

(ii) ID Card System

Mr. Samuel Legay queried the status of the Identification Card System as Attorneys who were making visits to the prison may require identification. The Chairman, in response, stated that there was a delay as he was waiting on the power of justice to get their security procedures in place, it was suggested that one card be issued which would allow access and also act as an identification card.

(iii) Compulsory Membership of the Barbados Bar Association Practicing Certificate

With respect to Practicing Certificates, the Chairman noted that there is an anomaly in the legislation, which states that membership of the Bar is compulsory, hence every lawyer has to join the Barbados Bar Association. The legislation also states that "the Registrar shall, on payment of the annual registration fee, issue the Practicing Certificate", but this practicing certificate shall not be validated until members joined the Bar Association.

As to the issue of mandatory membership of the Bar Association, the Chairman indicated that there are some persons who upon paying for their Practicing Certificate, are not taking the extra step to join the Bar Association. There are at least eleven persons out of 600 who have not joined the Association. This year some of the biggest defaulters have joined the bar. After further discussion, it was recommended that Attorneys who were not paid-up members should be brought before the Disciplinary Committee of the Bar Association.

(iv) The Resolution

A query was made by Ms. Paula Lett as to whether there was a meeting with the Registrar to discuss the issue of Attorneys-at-Law practicing privately in Barbados who had not paid their annual fees and the outcome. The Chairman, in response confirmed that a meeting was held with the Registrar and the Chief Justice and after a number of meetings and a number of letters, it was decided that it was not worth the effort to pursue this matter and the litigation to do so would be too expensive. This matter will no longer be pursued.

8. Matters Arising from the Report of Council

(i) Estate of Deceased Attorneys-at-Law

The issue of the estates of deceased attorneys was raised and the Chairman reported that there were quite a few problems with the estates of deceased