Barrister.
Solicitor.
Law Clerk.
Sec. 88

Barrister.
Solicitor.
Law Clerk.
} See 88

B 152

R COLL U
B (152)
BRITISH LIBRARY OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SCIENCE
M420

/

[i]

Barrister.
Solicitor.
Law Clerk.
Sec. 88

Booth, Life and labour.... 1902-3
Second Series. Vol. IV. Part I.
Chap. IV: law (and medicine)

interviews
etc.

Name of firm or society.	Address.	Page.	~~Pers~~ Remarks.
List of occupations included by Census under Bar.		2	-rister & Solicitor
F. Higgs.		6.	ex Barristers clerks. Common Law side
Mr Rooper & Whately	17 Lincoln's Inn Fields.	16.	interview with J W Hills. Managing clerk.
J. F. Osman		26.	Barrister's clerk. Chancery side.
A. H. Osman	4 King's Bench Walk. Temple	34	" " Admiralty & Common Law side
T. Armistead	3 Stone Bldg. Lincoln's Inn.	48	Barrister with good practise (Company. Colonial work)
United Law Clerks	Soc. 3 Sergeants Inn. Chancery Lane	54	Figures & papers (given by Mr May Secy
T. A. Roper	3 Harcourt. Temple	58	Barrister's clerk.
Wm Maynard.	20 Threadneedle Street &c.	64	Managing clerk to Mr Ingle & Holmes City Solors
G. Wm Kay	7 Amyand Park Rd. Twickenham	74	Police court & County court Solor.
T. H. Inagge	14 Coventry Gardens	90	Copy of letter re Barristers Benevolent fund.
Solors Managing clerks Association		92	Letter from Wm Maynard with reference to Society.
C. J Childs	30 Wakehurst Rd Wandsworth	96	members of the 'Trade'.
Joseph Brown	13 Dookes Ct. Chancery Lane	100	
Pedler.	Holborn turnstile	110	Large master Law stationer
Lady Law Writers	Portugal St. Clay Street.	114	Interviews with two Offices.

1

Persons included under the Census headings
Barristers & Solicitor. (3rd Census Dect.)
Suborder 2. 19.

Persons included by the Census under the Headings
Barristers, Solicitor, Law Clerk.

Barristers, Solicitor.

	Persons. male or female — Cens. 1891.
Advocate.	
Common Sergeant of London.	
✓ Conveyancer.	
Equity Draftsman.	
Law Agent.	
✓ Lawyer.	
Magistrates' Clerk (not C.S).	
✓ Notary, Public Notary.	5,456
✓ Parliamentary Agent.	
Proctor.	
Writer to the Signet	
✓ Queens Council.	
Recorder (not C.S)	
Sergeant at Law.	
✓ Special pleader.	
Member of the Inner Temple.	

Law clerk.

Law Clerk.

Persons m r f.
Cen m. 1891.

✓ Articled Clerk.		
✓ Barristers clerk.		
Conveyancing clerk.		
Costs Draftsman.		
✓ Engrossing clerk.		9, 115.
✓ Law writer.		
Parliamentary clerk.		
✓ Solicitors clerk.		
Scrivener.		
Scriveners clerk.		
Total. (with Barrister Solic.)		14, 571.

Managing clerks.

Interview with F. Higgs. clerk to Abel Thomas MP & Roland Vaughan Williams.

Managing clerks. Shd have been included in the above. They are the heads of depts in a solicitors office. Do a good deal of litigation before County Courts. Appear before Masters in Chambers. Are admitted men when they have they have passed the examns.
Office boys may rise to this.
All who are not born to purple pass thro this stage ie those who have had neither money nor position to pay their way in a 'gentlemanly' fashion to the high rank of solicitor

An articled clerk.

Conditions of admission

His Salary.

gets Salary of about £50 per year.

are usually admitted men.

An articled clerk. is so to speak an apprentice to a solicitor. He is one who wants to become a solicitor. He applies to a solicitor & says he is willing to be articled. He becomes articled upon payment of a certain fee. (maybe 300 gs.) Works for 3 or 5 years. If articled in the country it is usual for him to spend the last year of his time with the London agents of the firm (most solicitors have a London agent). He has to pass. Preliminary, intermediate & final exams.
Then he is admitted on payment of a certain fee to the Incorporated Law Soc when then grant him a permission to practise. Certificate of service & character.
They often go into another office or works in the same firm. He seeks a partnership or buys one or if strong enough starts on his own hook. If he stays he becomes an extra clerk or helps the managing clerk.
Managing clerks are older men & often admitted men. they make £200 to £400 per year.
Partnership is next above but does not often happen.

Barristers clerks

Training

Duties

System of payment.

Barristers clerk.. starts as lad in office at 5/- or 7/- per week under the chief clerk at 14 yrs. of age or 15. Stays on. Rise in wages depends upon Head clerk.
Here are 'clerks & clerks' & there are 'boys & boys'.
He he is taken on as chief & only clerk by some rising young barrister & so he moves on.
Barristers clerk.

1. Receives all papers
2. Keeps a diary so that employers may know exactly what engagements & appts. they may have & regulate their business according. As briefs come in the clerk has to know when they are likely to be wanted in court.

Paid by guarantee in most case is a minimum wage. When fees are above the guarantee then they are paid by percentage on fees. $2\frac{1}{2}$% on the marki

Incomes of Barristers' clerks

Risk of chief dying

Circuit work.

fees. + consultation fee.

"Its a very good clerkship that brings in £250 a year."

clerk to a man like Roscoe wd make £500 to £1000 so wd. Webster & Chitty's clerk.

Clerks to Judges get £400 apparently round.

L.C.J's get £500 or £600.

Have to be careful how they receive clients. often depend upon the clerk whether the client comes again.

Knows one young clerk of 27 now making £400 or £500.

If your chief dies you may lose all: you are thrown out if you are known, you stand a better chance than a stranger yet you may have to wait a long time - all the while you must keep up an appearance. Hard work at times.

On circuit it is harder work ~~for a time~~ - Expenses are paid. It is a bit of change but rather uncomfortable: you have no room of your own.

Not much shifting between
Solicitors & Barristers clerks

Solicitors & Barristers clerks do not often shift.

Messrs Rooper Whately & Co

The Component parts of a solors office

Partners.

Managing clerks

Other clerks.

Dec. 10th G.H.D.

J. W. Hills. of Rooper & Whately. 17 Lincolns Inn. Fields

In a Solicitors office

1. Partners who are admitted solicitors here 3 – 2 share profits.
3rd gets £600 per annum.

2. Managing clerks most of whom are admitted solicitors getting from 1 to £400 a year. (7 here.
4 of them are gets).

3. Clerks of all sorts. who are not solors & prob never will be: who have learnt work by practise.
eg. 2. clerks doing common law work 25/-
1. cashier & 3 assistants.
1. rent collector abt 40/-.
3 office boys. 7/- to 15/-
6 Shorthand clerks – letters act as personal
1 man in charge.

personal & private clerks - of all grades earning from 25/- to 60/- per week. paid monthly & called a salary.

Articled Clerks

4. 3 Articled clerks come at 17 yrs of age for 3 or 5 yrs according as they have previously taken a degree. not p^d at all. often pay a premium. here they pay £300.

Costs Draftsmen

5. Costs draftsman & 2^w Bill clerks.
1 assistant.
1 copying clerk.

London is the centre

London is the centre of solors. More in London than in rest of England altogether.

The less reputable solors

The Police Court & County Court Solors are the shabbiest of the race.
They can but they dont charge all they might ∴ they wd not get it.

All solors charges are fixed by act. Client

does not have his bills taxed until he has quarrelled with his solicitor but barristers often frequently do so. since then they can sue for sums owed.

Conveyancing clerks

Conveyancing clerk. is a clerk who is concerned with drafting of deeds wills. usually done by managing clerk.

Engrossing clerk

Engrossing clerk. engrosses or prepares deed for signature. is a branch of law stationers works, work is sent out to them.

Law stationers

Law Stationers are shops that do copying & engrossing of deeds, plans etc.

Prices for work done

they charge $1\frac{1}{2}$d per folio 70 words. of which 1d is paid to the clerk. - this is for copying.

for engrossing they charge. $2\frac{1}{2}$d. per folio of which the man gets 2d

Lithographic work is double.

a good man can copy from 10 to 14 folios an hour.

engrossing a man does 8 to 10 folios.

Very long hours worked

Work for very long hours - one man dismissed

Average earnings

Training by apprenticeship

Work 7 days per week

Drink

claimed he had often worked 36 hours on a stretch.

They average £2 a week all year round. In a busy week a good hand can make as much as £5.

Most of them are apprenticed under indenture for 5 or 7 years on easy terms.

1st yr.	7/-	for this this man had to work 6 days 8–8.
2nd	8/	
3rd	10/	
4th	12/	
5th.	14/	

As a rule they work all Sundays. Everything is sent out at 6.30 or 7 PM & have to be in, in the morning.

Some work is sent out during the day but the bulk is sent out at night.

Drink. Those who have cont work & hang about all day have most temptation clients stand them drinks.

All round there is a good deal of 'nipping' among barristers clerks there is a great deal.

Touting for business

deal. Solicitors clerks are treated by them. They lunt a good deal. They have got to do it. are not supposed to - but all do.
Interest of clerk to increase practice of his master.
They are a very poor lot barristers clerks.
They wd be worth nothing in the open market.
The merit of a clerk depends on the 'name' he has in receiving clients & 'getting a' with 'Solors' clerks.

'Solors'

Solor is the mitten abbreviation of solicitor but is not usual in speaking.

City Solicitors

City Solicitors don't stand quite so high so-cially. (exc one or two)
9 out of 10 of the small city solors is a sharper

Scriveners

Scriveners take clients money paying interest & pay it out at a higher rate. Bankers are Bankers & Scriveners.

December 10th G. H. S.

Interview with J. F. Osman. Barrister's clerk on the Chancery side to J. Asketon Cross.

Training of Clerks.

Clerks as a rule rise from being office boys under a clerk. If anything there is a tendency now for solicitors clerks to be taken on as Barristers clerks straight away. Barristers seem to have some idea that a solicitors clerk may be able to bring some business along with him.

Family industry.

Clerkships run in families. His two brothers are, & his father was a barrister clerk. His own position is that of a secretary rather than a clerk. He knows shorthand & this is of great use to him.

System of payment.

A minimum is guaranteed to a clerk & this is deducted from the fees until the

Clerks earn bet 5% & 10%
on their principals income.

Conferences pay best.

Risk of principals death

guarantee is reached after which the clerk is entitled to his full fees.
As a barrister rises in his profession so do the clerks fees increase in number. If a man earns £1000 a year a clerk wd get about £70 in fees. A clerk certainly makes over 5% on ~~of~~ his masters income. The extreme variation wd be between 5% & 10%. Roughly speaking a clerk earns 7%.

Conferences bring in money, more than briefs do. On the Common Law side there are fewer conferences than on Chancery side. Common Law clerks might make no more than 5%, Chancery clerks wd earn more because out of every guinea paid for a conference the clerks share is 2/6.

The great risk you run is of your employer dying. Then you have to start again. The result is not at first so severe as it might-

Unpaid fees.

Duties of a clerk.

Can increase a barristers business by one third

Busy season June - Aug

might be thought for many barristers are not paid for a year after their work done & all that is done during the clerks tenure of office is due to him even though he is out or in another place meanwhile.

A barrister cannot force a solor to pay. & great many never pay at all. Many barristers will accept work from al-most anyone & often are not paid for it.

A clerk.

1. Keeps accounts.
2. Makes out & marks fees.
3. Writes out drafts.
4. Does personal work for barrister

It is a great position of trust

A clerk can increase a barristers business to calculated, by one-third. Being polite & having acquaintances with solicitors clerks greases the wheels & inclines briefs your way.

The busiest season is between June & Aug.

Hours of work.

Clerical staff

Minimum Guarantee £70.

Conveyancing clerks.

Holidays.

Drinking

QC's & Judges clerks

Law writers

Work begins 9.30 or 9.45 AM & to 6.30 or 7.
On Saturdays from end at 3, 4, or 5 PM. it is very diff. to get away earlier because the lists of cases are not published ~~earlier~~ before 3 PM on Sat.
He has never had a regular luncheon hour in his life.
A Clerk may have a junior clerk earning 15/ or 16/- under him (but only in large offices where they are paid directly by the barristers) as well as a boy whom he pays himself.
The minimum guarantee of a decent clerk would be £70.
Conveyancing clerks have the same work & pay as barristers clerks but if anything rather more copying to do.
Holidays vary from a fortnight to one month in the year.
Long vacation runs as from 10 to 4.30 practically 3 months holiday for clerks.
There is a good deal of drinking among barristers clerks.
QC's clerks do nothing exc enter fees & get them collected.
Judges clerks do nothing for £400 per annum.
Law writers are the same as copying clerks (1d per folio) & do the same sort of work as engrossers & scriveners

A. H Osmen. (brother of preceding) Barristers clerk claims to be the best authority on 'homing pigeons' in England.

Other additional means of making money.

Training of barristers clerks

December 12. G.H.D.

A. H. Osmen. 4 Kings Bench Walk. Temple. Barristers clerk. Admiralty & Common Law side. Clerk to Mr Nelson

Carries on a little business as a journalist "like most other Barristers clerks who have the brains." So much spare time that he can make a good deal this way.
Is an expert shorthand writer. taught himself won prize of Shorthand writers Assoc for the best report of a lecture by Capt. Bedford Pim. Naval terms he knew about so that everything was in his favour.

Barristers' clerk starts as a boy in Barristers office. at 13. was called junior clerk – at 6/ per week. has remained ever since with one of the same men – & since Jan 1. 1898 nearly all those in good positions have started risen with their masters.

Some have shops.

The curse of drink

Clerks who drink discharged when their masters are making large incomes.

But fairly respectable all round.

Many outside have shops – tobacconists – fish shops some are dictators. Many can & do earn incomes in this way.

The great failing of barristers clerks is the drinking curse. Many of best men ruined in this way. Solicitors clerk comes with work custom is to treat them so as to increase the fees & mention their names. Barristers clerks spend their own money in this way. Some masters must know of this & allow it, but generally it is done on the clerks own initiative & expense.

There are instances of clerks who have been discharged as soon as the master are making big incomes. (R. Webster. Murphy. E. Bray) These clerks who were making £100 over per annum are now walking about & glad of 20/- to 30/- per week.

But taking them all round they are an intelligent lot of men & respectable.

There ~~are~~ is about 1 clerk to every 4 or 5 barristers

Income of lowest paid barristers clerk

The yearly income of the lowest paid barrister's clerk would be £60 - You w^d. not get anyone £60 to £100

System of payment

System of payment - Instead of actual wage they receive a commission on their masters earnings. On every guinea earned by barrister there is a certain clerks fee -
On Pleading 2/6 for each case.
On Conference 5/- out of the guinea ie counsel gets 1/1/0 + 5/6 to clerk.
Formerly clerks were paid 5% on all brief fees. This was cut down by a new act passed in ? & reduced by a scale which in heavy cases reduces it to 2½% on brief fees. On small cases the percentage remains at 5%. (ie up to 10/10/0 there is 5%) beyond 10/10/0 he is paid 2½% on brief fee. No less fee than 2/6 for either guinea or 2/- brief

Amount of clerks fees.

Young men join with a man in good practise & partially pay for clerk.

Clerk has 4 or 5 chances of making a good income.

All clerks fees earned during tenure of clerkships are due to clerk

Clerks dont insure against their precarious livelihood

Young barristers beginning take rooms in the chambers of a man who has practise & pay him so much rent & so much for clerk £75 per year.

They start 4 or 5 together & have a clerk between them - One of the five turns out well & so the clerk gets a good berth. They w^d guarantee him at first between them £60 to £100.

Fees are not recoverable from the barrister until they are actually paid by the solicitor but as soon as paid the clerk has a power of legal re-covery. The clerks dues are all that was earned during his clerkships even though the sums are not paid for some time after & the barrister may meanwhile have left practise or changed his clerk.

Clerks dont insure against their best man dying or being made anything below a judgeships. This is the precarious side of his profession.

Family profession

It is very much a family profession - Relations all introduce one another.

United Law clerks Society.

The United Law clerks Society. 30 Old Sergeants Inn. Chancery Lane W.C.

Very wealthy Soc. Supported by Judges, eminent barristers making large incomes who make generous donations.

Solicitors' & barristers clerks are admitted.

& many Solors are now members who found when they were clerks.

It does not admit any other trade or profession

21/- sickness for 6 mths.

free doctor - advice - & medicine.

Thinks there is insufficient canvassing done to extend its membership. They like to keep the benefits amongst a few. Unless a man chooses to find out all about the Soc himself - very little is done to make it known.

The subscription is prohibitive (see rule 66) for poor barristers or solors clerks

The Soc gives assistance to outside clerks if in distress. for wh. each m pays 4/- per annum to a

Criticisms of method on which it is run.

members like to feel it wd split up well & their share wd be a good one if the Society came to an end. for any reason.

Shifting from solor to barrister
but not vice versa.

Hours. Termtime

Vacation.

Names of those earning highest
sums at the Bar

Estimated earnings of clerks to these
men as between £700 & £1000 per annum.

casual fund beyond his subscription.
suggests that half benefits for half subs should be
instituted.

At times a Solicitor changes to being a barrister's
clerk but not often vice versa (if he can help
it)

Hours 10-6 or 10-7
Saturdays perhaps 10-4

In vacation 11-1 or 11-3 according to custom.
but when there is a rush of work the stop late

Shorthand is most useful to them tho' few of them
know it.

A. E Nelson
Sir W. Phillimore } makes highest on admiralty
W. Aspinall.
Sir R Finlay. Common Law
Sir R Webster. } clerks to these must be making the
Sir E. Clarke } finest incomes when masters are
W. Cully } in active work.

Clerks to parliamentary men.

£20,000 in one year!

7% is usual share of clerk.

Minor duties of a clerk to beginners

Parliamentary barristers clerks are the most drunken lot of the whole. They have to attend Committees with their chiefs. Fees are very high & men with a good practice earn more than on the Common Law side.

Mr Michael Q.C. (for whom Osmen was junior clerk) made in one year £20.000).

A clerk wd make about 7% on his employers earnings.

Duties of a clerk. (with send it on). inter alia – in starting for (barristers) men, minute ladies to tea then clerks make orders tea – makes excuses for absence of barrister etc. etc.

Mr. T. Armistead. Counsel on Chancery Side.

Minimum guaranteed to clerk.

Training of clerk.

Duties of a clerk.

Dec 13th

E. H. D.

Interview with Mr. T. Armistead. 7 Stone Building Lincoln's Inn.

Barristers clerks are guaranteed a certain minimum by their employers & then the ordinary percentage on fees as soon as that minimum is reached.

A clerk – adult – would have a guarantee varying from 30/- (you cd not get much of a one under 30/- per week) to 50/-

In a larger chambers than his ie himself & two younger men who have just been called, the clerk wd have a boy under him. Boy is paid 5/- to 7/- per week. Thus it is that clerks are trained.

Clerk receives papers – marks fees – makes up

Clerks never bring work to principals who do good business

Treating by shady men on Common Law side

Cogness of barristers re their earnings

appointments for his principal.

He scouted the idea of clerks treating solicitors clerks with a glass of something when they brought work. His clerk wd never do such a thing he was sure of it. His was special work. His clerk was a most superior person & had a fortnights holiday every year to go & shoot at Bisley.

Treating might be indulged in by a few shady barristers on the Common Law side. He had heard of a case of drunkenness in a clerk but wd say it was not usual. Hoped that nothing about drinking & earnings of clerks wd appear in print because then it might reflect on the conduct of barristers & also upon the sums of money they made.

Barristers never like to disclose their incomes. Everyone likes to be thought to be fully employed & therefore to be earning maybe

more

The reason for it

Legal ~~pro~~ aversion to touting

Causes of drinking from an employers point of view.

Barristers philanthropic Soc

more than they really are, because experience counts for so much. If you are seeing work constantly you learn more than a cleverer man than yourself who is out of work. The more work you have given you the more you are likely to get.

Suggested that the Bar Committee might have something to say on the subject of any mention of drink or barristers incomes.

Every member of the profession is very strongly against anything in the nature of touting. Suggested that the drinking might be due to

1. Long hours.
2. Irregular earnings.
3. Much leisure ie nothing to do during hours they are in chambers.

Thought that his own clerk wd be very much a-verse to giving any information.

The Barristers philanthropic Soc. is for helping penniless barristers

United Law Clerks Society.

Established

Membership

Objects etc

Dec. 14th G. H. S.

W. May. Secretary. to United Law clerks Society. 3 Sergeants Inn Chancery Lane. (priv address. Woodgreen. New Barnet).

Established by a few managing clerks. April 14. 1832

Admits all who are or have been Law Clerks.

Present membership 1039.

Dec 14 — 5 8 D

UNITED

Law Clerks' Society.

ESTABLISHED 14TH APRIL 1832.

ENROLLED AGREEABLY TO 10 GEO. IV. C. 56, AND 4 & 5, WILL. IV. C. 40.

Offices:

3 OLD SERJEANTS' INN, CHANCERY LANE, LONDON, W.C.

1895.

United Law Clerks Society.

Established

Membership

Objects etc

Dec. 14th G. H. S.

W. May. Secretary. to United Law clerks Society. 3 Sergeants Inn Chancery Lane. (priv address. Woodlynch. New Barnet).

Established by a few managing clerks. April 14. 1832

Admits all who are or have been Law Clerks.

Present membership 1033.

UNITED

LAW CLERKS' SOCIETY.

Patrons.

The Rt. Hon. THE LORD HIGH CHANCELLOR.
The Rt. Hon. THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE OF ENGLAND.
The Rt. Hon. THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS.
The Rt. Hon. THE LORDS JUSTICES.

Trustees.

NATHANIEL TERTIUS LAWRENCE, Esqre., Lincoln's Inn.
JOHN HOLLAMS, Esqre., Mincing Lane.
SIR GEORGE HENRY LEWIS, Ely Place.

Medical Officer.

Dr. C. GAYFORD, 52 Fleet Street, E.C.

Actuary.

RALPH P. HARDY, Esq., Sun Life Office, High Holborn.

Committee of Management.

Chairman, Mr. E. WILDEY.

Mr. W. G. ANDREWS	Mr. T. H. FIDGEN.
Mr. W. E. BARNES	Mr. J. FREEMAN
Mr. J. T. BRAID	Mr. G. W. GOUGH
Mr. C. F. BUTTON	Mr H. SPRAY
Mr. C. J. COCKS	Mr. W. F. WYBROO.

Treasurer.

Mr. H. SPRAY, "Lealhome," Hollingbourne Road, Herne Hill, S.E.

Collector.

Mr. W. STEWART, 3 Old Serjeants' Inn, W.C.

Secretary.

Mr. W. MAY, Woodlynch, New Barnet.

Auditors.

Mr H. BROTHERS. | Mr. C. BUTTON.
Mr. W. SIMPSON.

Arbitrators.

E. W. BRABROOK, Esq.	F. A. PHILBRICK, Esq. Q.C.
F. O. CRUMP, Esq. Q.C.	
F. K. MUNTON, Esq.	W. M. WALTERS, Esq.

Bankers.

UNION BANK, Chancery Lane, W.C.

Honorary Solicitors.

Messrs. PRIOR, CHURCH & ADAMS, Lincoln's Inn Fields.

United Law Clerks Society.

Established

Membership

Objects etc

Dec. 14th G. H. S.

W. May. Secretary. to United Law clerks Society. 3 Sergeants Inn Chancery Lane. (priv address. Woodgreen. New Barnet).

Established by a few managing clerks. April 14. 1832

Admits all who are or have been Law Clerks.

Present membership 1033.

UNITED

Law Clerks' Society.

THE principle on which all Life Assurance and Benefit Societies are based is simply this:—that, while the duration of life and the continuance of health of a single person are of all things the most uncertain, it is possible to ascertain with tolerable accuracy how many of a multitude of persons of a particular age will die within certain periods, and what number of days in each year they will be ill.

Having this principle in their minds, and having often witnessed with pain the distressed condition of many of their fellow Clerks when deprived of health, or past work, as well as the sufferings endured by their Widows and Families at their death, a few Managing Clerks established this Society in 1832.

A Fund was created by small monthly contributions, out of which relief was afforded in

sickness, pensions granted to aged and infirm Members, and assistance given to the families of deceased Members. A Benevolent Fund, called the Casual Fund—to which every Member contributed—was also formed to assist distressed Law Clerks (*whether Members or not*), their Widows and Families, with gifts of money.

The value of such a Society will at once commend itself to all prudent men as a provision in case of sickness and death.

To those who are already insured it will be found a most acceptable co-operator, aiding them when prostrated by sickness (for which there is no provision under an ordinary assurance), and continuing that help for a considerable time.

And inasmuch as, even in the case of the most prosperous, none can foresee what misfortune or affliction may arise, it becomes almost an imperative duty, for the sake of those dependent upon them, that Clerks should avail themselves of the benefits offered by the Society for providing against such contingencies; and to those who are fortunate and do not require its assist-

United Law Clerks Society.

Established

Membership

Objects etc

Dec. 14th G. H. S.

W. May. Secretary. to United Law clerks Society. 3 Sergeants Inn Chancery Lane. (priv address. Woodspeck. New Barnet).

Established by a few managing clerks. April 14. 1832

Admits all who are or have been Law Clerks.

Present membership 1033.

ance during their lifetime, there is the satisfaction of knowing that their subscriptions assist to relieve their less fortunate brethren, while constituting an insurance for themselves in case of need.

The Society, being established on the Mutual principle, and having the Management completely under its own control, obtains the full advantage of all its funds, contributions, and subscriptions, thereby enabling its Members to derive greater benefits than would otherwise be possible.

The following are a few cases which forcibly illustrate the advantage of joining the Society :—

J. W., aged 26, joined the Society on the 3rd April, 1871; he declared on the Sick Fund on the 9th March, 1878, and within seven weeks sunk under an attack of acute rheumatism. The sum of £50 was the sole support left for his Widow.

J. S., aged 26, joined the Society on the 2nd May, 1870; he died on the 30th June, 1879,

having received sick allowance to the amount of £20, and the Society paid his Widow £50.

G. M., aged 27, joined the Society on the 3rd May, 1875; he died of rapid consumption on the 23rd November, 1878. The total subscriptions received from him were £12. 19*s*. 6*d*., for which his Widow was paid £50.

A. B., aged 22, joined the Society on the 1st May, 1876, "passed the medical examination as a first class life;" he declared on the Sick Fund in 1878, and received twelve months' full pay, amounting to £54. 12*s*.

E. F. joined the Society in 1844, was superannuated in 1850, cause—insanity; continued on Fund till 1879. Received from the Society £998. 8*s*.; paid Widow on his death £20.

G. E., joined the Society in 1878, he declared on the Sick Fund in 1880, and received £48. 18*s*.

Z., joined the Society in 1883, he declared on the Sick Fund in 1885, and received £24. 15*s*.; paid Widow on his death £50.

United Law Clerks Society.

Established

Membership

Objects etc

Dec. 14th G. H. S.

W. May. Secretary. to United Law clerks Society. 3 Sergeants Inn Chancery Lane. (prior address. Woodbyrch. New Barnet).

Established by a few managing clerks.
April 14. 1832
Admits all who are or have been Law Clerks.
Present membership 10,339.

J. D., aged 32, joined the Society in 1889. and died in 1891; his Widow received £50.

G. T., aged 38, joined the Society in 1881; in 1890 he received £14. 14s. in Sick Pay; on his death his Widow received £50.

T. S., aged 21, joined the Society in 1881; he declared on the Sick Fund in 1890 and received £30. 18s.; on his death in 1891 his Widow received £50.

J. L., joined the Society in 1848; was superannuated in 1861; cause—blindness; continued on the Fund till 1892. Received for superanuation £1,110—the allowance on his Wife's death £25—and his Daughter was paid £50 on his death. The total subscriptions received from him were £68.

The Society has paid, since its formation in 1832, the following amounts:—

On account of Sickness . . .	£23,000
On account of Superannuation .	34,000
And in Gifts, &c., out of the Casual Fund	23,000
Death Claims	36,000
Making a total of	£116,000

In 1889 and again in 1894, the affairs of the Society were subjected to very searching examinations by the Actuary, and the result is most satisfactory. The Society is thus proved to be established on a thoroughly sound basis.

Members are most earnestly invited to co-operate with the Committee in advancing the interests of the Society, by introducing Members, and making its objects known to the profession.

March 1895.

United Law Clerks Society.

Established

Membership

Objects etc

Dec. 14th G. H. S.

W. May. Secretary. to United Law clerks Society. 3 Sergeants Inn Chancery Lane. (prev address. Woodgreen. New Barnet).

Established by a few managing clerks. April 14. 1832

Admits all who are or have been Law Clerks.

Present membership 1039.

UNITED

Law Clerks' Society

THE Objects of this Society are to establish, by the Subscriptions of the Members, aided by Contributions of the Legal Profession,—

1. A General Benefit Fund, for affording pecuniary assistance in sickness, old age, or infirmity, and on death.
2. A Casual Fund to relieve distressed Law Clerks, whether Members or not, and their widows and families.
3. To procure situations for Law Clerks, and to provide the profession with efficient and respectable Clerks.
4. To form a Library of Legal and other works.
5. To provide Members with Medical Advice and Medicine.

The Society consists of Clerks to the Judges

of the Supreme Court of Judicature; also of Clerks to Barristers, Conveyancers, Special Pleaders, Solicitors, Proctors, Parliamentary Agents, Clerks in the Public Law Offices, and Clerks in the Offices of the Inns of Court.

The Society is managed by a Committee of Eleven Free Members, elected annually at the Quarterly General Meeting in January, whose acts are subject to the control of the Members at each Quarterly General Meeting.

The Committee meet at the Society's Office on the first and third Mondays in every month, at 7 p.m.

QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETINGS,
In which all Free Members can take part.

The first Mondays in *January, April, July, and October,

* At this Meeting the Officers for the year are elected.

ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL.
One day in May or June.

United Law Clerks Society.

Established

Membership

Objects etc

Dec. 14th G. H. S.

W. May. Secretary. to United Law clerks Society. 3 Sergeants Inn Chancery Lane. (priv address. Woodlynch. New Barnet).

Established by a few managing clerks. April 14. 1832

Admits all who are or have been Law Clerks.

Present membership 1039.

INVESTED CAPITAL, £85,000.

GENERAL BENEFIT FUND.

Allowance in Sickness, £1. 1s. 0d. per week.
" on Death, £50.
" on Death of Wife, £25.

Allowance on Superannuation—

If a Member, 16 years and under 20 years, 10s. per week.

If a Member, 20 years and under 25 years, 12s. per week.

If a Memter, 25 years and upwards. 14s.

All Subscriptions cease on a Member being placed on the Superannuation List.

PAYMENT.

If of the Age of	And not exceeding	Until free per Month.	Afterwards per Month.
18	23	5s	4s
23	28	6s	5s
28	33	7s	6s
33	37	8s	7s
37	40	9s	8s

The age is reckoned at the date of admission.

Members become Free after having paid their Subscriptions for 12 months, and 2/6 for a Certificate of Freedom.

CASUAL FUND

Grants not exceeding £5 are made to Members and widows or families of deceased members who satisfy the Committee that they are in distress.

Grants not exceeding £2 are made to Law Clerks not Members (who may be in distress and out of employ), or their widows, upon the written recommendation of a Donor or Free Member.

Loans not exeeding £5 are granted to Members on certain conditions without security.

PAYMENT.

Every Member contributes 1s. quarterly to the Casual Fund.

REGISTRY OF SITUATIONS.

Registers of Situations are kept by the Secretary at the Society's Offices.

No charge is made to Employers requiring Clerks.

MEDICAL ADVICE.

The Medical Officer gives medical advice to the Members free of charge, and for such purpose attends at 52 Fleet Street, between the hours of 10.30 and 11 a.m. daily, and from 1 to 3 p.m., except on Saturdays.

MEDICINE.

The medicine prescribed by the Medical Officer is provided free of charge to Members.

United Law Clerks Society.

Established

Membership

Objects etc

Dec. 14th G. H. S.

W. May. Secretary. to United Law clerks Society. 3 Sergeants Inn Chancery Lane. (priv address. Woodlynch. New Barnet).

Established by a few managing clerks. April 14. 1832

Admits all who are or have been Law Clerks.

Present membership 1039.

INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS.

1. Declarations by proposed Members must be sent to the Secretary, addressed to the Offices of the Society seven days previously to the first Monday in every month.

2. If the applicant is married, the Certificate of his Wife's health may be that of her own Medical attendant. The Society's Medical Officer on application will supply the proper forms.

3. The Applicant must call on the Society's Medical Officer (Dr. GAYFORD, 52 Fleet Street, E.C., between the hours of 1 and 3, except on Saturdays,) whose Certificate is required before the proposal can be laid before the Committee.

4. At the first Meeting in the month next following the proposal, the Candidate will be ballotted for, when his attendance is indispensably necessary. He cannot be proposed and ballotted for the same night.

5. The Society pays its own Medical Officer for his Certificates.

6. Applicants are requested to fill in the blank space in the Declaration with great care, and to sign it in the presence of a Member of the Society.

7. The blanks in the Indorsement are *not* to be filled in by the Candidate.

8. Clerks resident beyond twenty-five miles from London are *not* eligible to become Members, but Members may reside anywhere in the United Kingdom.

9 A Certificate of Birth, or other Proof of Age, must be produced before the Applicant can be ballotted for.

United Law Clerks Society.

Established

Membership

Objects etc

Dec. 14th G. H. S.

W. May. Secretary. to United Law clerks Society. 3 Sergeants Inn Chancery Lane. (priv address. Woodbyrch. New Barnet).

Established by a few managing clerks. April 14. 1832

Admits all who are or have been Law Clerks.

Present membership 1039.

1039

Forms of Declarations by proposed Members, Copies of the Rules, or any information can be obtained on application at the Office between the hours of Eleven and Four daily, except on Saturdays, when the Office is closed at Two o'clock.

E. COX & SONS PRINTERS, 102 CHANCERY LANE, W.C.

25,000 barristers & Solors on
Law list.

In 1894. there were 991 members.

Ld. J. Davey speaking at the dinner said there were 25,000 barristers ~~on the~~ & solicitors on the Law list. (including presumably country with metropolitan)

T. A Roper. Barristers' Clerk.

Duties of a clerk.

Started as a boy.

Incomes of boys
juniors
clerks

Dec 17. G.H.D.

T. A. Roper. 3 Hare Court Temple.
Clerk to

Clerks duties.

1. Keeps the fee books.
2. Arrange amounts of fees as briefs come in.
3. Arranges conferences.
4. Waits about courts to watch when his master shd be called from one case to another.
5. Look after the Chambers
(The actual sweeping is done by Saunderson's = bedbreakers at Cambridge.

Began as a ~~junior~~ boy clerk in 1873. to Mr Justice Vaughan Williams when he was made a judge the head clerk became judges clerk at £400.

Sir Richard Webster's clerk now makes £1200.

Start at 5/ to 8/- as a boy.
as a junior 15/ to 50/ (15/- to 40/- is common for a junior)
Sir Ed Clarke junior gets £200

Fees.

Guarantee.

The duties of juniors & clerks

The chances of income for a clerk

Employer nearly always pays both boy & junior.

A senior clerk to a junior barrister is a good deal higher

Consultation fee when there is a leader, clerks fee is 2/6.
Conference fee is 5/- (for the clerk) principals gets 1/1/0.

Guarantee of clerk at starting varies between £50 at lowest & £80. No clerk but yg made less than £80 – £100 a good many make over £500.
Chambers are always let to one man who sublets the rooms he does not want.

A junior has more conferences than a senior (QC) because junior gets a case ripe for the senior & must have conferences to do so. Conferences pay clerk well. When junior takes case to senior then consultations begin. QC very seldom has conferences.

Clerks also are paid on pleadings.

You start with 4 or 5 men & your hope is that one at least will do well.

Drink.

Additional sources of income.

Hours.

Average incomes.

There is less drinking among barristers clerks he wd say than among any other class of men but they do drink a great many of them

Knows one man who does a good deal of journalism but he does not. One or two have outside businesses.

Hours 10 to 6.30.
Saturdays as soon as lot is out ie about 3.
Get luncheons when they can.

£100 to £300 wd be the average ~~wage~~ earnings of clerks: practically none under £80.

Mr. Maynard of Mess. Ingle & Holmes Solors

The divisions of Mess. I & H's business

Common Law. 1

Chancery 2.

Conveyancing 3

Dec. 19th S. H. D.

Mr. Maynard. City Bank chambers. Threadneedle Street. Managing clerk (not admitted he has not been articled) on the Staff of Mess. Ingle & Holmes. Solicitors. on an introduction from Roland. E Vaughan Williams.

They do all kinds of work.
Have a Common Law.
Chancery } Department.
Conveyancing }

Common law Dept. deals with actions for damages where a a man has suffered personal injury & wishes for redress.

Chancery deals with disputes about wills: rights of way: house property etc.

Conveyancing deals with the drafting of wills & drawing trusts — work where there is no active dispute in force.

Nature of a Solor's Work.

Solicitors deal with the case directly from the client & prepare it for the barrister. Their work is of a most confidential sort. Everything must be told to them - To a barrister you need not mention everything.

acts as buffers between client and barrister.

Managing clerk or Junior takes round brief to barrister & delivers it to barrister's clerk who hands it to barrister.

London is the centre.

~~Bo~~

London is the centre of Solicitors work. Next in importance come the large manufacturing towns. But everyone in England must come up to London to pass his exams & be admitted a solor. If he has been at Oxford or Cambr or London univ he is articled for 3 years & excused Preliminary exam. Otherwise he must be bound for 5 years.

Exams to be passed by Solors

& pass. Preliminary. Intermediate. Final } Examinations

The Law Institution is their governing body.

The Law Institution is the ruling body which admits Solors & sets the exams & admits or strikes them off the Rolls.

Solors have no connection with any of the Inns of Court.

Articled Clerks

The articled clerk becomes a fully qualified Solicitor when he has passed his final. Then he may practise by himself but he generally stays on with the firm on which he has served his time & is made a managing clerk at a small salary. Or he seeks the same post in another firm.

Managing clerks

Managing clerks receive up to £600 per annum. They start at between £200 & £300.

Angels & Bum bailiffs.

Solors have to send summons for payment. 'To send a man Victoria' is the slang term because the summ begins with. 'Victoria by the Grace of God ....' If the man won't pay up the bailiffs are put in 'Angels' or 'Bums' they are usually called. Bums is the regularz term for them. Did not know why but a bum bailiff is so called.

Solicitors' & Barristers clerks

Barristers are very glad to get Solicitors clerks to be their clerks hoping to get business thereby. Barristers may not

Solors clerks can put work in the way of their barrister friends

Drink

The shady side of the profession

not advertise openly. A few men ask for work but the best don't. A solors clerk especially the managing clerk can put a good deal in the way of a young man. Often a case will not go before the principal at all & the managing clerk has charge of it altogether.

The temptation to drink comes in in this way. You have to wait about the Courts until your case comes on. When judges sit late the temptation is doubled because you get so tired of waiting about doing nothing. There are other clerks about whom you know & naturally you turn in to take a glass. A few take too much but not the respectable ones

was offrindly & will give any more information. Gave an introduction to one of the chief men of the managing clerks soc:

Speaking of the shady side of the profession he said the worst of them were to be found in the neighbourhood of

the police courts. These men had touts waiting outside the doors of the courts who engaged plaintiffs & defendants before they entered the Court & offered them advice. They took up cases on spec.

The way of shady men.

Often a man who has been in a good office but has been dismissed & never admitted a solor or having been admitted has been struck off the rolls will go to one of these shady men with names on their doors & ask to be allowed to practise in their name.

These are they – & there are a good many not only in the city but also in the West End who give the bad name to the whole of the profession

The insufficiency of solors fees

He thought that the costs of solicitors were often insufficient especially if you had not a great deal of business. For instance you might be waiting about a whole day for a case to come on & c^l only charge 6/8 for it. A solicitors bill of costs can be taxed so that a client can never be overcharged.

Geo. Wm Lay. Solicitor.

His education

Solors may not earn money
before they have passed their final

See 20th

G. A. D.

George. Wm Lay. 7 Amyand Park Road. Twickenham. Police Court & County Court Solicitor who does nearly all the work on the Surrey side of the water.
On an introduction from Ernest Bowen. Rowlands barrister with a theatrical & to a certain extent criminal practise.

G. Wday has been a Solor for 24 years.
Had the ordinary school education which was followed up by 4 years at Kings College.
He never earned a penny until he was 24. The minimum age at which you can become a Solor is 21. & very few have passed their final exam by that time.
Until you have passed your final you may not do anything to earn your own living. Barristers can make a little by writing for the newspapers but articled clerks may not

Cost of education

Premiums

Increased cost now.

Social position rising

He calculated the expense of education of an ordinary young man ~~from~~ 17–21 yrs of age as –

Premium £300
Stamps on articles £80
Admission after passing final exam £30
Intermediate & Final exams
{ Five years board, lodging, clothing, books & lectures wd. cost at least £700.

You may be admitted without a premium if you have already experience & are worth something. A premium to a good solor is usually £300 for 3 yrs training

Nowadays the cost of becoming a solor is increased, because men cram – go to the wellknown coach Gibson & so spend £500 or more before they pass their final.

Solicitors are undoubted rising in social position just as barristers are declining. More university men become solors every yr. Law list shews this.

Barrister

Barristers still look down on Solors.

Copying clerks.

The prospects of a Solors clerk.

Barristers look down upon Solicitors in much the same way that surgeons do upon apothecaries whom they speak of as 'persons with scruples'.

Solors employ a copying clerk who is also a shorthand writer & pay them 25/- per week as a rule. These men are underpaid considering the confidential nature of their work but they dont often get more than 25/-.

A Solors clerk has little hope of bettering himself unless they are a exceptional man. If a clerk has been a managing clerk for 10 years the judges may excuse him his preliminary exam but he must then pass & pay for his intermediate & final exams. & serve 3 yrs as an articled clerk. Such men "like men promoted from the ranks ~~to~~ among soldiers, become the very worst of solicitors."

Police Court Solors.

Jews

Their touts

Tips to police court officials.

Police Court Solicitors are those attached to the courts at which a stipendiary magistrate is on duty eg. Bow, Lambeth etc. They are mostly Jewish. very sharp lawyers – good musicians – but there is a lower class business & they deal with dirty work that must be done but which he wd not touch. "There is a deal of dirty work that must be done by some one or other."

These police court men employ men who can be seen any day waiting about outside the courts, to tout for them. An undefended man is pounced on & carried off to explain his case in the neighbouring Pub & then fleeced for what he is worth. If he wins he gets very little as damages & if he loses he is damned –

Not only are these men touts for the solors but the officials of the police court also expect something if they suggest a firm to an undefended prisoner. This is an undoubted fact & a disgrace but he did not see how it

cont'd

Magisterial Solicitors

The older you get the more work you get.

Law writers

A distinct trade

Earnings

could be altered.

Then there are magisterial solicitors i.e. men like himself whose word is trusted by the magistrates & who appear before the County Courts.

There is one thing to be said about the profession of solicitor & to some extent it is true about barristers. The older you get the more work you get. Experience is worth more than headlong ingenuity.

Law writers are the same as engrossers. In the country a law writer sets up by himself as an independent man & is paid by the folio.
In London the custom is to employ a firm of Law Stationers who in their turn employ & distribute the work as it comes in to law writers.
This is a distinct trade. The men serve an apprenticeship & are paid piece rates for what they do. Their earnings throughout the year come to between 40/- & 50/- per week.

Mechanical work.

Drink

cause.

treating by clients etc

It is purely mechanical work. The men copy, they never understand a word of what they write or remember it. They are paid overtime rates when they work late at night (?) he has been made to pay more by Law Stationers when he was most particularly in want of a proper copy by the next morning.

Copying clerks drink a great deal. no doubt about that. Long hours, irregular work & sleep lead to this. Piece work earnings makes them make extra efforts.

Solicitors & barristers clerks drink too. There is so much temptation – He had had to dis-miss a clerk about whom it was com-plained that he had been drunk two consecutive days at the Old Bailey while waiting for a case to come on. Clients & barristers clerks will treat them, so what are they to do.

~~But drink he said had~~ Speaking of drink he learnt

Indirect effect of working mens clubs on working mens wives

Drink

Tolors clerks are hardworking

lamented the effect of working mens clubs. These clubs might to some extent have decreased drunkenness among the men, perhaps they had because men had more interests in them & a certain shame of being seen drunk there. It is to the wives that they were indirectly demoralising. Drunkenness had increased a good deal among women & he had traced it in several cases to the effect of men going to the club ~~to~~ spend the evening instead of to his home. The women ~~already~~ spent the whole day apart from their husband, & had been accustomed to pass the evening with them at home. Husband brought home a paper & talked about his work. Now he went to the club, no paper, no talk, the solitude of the evening led many women to drink & when the woman drinks the home soon falls to pieces.

— This by way of parenthesis —

Tolors clerks are a hardworking class, he must say & as a whole do their work very well.

well & keep your secrets.

Was very friendly & wd. be glad to give any further information if wanted.

The Barristers Benevolent Fund.

Dec 18th

Copy of letter from
T. Mordaunt. Tragge.
14 Courtfield Gardens. S.W.

"As to the Barristers Benevolent Fund" I find
"that there is no book of rules. The whole
"business is kept rather quiet. The object
"of the Society is to prevent the 'cadging' which
"used to exist on the part of broken down
"or poverty stricken members of the Bar of
"their wealthier friends. There is a fund of a
"considerable amount managed by a Committee
"There is also a list of subscribers (Subs from
"30/- to about £10/10/0 the money is applied to any
"purpose eg widows, education of children
"etc - which the Committee think deserving.
"The Society has been in existence about 20 yrs."

The Solicitors Managing Clerks Assoc

Founded 1892 -

Conditions of membership

220 members.

No Benefits offered.

Objects.

Dec 31. 95

Copy of letter from Wm Maynard. Managing clerk to Mess Ingle, Holmes & Jm Solicitors 20 Threadneedle Street E.C.

1. The Solicitors Managing Clerks Association was founded in 1892.

2. Every managing clerk to a Solicitor or firm of Solicitors in London or the Country who shall have been continuously in the profession for 10 years and is not a practising Solicitor is eligible for membership.

3. The members number about 220.

4. No Benefits except protection.

5. Objects are to protect members & provide means for their advancement & mutual improvement from both the business & social points of view. They have a library.

Jan. 3. 96. G. H. D.

Mr. Marsh

Charles James Childs. Engrosser & Law writer

Has been apprenticed.

Difference bet engrossing & Copying

Parchment is better work.

Names of parchment.

Cost of skins

March 20th G. H. D.

Charles James Childs.
30 Wakehurst Road.
Wandsworth.
Engrosser & Law writer.
Apprenticed 35 years ago to a man Montagu. Law Stationer in Brownlow Street. Holborn. had previously been Junior clerk in Solors office Bedford Row.
Law stationers undertake to engross or copy docuts sent to him by a solicitor
If it is parchment it is engrossing
If on paper it is copying
Those who do parchment work are better writers than those who do paper. & more correct
Open skins
Bookway skins. } The 3 kinds of parchment
Quarto skins }
Open skins cost from 2/6 to 3/6 so it is expensive to spoil one of them.
Skins with the plate plate: This indenture with flourishes } cost 1/4 to 1/10

Solicitor
|
Law stationer
Regular Staff. — Office keeper
|
'The Trade'.

The 'Trade'

System of work in a trade Office

Waiting for work.

Solicitors send documents to law stationer.
Law stationers can have a staff of hands in his office but if they are insufficient he sends it out into the 'Trade'.
The 'Trade' is a colony of lawwriters who from various causes wont submit to the rules & discipline of a lawstationers office.
The 'Trade' is about Carsitor Street, esp Tooks Ct & Chichester Rents.
In a trade office a man take an office, he has to pay his rent tax & etc. gas etc & fit it up with desks. everything except pens, stationers send out paper or skins.
Office keeper charges the stationer 1d per folio for paper work. and 1/- for 9 folios (72 words per folio).
For paper deed work it is 10 folios for 1/-
The office keepers profit comes in by deducting 2d in every shilling for all the work you do for him so that if you do £1 worth of work he deducts 3/4 also in proportion for less amounts.
You may have to sit for hours without getting work.

'Wallers'

Joseph Brown. 13 Dookes Ct. is a waller.

Trade Offices in London.

Any body who is a good writer may go up into one of these rooms and take his chance of work. Office Keeper gives out work to whom he likes. room for a good deal of favouritism.

'Wallers' are those who have not been apprenticed to the trade.

Joseph Brown.
13 Dookes Court.
Chancery Lane.

'Waller' is an accepted term, the origin of it is lost in obscurity.

Of the trade as a whole over 75% have been apprenticed probably 80%.

There are not more than two hundred in the ~~whole~~ trade ~~of~~ as apart from law stationers proper who would be employed by:

Mr. Woods.	Carsdor St.	20 in this office.	and 10 outside.
Harold.		6	
Mr. Westrope.		30	~~both~~ not in workers
Gray		6	regular staff.
~~Grosle~~		3	
Shaw	(weighs 20 stone)	3 or 4	(is now in prison).
Pagets.		8	regular staff.
Carter.		4.	
Glover.		15.	
Lefaul.	Cansdat	11	who are regular

'Trade Offices

'Sitters'

Office keepers.

Advantage of being a sitter.

Allen can seat 40 but he only 8 regulars.
Mann & Glover. get done work outside.
Marshall & Herbert. have work for 3.
& perhaps half a dozen more.
In the city there are 4 firm
Bevan. — 20 —
Cattermole. } 20.
& 2 others. }
The regular scribes in an office are called 'Sitters.'
"Scribes" rarely live at home if they are workers for the trade
Office keepers are paid by the stationers once a week but they have to pay over to his men's at once.
As a race they are not capitalists.
Only four of them have a banking account & all in these places can men be sure of your money at once. But bills are always paid without fail on Saturdays.
Regular men are called 'sitters' and by an unwritten rule a certain amount of work is always reserved for them.
Regular law stationers work with apprentices who may take an undue number of them and out

Complaints as to half taught apprentices in the regular trade

Rates for those employed by Law stationers.

Women as Engrossers & Copyists

Paid time wages.

Seasons.

Sunday work usual.

half teach them their trade. This is one of the grievances of the trade. Apps. come without a premium.
A regular L.S. employing his men directly pays 1d. for paper per folio
1½ – parchment – –
10d for deed.
Firm in Portugal St. called Lays (20 women) & Curl & Lankham & Hardy employ women. who are usually serve an apprenticeship of one or 2 years then they are paid 10/- (sometimes 12/- & 20/- to managers) per wk. 9 AM to 7 with 1hr. dinner ½ hr. tea. Unlike the men they are time workers. Work 6 days.
There are about 50-70 women in the trade

The busiest time of the year is from Xmas to Easter
Not much work done between Oct & Xmas.
During long vacation you can't earn 10/- per wk.
this is the slackest of all times. when many of them w.d go hopping. This is an actual fact.
Sunday work is usual esp. in the busy time.
Both these men have often slept out on the Thames embankment & recommend No. 2 bench.

Earnings

in Busy

Slack times

Insolvency of office keeper.

Envelope addressing

Difficulty of getting help unless you are a criminal.

B. L's

Chucking

Pork.

A Good man can make 40/. to 50/. in a good wk. from which you have to deduct 2/. in the shilling and generally have to pay off what you have drawn on account.

He thinks that by 'ravaging round' you could always be certain of 10/ per week.

You can't usually draw on an Office Keeper ~~but usually~~ more often they draw on you.

2/6 per 1000 for envelope addressing 'absolute white slavery'. You can't possibly do more than 100 per hour for several hrs. consecutively ~~– the of these men 'after he had been on the muck'~~ tried it one & Vacation and could only manage 80 in the hour. The other with a fine hand 8½ 9½ 9½ respectively in 6 hrs.

There is great difficulty in getting people to help until you have actually committed some crime 'it is one of the tools of society'.

Envelope addressers are often 'B & S'. or begging letter writers a very poor

'Chucking' is understaffing to a certain lot of work & not doing it

'Pork' is destroyed work because you have done it roughly 'you have porked it'.

The Curse of Drink & the pleasure of being your own master.

scribes suffer from being too cold or too hot while at work.

All the trade drink both while at and out of work. Most of them have come to it through drink. Still you are your own master. You take your money & need not come back unless you like. A few of the men in the 'trade' have their own homes but most don't. Broken downs mostly through drink try to make something by engrossing for the 'trade' Army men, surgeons, clerks, people who have had some education ~~but~~ try their hand at it. If they cant manage it they descend to Envelope addressing.

Envelope addressers become sandwich men.

Mr Pedler Law Stationer

Engrossment charges

'Wallers'

'Iron office'

Launters Provident Inst.

April 8th

G. H. D.

Mr Pedler partner in firm of Law Stationers Massett & Co. Holborn passage Lincolns Inn field.

Engrossing a paper 10 folios 1/-
——— parchment 9 ——— 1/-
Wills wh must be done without error 1½d per folio to inter.
The Stationers charge is 2d per folio on all engrossments ∴ he gains more on some classes of work than on others
This is the general rule.
A few men only give 10d for 10 folios.

'Wallers' so called from leaning against wall
'Iron office' : lamp in Carlisle St wh owns lean against.
Irregular genius, rank duffers, old men are the component parts of the 'Trade'.
There is a Launters Provident Inst open to those who can bring at the trade offering d. sick & pension (14/- or 18/- per wk)

Overtime is never charged to Solos by Statoners: unless the Solos tips them the 'wink' to do so.

Lady Lawyers

Earnings

April 1st

G. H. D.

Saw the ladies in charge of two Lawyers offices in Portugal Street and Cary Street.

Did not know how many women in the profession probably well under 100.

Paid same rates as men. Receive work direct from Solicitors & like to do this as pay is in consequence better. Perhaps more is received from regular law stationers. Occasionally they have themselves to put work out.

One of them had earned 38/- in a very busy week. Usual possible mean 40/- & perhaps one or 2 shillings more.

Apprenticed for from 6 mth. to a year. ~~Girls~~ Girls take a good hand first & then speed. Can make very little until a year at the work. Then might earn 20/- to 30/- when in fair employ. Often work at night. It's a paying profession as far as women's employments go.

NB. They were rather a grubby lot. Very short, spectacled & bent.