

*President's address.-
Inauguration Russell Chair -
Law School. Oct. 21/32, noon.*

There was a habit in ancient times of having the old soldiers, the veterans who had earned an honourable discharge, associating with the younger men, and also with the youths, in their military exercises. So it is here today. The veteran soldier, who has won the crown of bay leaf on many a field, and in many different campaigns, as a lawyer and jurist, as a teacher of lawyers and jurists, as a parliamentarian, on the Bench, and as a fearless good citizen, looks in on us as we play our game, and ply our task, and speaks to us, like Nestor, of the brave days that were.

Long before I came to Halifax to live, I used to read, in a Montreal newspaper, long and cogently reasoned letters on the past political development of this country, and of certain aberrations from the strict paths of rectitude noticeable in the present generation of men. They were signed

by one B. Russell of Halifax. I pictured him a massive figure, a very berserker of men, wielding the sword that none but he might wield. When I saw him, a few months ago, celebrating his n-th birthday, I shared the astonishment of the poet Catullus, about the orator ^{the statue of the} Calvus: "Good God, ^{Can} Robin Goodfellow ^{be} so eloquent!"

But, even before I ever read these letters in the Montreal Gazette, I had heard, from another veteran, long since removed from the Dalhousie scene, and yet vigorous elsewhere, of the Dalhousie Law School, and of Weldon, its respected and honoured Dean.

What made the Dalhousie Law School the great force it ~~was~~ ^{has been?} Great endowments, great natural advantages? Today I often hear it said about this and that, "Nothing can be done, we have not the money". Did the famous

Law School of Dalhousie have money and great endowments? It is true that Premier Bennett and others have generously come to our assistance in recent years, *and we are endlessly grateful to them.* Yet Judge Russell has told us, in his recent autobiography, that, during certain periods, money was the last thing it had. What makes any human institution great? Surely nothing but the human beings who constitute it. You, Sir, were one of the human constituents of this institution. As such we honour you, here, today, and we rejoice that you are with us, and will speak to us, on the inauguration of the Russell Chair, which Dalhousie University is pleased *and honoured* to call by your name.

Dalhousie University,
October 21, 1932.