To the Bag

IT WASN'T ALL ABOUT THE MONEY, AND MAYBE IT SHOULDN'T BE

To the Bag:

Both legal education and law practice are undergoing both external scrutiny and unusual introspection in response to the exigencies of the legal marketplace during our economic downturn. (Reports reflect a loss of 2,700 law-related jobs in 2011, while law schools continue to turn out around 45,000 graduates each year.)

Perhaps one option will be a return to the apprenticeship program, which some suggest should replace the third year of law

CARTER, LEDYARD & MILBURN COUNSELLORS AT LAW 54 WALL STREET

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WALTER F.TAYLOR
JOSEPH W. WELSH

June 10th, 1907.

Mr. F. Roosevelt, 135 East 36th Street, New York City.

Dear Mr. Roosevelt:-

I have talked over with Mr. Ledyard the question of your coming to our office, and I find that we can arrange to have a place for you at such time as you may wish to come here in the autumn, not later than October 1st, preferably a week or so earlier.

In case you come to us the arrangement with you will be the same as we usually make in such cases, that is to say, you will come to us the first year without salary, and after you have been with us for a year we would expect, if you remain, to pay you a salary which, however, at the outset would necessarily be rather small.

Very truly yours,

WINTER 2012 121

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school. Apropos of that subject, I attach a letter Franklin Roosevelt received from Carter, Ledyard & Milburn, Counsellors at Law, offering him an apprenticeship at the firm. (The letter is from the FDR Library in Hyde Park, New York, located under "Law Practice Correspondence — Carter, Ledyard & Milburn" in the FDR: Family, Business and Personal Papers.)

Young Franklin was invited to "come to us the first year without salary" and, after a year, should you remain "the salary would be rather small." We've come a long way.

Thomas M. Susman Washington, DC

