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A Word to the Old Fellows

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A WORD TO THE OLD FELLOWS

Perhaps fifty per cent of the lawyers practicing in this state are either young men or have been engaged in practice less than ten years. In any event, we have in this state many young practitioners. The age of youth in the practice of law is the period of building up and forming and crystallizing the personality, establishing the character and shaping the man and the lawyer for the future, and the future will be within the control of these younger practitioners.

Goethe said: "The Destiny of any nation at any given time depends on the opinion of its young men under five and twenty."

Ruskin said: "Youth is the period of building up in habits and hopes and faiths,—Not an hour, but is trembling with destinies."

Every old and successful practitioner has his following or constitutes the example by which the younger man forms his ideals. We cannot escape the fact that we as a body treat the younger lawyer with indifference and fail to take a personal interest in his development.

The salvation of the legal profession for the future depends upon inculcating in the young practitioner high principles and thoughts and in the development of character and integrity. Every young lawyer has the right to demand our assistance in development. May we not say that a weighty responsibility is upon any of us who may be classed as older fellows in the law and may we not take that responsibility as a daily duty and "Build for the future?"—President Lawrence.