

The Bar Gazette

The N.S.W. Bar Council has produced the N.S.W. Bar Gazette in order to inform the N.S.W. Bar about happenings and policies affecting the members of that Bar.

Upon the formation of the Australian Bar Association the role of a separate journal for one of the constituent bodies clearly had to be reviewed.

The gradual emergence of a mature N.S.W. journal would necessarily be of limited value when looked at from the national point of view because its circulation would be confined to the N.S.W. Bar. However detailed its coverage of news and information about the activities of the A.B.A. this news and information would go only to N.S.W. members. The same would apply to coverage of news and information affecting the Bar of Australia and coming from the Law Council of Australia. Further, even though the journal endeavoured to provide some reports about the affairs of the Victorian, Queensland and W.A. Bar Associations in so far as such reports might be interesting to the N.S.W. Bar the whole enterprise would tend rather to concentrate attention on all these matters from the specific point of view of the N.S.W. Bar. It would thus contribute nothing of real significance in helping to create a feeling of unity and national existence within the Australian Bar as a whole.

A proposal to establish an A.B.A. Gazette was considered at the Hobart and Melbourne meetings of the A.B.A. Executive. The N.S.W. Bar Council offered to publish this present number of the Gazette, as the last number to be published by that Association, in a form which would include letters from the Victorian, Queens-

land and Western Australian Bars. Thereafter it agreed to publish an A.B.A. Gazette in place of the N.S.W. Bar Gazette upon condition that the cost of additional copies thereof and a proportion of the cost of any increase in size would be met by the Queensland and Victorian Bars. This was to be for an experimental period.

These offers were accepted and, as a result, the A.B.A. is to be provided with a national gazette. It will be for that body and its constituent member Associations to ensure that a real living journal shall come into existence expressing and giving substance to the emerging unity of the separate and independent Australian Bar.

There are many questions which will have to be considered in the future. The A.B.A. is in its infancy and the sort of journal it can hope to sponsor must doubtless have limited objectives. What are those objectives to be? Should the journal it publishes be limited to the role of a purely professional magazine giving only news and information? Should it include, at least to some extent, articles, notes and comments on legal subjects of special interest to the Bar? Should it be financed partly by advertisements, e.g. from publishers of law books? Those are matters, and there are many others, which can only be settled as the years pass.

The important thing for the moment is that the N.S.W. Bar Gazette, after a short existence, is to be converted into a national journal of the Australian Bar. What happens then will be a matter for imaginative though doubtless restrained and careful policy formation by the executive of the A.B.A.

Council of Law Reporting in New South Wales Announcement

At the inaugural meeting of the Council of Law Reporting, it was decided that the profession and the public should be informed as soon as possible as to its policy insofar as this was likely to affect any present series of law reports or the publishing of any new series.

The Council wishes to announce that by arrangement with the Law Book Company it will during the year 1963 assist that Company in the production of the State Reports and will, as from the beginning of 1964, itself produce a series of reports which will replace the present series of State Reports.

During the present year the Council will give earnest consideration to the improvement of the reports and formulate its policies in this regard and work out a *modus operandi* for carrying them into effect.

Suggestions from the profession for improvements in the reports will be welcomed by the Council and should be forwarded to F. P. McRae, Selborne Chambers, 182 King Street, Sydney.

J. R. KERR,
Chairman, Council of Law Reporting.

Bar Association Prize

The Association has been notified by the University of Sydney that the New South Wales Bar Association Prize for 1962 has been awarded to D. J. Harland.

Law Society Journal

It is with pleasure that the establishment of a Journal by the Law Society of New South Wales is announced. This Journal, the first issue of which was made in March, 1963, is edited by Mr. Roger J. Atkins, B.A., LL.B., who is a member of the Council of Law Society, and should prove of very great value to the Solicitors of this State.

Council of Advanced Studies for Members of the Bar

Reference has been made elsewhere in this issue as to the question of advanced studies for those members of the Association who may be interested.

At this stage a committee has been formed consisting of Macfarlan and Jacobs JJ., Meares Q.C., Kerr Q.C. and Simos to establish the Council.