

C O N F E R E N C E S .

WORLD PEACE THROUGH LAW CONFERENCES, CAIRO, 1983, AND BERLIN 21-26 JULY 1985.

In September 1983 the World Peace Through Law Centre held one of its biennial Conferences in Cairo. The World Peace Through Law Centre was created in 1963; it has its headquarters in Washington. The many thousands of lawyers, judges and university professors from more than 150 countries who are members of this organization have made it their task to promote the development and strengthening of international law, and thus ultimately world peace, through periodic Conferences and through the personal contacts made on those occasions.

Special problems dealt with at the Cairo Conference included those relating to dispute resolution world trade, international real estate investment, international arbitration, aviation law, family and youth law, nuclear weapons control, sociology and law, and the training of lawyers.

Those attending the Conference were able to obtain valuable information through the more than 100 work papers presented and to witness a Demonstration Trial.

The importance of the Conference was underlined by the decoration awarded to the President of Egypt, Hosni Mubarak, by the President of the World Peace Through Law Centre, Charles S. Rhyne, Esq.

The Executive Committee of the Centre decided in its final session to hold its next biennial Conference in Berlin in 1985. Inquiries concerning the Conference should be directed to Margaretha M. Henneberry, Executive Director, World Peace Through Law Center, Suite 800, 1000 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington D.C. 20036 USA. The Australian National Chairman is Mr. J. Bruce Piggott, of Piggott Wood and Baker, Box 406D GPO, Hobart 7001.

ASIAN PACIFIC SEMINAR ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW: 22/27 November, 1984.

The Eleventh International Trade Law Seminar, given under the auspices of the Attorney General will be incorporated into a 4-day Asian Pacific Regional Seminar. This Regional Seminar is to be conducted in association with the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and the Asian African Legal Consultative Committee (AALCC). The Attorney General, Senator Gareth Evans had indicated that one of the objectives of the Regional Seminar is to implement the United Nations General Assembly resolutions with respect to UNCITRAL'S training and assistance scheme.

A distinguished panel of international and national speakers has been invited to deal with such issues as the international sale of goods, arbitration in the region, institutional co-operation in the region, contracts for large industrial works, finance and investment in the region, extraterritorial issues and sovereign immunity. There will also be a number of workshop sessions to consider trading with Australia, China, Japan, Korea and ASEAN. Contact Attorney General's Department, Barton, A.C.T. 2600. Phone: Keith C. Holland (062) 71 9320.

CANADIAN COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW - 18/20 OCTOBER 1984.

The thirteenth annual conference of the Canadian Council will be held in Ottawa 18-20 October 1984 at the Chateau Laurier Hotel. The theme of the conference will be "The Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes". The keynote speaker will be the distinguished French professor of international law, Professor Charles Rousseau. Subjects to be studied include the resolution of US/Canadian disputes - extraterritoriality, acid rain; the resolution investment disputes; the resolution of human rights disputes; trade in computer services; use of force and arms control and disarmament.

The President of the Council is Dr. Annemarie Jacomy-Millette. Numbered among the fourteen distinguished consulting members of the Council is Professor DHN Johnson, Challis Professor of International Law of the University of Sydney. The secretariat of the Council is located at 236 rue Metclafe, Ottawa, Ontario K2P 1R3, Tel. (613) 2250442.

SIR IAN SINCLAIR, K.C.M.G.

Sir Ian Sinclair has retired as Legal Adviser to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom and has been succeeded by Sir John Freeland. Sir Ian maintained the tradition, not common in Whitehall but fortunately common to his predecessors in the post of Legal Adviser, of making many valuable contributions of an academic nature to the study of international law. These included his book, The Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (Manchester U.P. 1973) and a number of articles, e.g.

"The Danube Conference on 1948", 25 B.Y.B.I.L. 398 (1948).

"Nationality of Claims", British Practice, 27 B.Y.B.I.L. 125 (1950).

"Polygamous Marriages in English Law", 31 B.Y.B.I.L. 248 (1954).

"The Principles of Treaty Interpretation and their Application by the English Courts", 12 I.C.L.Q. 508 (1963).

"The European Convention on State Immunity", 22 I.C.L.Q. 254 (1973).

"The Practice of International Law: The Foreign and Commonwealth Office" in International Law: Teaching and Practice (ed. by Bin Cheng, London, Stevens and Sons, 1982) pp. 123-134.

"The Law of Sovereign Immunity - Recent Developments 167 Hague Recueil 113 (1980)"

Also, between 1951 and 1956 Sir Ian Sinclair edited the section in the British Year Book of International Law devoted to an analysis of cases on Private International Law decided in the English courts.

It is especially creditable and valuable when people, who are as busily engaged in the practice of international law as Sir Ian has been, can find the time to give the benefit of their experience to a wide audience comprising all persons interested in the subject.

D.H.N.J.

International Law Examinations of the Future

Professor Johnson, who will retire at the end of next year from the Challis Chair of International Law in the University of Sydney, anticipates his successor - perhaps in the not so distant future - setting questions in international law examination papers such as the following:-

"Mr and Mrs Smith, nationals of State A, are anxious to have a baby, but so far they have been unsuccessful. Hearing that a promising in-vitro fertilisation (IVF) program is being run in State B, they go to State B. Despite enrolling in the IVF program there, they are again unable to achieve their desire. However, hoping to return to State B to renew their attempt on another occasion, they leave behind in the laboratory of the IVF unit a frozen embryo. Before they can return to State B, Mr and Mrs Smith are killed in an air crash. Mr Smith's estate is valued at \$8 million and Mrs Smith's estate is valued at \$2 million. Mr and Mrs Smith have each made Wills bequeathing their entire estates to their children, but providing that, in the event they have no children, the estates shall go to Mrs Smith's sister, Angeline, who has left State A, married a national of State C and become a national of State C.

The executor of the Wills of Mr and Mrs Smith has sought leave in State B for the appointment of a guardian of the embryo, pending a visit to State B by a surrogate mother, being a national of State A, whom he will select for the purpose of being implanted with the embryo and who will then return to State B to give birth to the child there. However, State B has enacted legislation providing that embryos left behind by donors who have since died shall be "thawed out". So the executor's application is refused. Angeline applies in the courts of State A for the entire estates of the Smiths to be made over to her. However, this application is turned down because State A has enacted legislation providing that, for the purpose of inheritance, embryos shall be deemed to be children, and that, if through the operation of foreign laws it proves impossible for embryos donated by nationals of State A abroad to be returned to State A, estates which would under the law of State A have gone to the embryos shall not go to the residuary legatees but shall instead be vested in the Minister of Health of State A for the purpose of establishing an IVF unit in State A.

State C sues State A in the International Court of Justice, claiming that State A is responsible to State C for the latter's national patrimony being deprived of \$10 million. State B files an application with the Court for permission to intervene in the case

Assuming that the Court has jurisdiction to deal with the suit initiated by State C against State A, outline the judgment of the Court on (i) State B's application to intervene, and (ii) the merits of State C's claim against State A."

Professor Johnson has told the Editors of AILN that his purpose in setting this hypothetical question is to remind readers that international law itself may not necessarily be immune from current issues which are at present perplexing the law reform commissions of many States members of the international community