

Personalia

Senator the Honourable P. D. Durack Q.C.

It was announced in Perth on 13 April 1978 that the Commonwealth Attorney-General, Senator Durack, had been appointed one of Her Majesty's Counsel for the State of Western Australia. Senator Durack assumed office as Attorney-General on 6 September 1977. A note on his career appears in [1977] *Reform* 59.

Hon. Mr. Justice F. G. Brennan

The President of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, Mr. Justice Brennan, has retired as a part-time Member of the Australian Law Reform Commission. First appointed to the A.L.R.C. in May 1975, he took a leading part in the first reports of the A.L.R.C. He was appointed to the Federal Bench in 1976 and as Chairman of the Administrative Review Council is leading the Commonwealth's major moves towards administrative law reform. A note on His Honour's career appears in [1976] *Reform* 79.

Mr. Francis Muldoon Q.C.

The retirement has been announced of the Chairman of the Canada L.R.C., Mr. Justice Antonio Lamer, who has returned to his duties as a judge from 1 May 1978. He has been elevated to the Court of Appeal of Quebec. His successor is Mr. Francis C. Muldoon Q.C., 47, who has been Vice-Chairman since 1 August 1977. For six years before that, Mr. Muldoon was Chairman of the Manitoba L.R.C. A large number of the recommendations made under his Chairmanship have passed into law in that Province, notably a new legal definition of death.

Mr. Victor Tennekoon Q.C.

The President of the Republic of Sri Lanka has appointed an eight-member law Commission. The Chairman is Mr. Victor Tennekoon Q.C. Born in 1914, Mr. Tennekoon holds a B.A. degree from London. He was called to the Bar in 1943 and appointed to silk in 1965. He acted as Attorney-General in 1966 and was appointed to the Supreme Court of Ceylon in 1967. In 1973 he became a judge of the Court of Appeal and from 1974 to 1977 was Chief Justice of Sri Lanka. The *Law Commission Act* 1969 is being amended to provide for an increase of members from 8 to 15.

Hon. Mr. Justice S. J. Jacobs

Mr. Justice Samuel Jacobs of the Supreme Court of South Australia has retired as a member of the S.A.L.R.C. His Honour has been a Deputy Chairman of the committee since 1975. Additionally, he took a leading part in reforming procedures in the Land and Valuation Court in South Australia. With Wells J. he recently addressed a seminar in Adelaide called by the Institute of Valuers to discuss the A.L.R.C. proposals on lands acquisition reform.

Hon. Mr. Justice J. H. Wootten

The Chairman of the N.S.W.L.R.C., Mr. Justice Wootten, has been elected Deputy Chancellor of the

New South Wales Institute of Technology in Sydney. A note on His Honour's career appears in [1977] *Reform* 20.

Mr. Douglas Lambert

The new Chairman of the British Columbia L.R.C. is Mr. Douglas Lambert. He succeeds Professor Leon Getz who has returned to teaching at the University of British Columbia, although he continues as a part-time member of the Commission for the time being. Mr. Lambert has taken an active part in the Uniform Law Conference of Canada and in August 1977 was elected Chairman of a committee set up to monitor class action reform in Canada.

Papua New Guinea Law Reform Commission Changes

Mr. Bernard Mullu Narakobi, foundation Chairman of the P.N.G.L.R.C., completed his three-year appointment in mid-1978. Mr. Narakobi, who holds a law degree from the University of Sydney, has returned to his village in order to provide legal services there. Dr. Abdul Paliwala, who was released by the University of Papua New Guinea to be Secretary of the P.N.G.L.R.C. for one year, has returned to the Law Faculty as Dean. His position as Secretary has been taken, on an acting basis, by Mr. Samson Kaipu. Mr. Kaipu graduated B.A., LL.B., in the University of Papua New Guinea in 1976 and first joined the Commission in January 1977 as a senior projects officer. He is the first national to be Secretary of the Commission.

Administrative Review Council

Two new members have been appointed to the A.R.C. in the last quarter. They are Mr. A. G. W. Keys O.B.E., M.C., and Mr. Ernest Tucker. Mr. Keys is National Secretary of the Returned Services League of Australia. Educated in Sydney, he saw war service, including in Korea, and was a Churchill Fellow in 1969. Mr. Tucker was educated at Melbourne University. From 1961 to 1968 he was a member of the Tariff Board. He has taken a leading part in business and insurance interests in Australia and overseas. The Director of Research of the Administrative Review Council is Dr. Graham Taylor. He holds an LL.M. degree (Wellington) and Ph.D. (Cantab.). He was appointed from his post as Senior Lecturer in Law at Monash University and has moved to Canberra to take charge of the research unit of the Administrative Review Council.

N.S.W.L.R.C. Staff Changes

Mr. Philip Bates has been appointed Research Officer in connection with the reference on the legal profession. Mr. Bates is in the final year of his B.A., LL.B. at the University of New South Wales. Ms. Janette Nation is now full-time Librarian. She holds LL.B.(Tas.) and Dip.Lib.(N.S.W.). Ms. Nina Stevenson ends a six-month term as Research Officer on 30 June 1978.

Public Sittings and Seminars

Debt Recovery and Insolvency

Discussion Papers: The A.L.R.C. has now published its Discussion Paper #6 *Debt Recovery and Insolvency*. The paper sets out major proposals for reform. Copies of the paper are available free of charge from the A.L.R.C. The paper will be open for comments and criticism until 1 December 1978.

Public Sittings: To allow members of the public and interested organisations to express their views and explain their concerns a series of public hearings of the A.L.R.C. have been arranged in all State capitals and in Darwin and Canberra. It is hoped to attract much public comment to assist the A.L.R.C. Commissioners in preparing reforms that will come to grips with the defects in the current laws and procedures governing debt recovery. The public sittings are conducted informally. If necessary, comments and submissions will be heard in camera.

Seminars: As well a series of seminars have been arranged by the Australian Institute of Credit Management to accompany the public sittings. At each seminar discussion will be led by invited speakers. The A.L.R.C. Chairman, Mr. Justice Kirby, the Commissioner in charge of the reference on Consumers in Debt, Mr. D. St. L. Kelly, and other A.L.R.C. Commissioners will attend. Questions and comments will be welcome. Members of the public are invited to take part. A small registration fee may be charged to cover lunch and other expenses.

The Programme:

- SYDNEY — Wednesday, 8 November** **10.00 a.m.**
Public Hearings — Law Reform Commission, 7th Floor, 99 Elizabeth Street. Contact (02) 231-1733.
- SYDNEY — Thursday, 9 November** **9.00 a.m.**
Seminar — Wynyard Travel Lodge, 9 York Street.
- PERTH — Monday, 13 November** **10.00 a.m.**
Public Hearings — 3rd Floor (Room 301), Australian Government Centre, St. George's Terrace.
- PERTH — Tuesday, 14 November** **9.00 a.m.**
Seminar — Sheraton Hotel, 207 Adelaide Terrace.
- ADELAIDE — Thursday, 16 November** **10.00 a.m.**
Public Hearings — (Venue to be determined).
- ADELAIDE — Friday, 17 November** **9.00 a.m.**
Seminar — The Australian Mineral Foundation, Conyngham Street, Glenside.
- HOBART — Monday, 20 November** **10.00 a.m.**
Public Hearings — Conference Room, 12th Floor, Savings Bank Building, Cnr. Murray and Collins Streets.
- HOBART — Tuesday, 21 November** **9.00 a.m.**
Seminar — Westside Motor Inn, 156 Bathurst Street.
- MELBOURNE — Wednesday, 22 November** **10.00 a.m.**
Public Hearings — 6th Floor (Commissioner's Court), 451 Little Bourke Street (Conciliation and Arbitration Commission).
- MELBOURNE — Thursday, 23 November** **9.00 a.m.**
Seminar — Leonda, 2 Wallen Road, Hawthorn.
- CANBERRA — Friday, 24 November** **9.00 a.m.**
Seminar — Canberra Bowling Club, Elder Street, Braddon.
- CANBERRA — Friday, 24 November** **2.00 p.m.**
Public Hearings — Conference Room, 4th Floor, National Library of Australia.
- BRISBANE — Monday, 27 November** **10.00 a.m.**
Public Hearings — Conference Room, Lower Ground Floor, Block 4, Australian Government Centre.
- BRISBANE — Tuesday, 28 November** **9.00 a.m.**
Seminar — Queensland Lawn Tennis Association, Milton Road, Milton.
- DARWIN — Wednesday, 29 November** **2.00 p.m.**
Public Hearings — (Venue to be determined).