
PETITION.

To the Honourable the Speaker and the Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, in Parliament Assembled:

The humble petition of the undersigned students-at-law, and being members of the Law Society of British Columbia, sheweth:—

1. That the time of service of articled clerks before being called to the Bar of British Columbia is five (5) years (R. S. B. C. 1897, chapter 24, section 37, sub-section 3a), or in the case of men having University Degree, three (3) years (*ibid*).

2. That the term of residence necessary before being called to the Bar of this Province for barristers coming from other portions of Her Majesty's dominions is six months only (R. S. B. C. 1897, chapter 24, section 37, sub-section 3b).

3. That the time of service of articled clerks before being allowed to practice as solicitors within this Province is five (5) years (R. S. B. C. 1897, chapter 24, section 37, sub-section 4a), or in the case of men having a University Degree, three (3) years (*ibid*).

4. That the time of residence necessary before practising within this Province for solicitors coming from other portions of Her Majesty's dominions is six months only (R. S. B. C. 1897, chapter 24, section 37, sub-section 4b).

5. That an Act intituled the "Legal Professions Amendment Act, 1899," has been introduced repealing those parts, sub-section 3b, and of sub-section 4b of section 37 of chapter 24, R. S. B. C. 1897, which impose upon barristers and solicitors from other portions of Her Majesty's dominions the said term of residence of six months, and of enrollment on the books of the Law Society for a period of six months, and of publishing notice of application for call and admission for two months immediately preceding said call and admission before being called and admitted, or called or admitted, as the case may be, to the Bar of British Columbia.

6. That in other parts of the Dominion of Canada a much longer period of residence is prescribed. (*See* Manitoba Consolidated Statutes 1880, chapter 9, section 4, and Ontario R. S. O. 1887, chapter 147).

7. That the peculiar and existing conditions in British Columbia are such as to induce an immediate and large influx of professional men from other parts of the British dominions, and especially from England and the Province of Ontario, and there is no necessity to remove the existing restrictions in order to induce immigration.

8. That your petitioners who have spent five years of their lives in this Province, and have contributed their quota towards the revenues of said Province and have had to spend money here for sustenance, all of which has benefited the Province, feel themselves unduly

handicapped by the present light restrictions on barristers and solicitors coming from other portions of the British dominions, and will, if the Bill now before your honourable body becomes law, suffer great and continued injustice.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray :—

That your honourable body may be pleased to refuse to enact the said proposed amendment to the Legal Professions Act, and that if any amendment be made to the Legal Professions Act it shall be in the nature of an increased restriction.

And your petitioners will ever pray, etc.

Dated this eighteenth day of February, A. D. 1897.

WALTER W. WALSH, Vancouver.

W. C. BROWN, Vancouver.

W. H. T. GAHAN, Vancouver.

VIGGO LAURSEN, Vancouver.

SAM. N. MOORE, Vancouver.

CHARLES N. HANEY, Vancouver.

H. A. BOURNE, New Westminster.

E. G. McBRIDE, New Westminster.

A. M. MALINS, New Westminster.

W. I. BRIGGS, New Westminster.

MAX MACGOWAN, Vancouver, B. C.

ROY MACGOWAN, Vancouver, B. C.

BEN. P. WINTEMUTE, Vancouver, B. C.

A. R. CREAGH, Vancouver, B. C.

HENRY L. MORLEY, Vancouver.

VICTORIA, B. C.:

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, Printer to the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty
1899.