

Memorandum and Articles of Association

These were drawn many years ago and there have been numerous amendments of the Articles from time to time.

A sub-committee headed by St. John Q.C. has spent many hours in drafting and submitting necessary amendments for consideration by the Council which has, in turn, considered the same at a number of special meetings. It is hoped shortly to submit the proposed amendments to a general meeting.

Fees in Equity

Representations are being made to the taxing authorities for increases in fees in various types of matter in the jurisdiction.

Particulars of Police Charges

A sub-committee has held conferences with the Senior Police Prosecutor with a view to reaching and publishing an agreement as to the circumstances in which particulars should be furnished and the extent of the same. It is hoped shortly to publish the result of these negotiations.

Law Reform Committee

A committee consisting of Toose Q.C. (Chairman), Byers Q.C., Staff Q.C., Glass Q.C., Henschman, Hutley, Lusher, Holland, Fox, Maxwell, Wootten and Handley has been constituted to consider questions of law reform which hitherto has taken up an immense amount of time of Council and to sub-committees thereof. The Council expresses thanks to all the abovementioned members who have consented to devote their time to this important work.

Accommodation for the Bar

The Council's sub-committee is examining the question of obtaining still further accommodation in addition to the new building and Mena House and is co-operating with Counsel's Chambers Ltd. towards that end.

Bankruptcy Act

A sub-committee has considered and made recommendations as to proposed amendments to the Act which have been adopted and forwarded to the appropriate authority.

Court Planning

As a result of close co-operation with the Federal and State Attorneys-General and the Minister for Justice, sympathetic consideration is being and has been given to the provision of adequate accommodation for the Bar in additions which are proposed to the Newcastle Courthouse and to the designing of the Courts which have been built in Canberra and those proposed at Darlinghurst. It is appreciated that, in these days, the Bar is being consulted and asked to submit its views for consideration by the planning authorities.

Liaison Between the Council and Members

So often a member of the Council hears accidentally of matters which cry out for action. It is the duty of the Council to consider any and all suggestions by members and it would fail in its duty if it were to do otherwise than to encourage and welcome all suggestions from the most junior to the most senior member of the Association.

Two Hour Shorthand

Published in London and available at Angus & Robertson's for 12/9 is a shorthand system designed to cut writing time which it is claimed can be learnt in 2 hours. The book has been well reviewed. A perusal of it would suggest that the system has the merit of simplicity and would be of interest to members of the Association.

Morning Tea—Supreme Court

It is now possible to obtain morning tea in the Barristers' Room near the Banco Court in the Supreme Court. A hot water urn was recently installed there after representations from the Bar Council and arrangements have been made for tea and coffee to be supplied there for a nominal charge.

The Common Room

When the old common room closed on 14th December, 1962 to allow for the extension of the Association's rooms, it was thought that the temporary accommodation in the dining-room of the former Queen's Club in King Street would not permit a continuation of the type of entertainment to which the Bar had become accustomed. However, it has been found possible to carry out some entertaining there.

During the Long Vacation, the President (Meares Q.C.) entertained Mr. R. J. A. Temple Q.C. who visited Australia representing the General Council of the English Bar at the Law Convention in Hobart. Mr. Justice Coker of the Federal Supreme Court of Nigeria who had also attended the Convention was entertained in Sydney when he passed through on his way home, by those members of the Council who were in Sydney. The Right Hon. Lord Devlin of Wick, one of the Lords of Appeal in Ordinary and Mr. Vivian Bose (a former Judge of the Supreme Court of India and President of the International Commission of Jurists) were present at a late afternoon party in the Common Room on 5th February, 1963, which was attended by a large number of members of the Bar as well as by members and former members of the Council of the Law Society.

On 8th March, 1963 the Bar met in the late afternoon to do honour to the appointment of Moffitt Q.C. to the Supreme Court of New South Wales.

On 13th March, 1963 members of the Council entertained at lunch in the Common Room, Chief Davies Q.C. of Nigeria who was visiting Australia as a guest of the Commonwealth Government.

The Council on 29th March, 1963 entertained a number of the junior members of the Bar who had been admitted in the previous twelve months.

Coming Events

1963	
June 27	Annual Bench and Bar Dinner—Wentworth Hotel.
June 29	First day of Short Vacation.
July 19	Annual Golf Match—Bench and Bar v. Services—Elanora Country Club.
July 22	Last day of Short Vacation.
Dec. 14	First day of Long Vacation.