an able corps of contributors, and to keep the public informed of the growth and progress of the institution, and the alumni in fellow-feeling with the undergraduates. The editors thank the faculty, graduates and members of the Law School for the favor and support which the JOURNAL has received from them in the past, and ask that it may continue.

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THE American Bar Association, through its Committee on Legal Education, has rendered a splendid service to our profession and to the country by collecting a vast amount of information in regard to the methods of legal education and requirements for admission to the bar, prevailing in the different States and foreign countries. With the coöperation of the United States Bureau of Education, the results of the labors of each have been embodied in a report on legal education issued by the bureau last spring. In

consequence of the interest awakened by this movement, a conference of law teachers and others interested in the subject was held during the session of the American Bar Association at Saratoga in August, 1892. Professor J. B. Thayer of Harvard, Judge Bennett of the Boston University Law School, Prof. S. E. Baldwin, Mr. G. M. Sharp of the Yale Law School, were among those who took part in the conference, and it was decided to issue a call to all persons engaged in legal instruction to meet in further conference at the time of the annual meeting of the American Bar Association at Milwaukee in August of this year. Many accepted the invitation, and a section of the Bar Association was organized, to meet annually in connection with the association, called the Section on Legal Education. Professor Henry Wade Rogers of the Northwestern University Law School was elected its President, and Mr. George M. Sharp of the Yale Law School, Secretary. Papers were read by Prof. Austin Abbott of the University of the City of New York, Prof. Williston of Harvard University, and Prof. McClain of the Iowa State University, and their subject matter fully discussed. The papers of Prof. Abbott and Prof. McClain are, by permission of their authors, printed in this number. The possibilities of advantage to legal educators and incidentally to those to be legally educated, growing out of a comparison and discussion of methods, are very great. It is confidently believed that the movement will commend itself to all who have at heart the elevation of the intellectual and moral standard of our profession, and may conduce to the formation of a science of legal pedagogics.

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THE attention of those who are or intend to become lawyers has been very strongly drawn in recent years to this important question of methods of legal education. The weight of this topic has been augmented by the wide divergence of the systems of instruction adopted in the various Law Schools in the country. The discussion of this subject will be the feature of the JOURNAL during the coming year, and considerable space will be devoted to its examination.