

TOO MANY 'SHYSTERS'

Country Overrun, Says Member of Congress to Alumni.

NO WEBSTERS OR CALHOUNS

Howland Predicts Conditions Will Be Chaotic in Fifty Years Unless Standard Is Raised—Academic Training Declared to Be Prime Requisite—Decadence of Old-School Practitioners.

"More real lawyers and less attorneys-at-law" should be the battle cry of the republic in the future, according to Congressman Paul Howland, of Cleveland, who was one of the speakers at the annual reunion of the alumni of Western Reserve University, last night, at the University Club.

"This country is overrun with 'shysters,' not one of whom is capable of halfway interpreting the laws of the country, which are growing more intricate every day. If the present condition continues, where State legislatures and the Federal government are grinding out laws every minute in the day, I predict that in fifty years' time it will take an absolute genius to find out what the law really is.

"Universities of this country should devote their efforts in raising the standard of the men they graduate in the law. They should endeavor to send out into the world men of brilliant minds; men who will reflect credit upon their alma mater and upon the high calling they have chosen. Until law schools throughout the country insist upon a man having an academic training, this condition will never be brought about."

Collegiate Degree Required.

Mr. Howland's remarks followed the announcement made by William H. Baldwin, of the board of trustees of Western Reserve, that that university is, at present, the only one in the country which requires a collegiate degree for entrance to both the law and medical schools.

Mr. Howland said that the university was to be praised for setting this example, as the profession of law was never so much commercialized as at the present time. He asserted that the old school of lawyers, men like Daniel Webster and John C. Calhoun, has died out, and it would be a miracle if any lawyer of the present day even approached the shadow of their attainments.

Many Improvements Planned.

Dr. Charles F. Thwing, president of Western Reserve, was absent, owing to the sudden illness of his wife. His place was filled by Prof. Winfred G. Leutner, dean of Adelbert College of the university, who announced that a new gymnasium is to be built, and that the athletic field will be relocated, and also that additional ground will be acquired for the new buildings of Adelbert and Women's College.

"Fifty per cent of the students at Western Reserve University are working their way through," said Prof. Leutner, "and of last year's graduating class 60 per cent did the same thing."

Senators Atlee Pomerene and Theodore E. Burton, of Ohio, who were unable to attend, sent their regrets, as did Representative Robert J. Bulkley, of Cleveland. Those present were William H. Baldwin, Frederick C. Bryan, A. W. Davidson, John H. Dynes, George H. Gall, R. S. Gehr, Representative Paul Howland, Dr. J. W. Kerr, Ernest McKelvy, Roscoe M. Packard, Raymond S. Patton, Dr. L. A. Sadler, Albert B. Bushnell, and Frank Stahl.

The following officers were elected: Frederick C. Bryan, president; Maurice J. Hole, vice president; R. S. Gehr, secretary.