

ties. The NZPLERC is disposed to recommend that the State provide a financial indemnity for persons dealing in good faith with interests in land on the basis of title searches. Indemnity by negligent solicitors would be provided for but first loss would fall on the State as guarantor of the registered system.

- *Restrictive Covenants*. Restrictive covenants run with land. Positive covenants do not. NZPLERC is considering whether under Torrens registration, this distinction need survive or whether registration of a positive covenant against titles to land should be enforceable against subsequent registered proprietors on notice. Recent reports of the NZPLERC include:
- *Charities*. Minor changes proposed but a compulsory audit rejected as unnecessarily costly for rare cases of abuse.
- *Farming Trusts*. Legislation recommended to permit trustees carrying on a farming business to build up carrying capacity and livestock of the farm, subject to the duty of the trustees to be even handed as between competing interests.
- *Company Law: Reduction of Capital*. Recommendations concerning reduction in capital of companies shares in which are otherwise eligible for investment by trustees as authorised securities.

N.Z. Public and Administrative Law Reform Committee (NZPALR)

- See [1979] *Reform* 44.

Papua New Guinea Law Reform Commission (PNGLRC)

- See [1979] *Reform* 44.

Queensland Law Reform Commission (QLRC)

The following reports have been submitted to the Minister:

- QLRC: 28: *Proposals on Criminal Laws*
- QLRC: 29: *Second Hand Wares Act*
- QLRC: 30: *Unincorporated Associations Act*

Tasmanian Law Reform Commission (TasLRC)

- *Rape and other Sexual Offences*. Four aspects are under review: the substantive law, the law of evidence, administrative procedures and support services. A national conference is to be held in May 1980. See p.40.
- *Perpetuities and Accumulations*. A discussion paper and a draft bill are being prepared.
- *Ejectment*. Report being prepared.
- *Insanity and Diminished Responsibility*. WIH.
- *The Rule in Hollington v. Hewthorn*. A committee report has been considered by the Commission and a further paper is being prepared.
- *Stock Straying on the Highway*. WIH.
- *Exclusion clauses and implied obligations in contracts relating to the supply of goods*. WIH.
- *Wills*. WIH.
- *Conveyancing Reference*. WIH.

South Australian Law Reform Committee (SALRC)

- See [1979] *Reform* 93.

South Australian Criminal Law Reform Committee (SACLRC)

- See [1980] *Reform* 30.

Victorian Chief Justice's Law Reform Committee (VCJC)

- See [1980] *Reform* 30.

Victorian Law Reform Commissioner (VLRC)

- See [1980] *Reform* 30.

Victorian Statute Law Revision Committee (VSLRC)

- *The Constitution Act 1975*. There are still seven terms of reference to be examined in relation to this inquiry.
- *Privacy*. WIH.
- *Protection of Animals Act*. WIH.
- *Local Government (Pecuniary Interests of Councillors)*. Inquiry is progressing.
- *Protection of Animals Act 1966 and related provisions*. Inquiry still progressing.

Western Australian Law Reform Commission (WALRC)

The Commission expects to submit reports shortly on the following:

- *Highway*: Liability of Highway Authorities (Project No. 62);
- *Compensation*: Compensation for Persons Detained in Custody (Project No. 43);
- *Evidence*: Admissibility in Court Proceedings of Computer-Generated Records and Other Documents (Project No. 27);
- *Unclaimed Money*: Project No. 51;
- *Jury*: Exemption from Jury Service (Project No. 71).

New References

The following new references were received by LRCs or notified since January 1980:

Tas LRC: Rape and crimes of a sexual nature.

Personalia

The Hon Mr Justice David Beattie

It has been announced in London and Wellington that the next Governor-General of New Zealand will be the Honourable Mr Justice Beattie, a Judge of the Supreme Court of New Zealand since 1969. Beattie J, like Australia's Governor-General, Sir Zelman Cowen, is a lawyer who has made a significant contribution to law reform and has gone on to become the Queen's represen-