

## [1979] Reform 22

: *Animals on Highways*. Tabled Nov. 1978.

: *Constitution (Local Government) Bill*. Tabled Nov. 1978.

V.L.R.C.: W.P.5: *Duress, Coercion and Necessity* 1978.

W.A.L.R.C.: *Annual Report July 1977–June 1978*.  
: Project No. 71: *W.P. On Exemption from Jury Service*.

: Project No. 26: *W.P. and Survey on Review of Administrative Decisions Part 1—Appeals*.

A.U.L.S.A.: Report No. 2: *Legal Education in Australian Universities*.

Australian Family Law Council: W.P.3: *Migrants and the Family Court*.

N.S.W. Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research: 3: *Homosexual Offences* 1978.

4: *Company Investigations* 1975–1977.

N.S.W. Anti-Discrimination Board: *Report* 1978.

### United Kingdom

Law Commission: 87: *Statute Law Revision: 9th Report Draft Statute Law (Repeals) Bill* 1978.  
88: *Law of Contract: Report on Interest* 1978.

Scottish L.C.: Memo 42: *Defective Consent and Consequential Matters*. 1 June 1978 (Vol. 1).

Home Office: Advisory Council on the Penal System: *Sentences of Imprisonment: A review of Maximum penalties*.

: *Reform of Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act* 1911. July 1978.

: *Judicial Studies and Information: Report of the Working Party*.

### Papua New Guinea

P.N.G.L.R.C.: 7: *The Role of Customary Law in the Legal System*. 1977.

: 8: *Indictable Offences Triable Summarily* 1978.

### Canada

B.C.L.R.C.: 38: *Report on the Replevin Act*.

Law Foundation of British Columbia: *Confidentiality of Juvenile Records*, August 1978.

### Other

Bahamas L.R. and Revision Cte.: W.P.2 of 1977: *Registration of Land*.

Ghana L.R.C.: *Sixth Annual Report January–December* 1977.

U.S. National Conf. of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws: *Uniform Marriage and Divorce Act*.

## What's going on in the L.R.C.s?

### Australian Law Reform Commission (A.L.R.C.)

• *Defamation*: Draft Report with printer. Tabling expected, March 1979.

• *Debt Recovery*: Discussion Paper #6 still circula-

ting. Public sittings and seminars held in November. See p. 20.

• *Insurance Contracts*: Work in hand (W.I.H.). Discussion Paper #7 circulating. Public sittings and seminars held during November 1978. See p. 2.

• *Access to Courts: Standing and Class Actions*: Research visit to U.S. completed. Issues Paper due soon. See p. 20.

• *Privacy*: W.I.H. Six Research Papers circulating. See [1978] *Reform* 56, 81 and additional new research papers on

#5 Health Insurance Records.

#6 Final Storage of Personal Information: Archival Practices.

On progress generally see p. 14.

• *Aboriginal Customary Laws*: W.I.H. Field visit programme continuing under Commissioner Debelle.

• *Lands Acquisition*: Draft legislation under scrutiny by A.L.R.C. Proposals on injurious affection receiving special attention.

• *Sentencing*: Wide consultation continuing. Consultative document (first draft) due February 1979.

• *Law Reform Digest*: W.I.H. See p. 22.

### N.S.W. Law Reform Commission (N.S.W.L.R.C.)

• *Legal Profession Inquiry*: Drafting Papers on Overall Control of Profession and Complaints and Discipline, is now substantially completed; while a paper on Professional Indemnity Insurance is proceeding.

• *Unincorporated Associations*: W.I.H. Discussion and redrafting proceeding.

• *Money Judgments*: W.I.H. Co-operation with the A.L.R.C. on Debt Recovery project.

### N.T. Law Review Committee (N.T.L.R.C.)

Further matters under consideration since [1978] *Reform* 56, 81.

• *Complaints against Police*.

• *Lands Acquisition*: Injurious Affection.

• *Vicarious Liability*: Rights as between Employer and Employee.

• *Criminal Procedure*: The Crown's Rights to Stand by Jurors.

• *Criminal Procedure*: The Order of Closing Speeches.

### N.Z. Property Law and Equity Reform Committee (N.Z.P.L.E.R.Cte.)

Further matters under consideration since [1978] *Reform* 81.

• *Law relating to Water Courses and Adjacent land*: W.I.H.

• *Rights of Way*: Rights and obligations of dominant and servient owners: W.I.H.

### N.Z. Public and Administrative Law Reform Committee (N.Z.P.A.L.R.Cte.)

Further matters under consideration since [1978] *Reform* 81.

• *Commissions of Inquiry Act 1908*: W.P. circulated.

**N.Z. Rules Committee (N.Z.R.Cte.)**

- *Civil Procedure*: Revision of the Code under consideration.

**Queensland Law Reform Commission (Q.L.R.C.)**

Further matters which have taken place since [1978] *Reform* 82.

- *Criminal Law*: Report on W.P.19 about to be submitted to the Minister.
- *Unincorporated Associations*: W.P. on a Draft Bill about to be circulated.

**Tasmanian Law Reform Commission (T.L.R.C.)**

- *Wills Reference*: Interim Committee Report considered by the Commission and agreed to in principle. Returned to the Committee dealing with this matter for preparation of a full draft report with comparative law.
- *Insanity and Diminished Responsibility*: Committee consisting of Mr. Justice F. M. Neasey (Chairman), the Crown Advocate, the Director of Forensic Medicine, a woman graduate at the Tasmanian University and a Commission member constituted to investigate and make recommendations to the Commission.
- *Conveyancing Reference*: Expert committee of nine, chaired by a Commission member, has been named and request made to the Attorney-General for a formal reference covering 15 matters of conveyancing law reform. The Attorney-General had previously asked whether the Commission would be in a position to undertake such a reference if it were granted.

**South Australian Law Reform Committee (S.A.L.R.C.)**

- *Dealing with simplified form of Mortgage.*
- *Blood in Paternity.*
- *Simplified forms of Rules of Court.*
- *Review of the Law of Animals.*

**Criminal Law Reform Committee of South Australia (S.A.C.L.R.C.)**

- *Mentally Ill Offenders*: Review of existing legislation in relation to these offenders.
- *Inquiry into Corporate Criminal Responsibility.*

**Victorian Chief Justices Law Reform Committee (V.C.J.L.R.C.)**

Not available.

**Victorian Law Reform Commissioner (V.L.R.C.)**

- *Crime: Duress, Coercion and Necessity*: W.P. distributed widely for comment in September. Anticipated that work will begin on report in new year.
- *Company Law: Pre-incorporation contracts*: W.I.H.
- *Crime: Corporate Crime*: Preliminary work being done.
- *Crime: Offences Against the Person*: Preliminary work being done.

**Victorian Statute Law Revision Committee (V.S.L.R.C.)**

Current matters before the Committee:

- *The Constitution Act 1975*: The Committee has commenced hearing evidence in relation to this

inquiry. A report relating to a Bill of Rights is expected to be presented to the Victorian Parliament in the Autumn Session 1979.

- *Privacy*: Submissions are still being considered but evidence has not been heard as yet.
- *Protection of Animals Act 1966 and related provisions*: The Committee has almost completed its inquiry into the use of steel-jawed leghold traps and a report may be tabled during the current sitting of Parliament.
- *Trustee Companies*: The Committee has almost completed this inquiry and a report should be tabled prior to the conclusion of the current sitting of Parliament.
- *Privacy (Debt collection Agencies—Publications)*: Committee has almost completed this inquiry and a report will be tabled prior to the conclusion of the current sitting.

**Western Australian Law Reform Commission (W.A.L.R.C.)**

The Commission expects shortly to submit reports on:

- *Insolvent deceased estates* (Project No. 34 Pt. III).
- *Fatal accidents* (Project No. 66).
- *Official Attestation of Documents* (Part of Project No. 28).

**New References**

The following new references were received by L.R.C.s since October 1978:

W.A.L.R.C.: Review of *Absconding Debtors Act 1877*.

: Review of the Imperial Acts in force in Western Australia at the time of its founding and to recommend which of those still in force should be repealed and which should be re-enacted (whether in the same or different form) by the Parliament of Western Australia.

: Review of *Limited Partnership Act 1909*.

V.S.L.R.C.: Local Government—Pecuniary Interests of Councillors.

**Personalia****The Honourable Mr. Justice King**

The new Chief Justice of South Australia is the Hon. Mr. Justice Leonard King, a Judge of the Supreme Court since 1975. His Honour became a Deputy Chairman of the S.A.L.R.C. soon after his appointment to the Bench but has now retired from this position. Between 1970 and 1975 he was Attorney-General for South Australia. During the first two years he also held the portfolio of Social Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs. During the last three years he was also Minister for Community Welfare and Minister for Prices and Consumer Affairs. The new Chief Justice was born and educated in South Australia. As Attorney-General, he pioneered important reform measures, notably in the area of consumer protection and the criminal law.