

Communiqué

Number 114

18th September 1981

J. D. Crane of Toronto was elected a Bencher today to fill the vacancy caused by the elevation to the Bench of Mr. Justice Marvin Catzman.

Convocation adopted the Discipline Committee's recommendation to seek amendment to the Society's regulation to require practising members to maintain a client's general ledger account showing accounts receivable.

In March, it was reported that the Society's Legal Education function would be divided into two directorships and that George W. Collins-Williams would direct the development of Continuing Legal Education. It was announced today that Ronald S. Ellis has been appointed the new Director of the Bar Admission Course. Mr. Ellis, a professional engineer, was called to the Bar in 1964, practised in Toronto, taught at Osgoode Hall Law School of York University, directed Parkdale Community Legal Services, has been active in the Canadian Bar Association, and served as a non-bencher member of the Society's Legal Aid Committee. He will begin his new duties not later than 31st July 1982.

The Benchers considered a lengthy report on public relations, which resulted from an intensive study of programmes in other jurisdictions, including England, the United States, and elsewhere in Canada, and adopted a recommendation that John Beaufoy be engaged as the Society's full-time information officer, and that the Society's public information activities be greatly expanded. The Committee will report with detailed recommendations in November. The report adopted today recommends the Society not engage in institutional advertising. The experience of other jurisdictions shows that the benefits to the public and to the profession have not justified the cost.

Chester Jaremey of Toronto was disbarred. Having previously been disciplined, the solicitor failed to file the necessary declarations and reports respecting his practice, failed to honour an undertaking given to the Society respecting his practice and showed complete disregard for the requirements of the Society's rules and regulations.

James M. Kopinak of Cambridge was reprimanded in Convocation and required to pay the costs of the Society's investigation in the amount of \$2,500. He had practised while undersuspension and failed to file the required reports respecting his books and records.

Donald Grover R. MacDonald of Toronto was disbarred. He had misappropriated over \$100,000 belonging to clients and co-venturers.

Henry Leonard Rittersporn of Toronto was disbarred. He had misappropriated over \$25,000 belonging to clients, permitted an action to be dismissed on behalf of a client, and misrepresented to the Society the status of those proceedings.

Joel Emmanuel Tencer of Toronto was reprimanded in Convocation. He had charged clients more for disbursements than was actually paid out with the result that over \$13,000 stands on his books as owing to unspecified clients.

50 members have not paid the second instalment of the errors and omissions insurance levy and 27 members called to the Bar last April and May have neither paid the levy nor claimed exemption. Those still in default on the 1st October 1981 will be suspended.

Kenneth Jarvis
Secretary.