

Tas.L.R.C.	Criminal Procedure : Prohibition of Publishing of names (Jan.1976) Fisheries : Forfeiture of things used in unlawful catching (Feb.1976) Rehabilitation of Offenders (January 1976) Vagrancy and Drinking Offences : decriminalisation (March 1976)
V.C.J.C.	Nil
V.L.R.C.	Nil
V.S.L.R.C.	Proposed general reference on privacy promised.
W.A.L.R.C.	Small Debts Court : the possibility of establishing a Small Debts Court or expanding the Small Claims Tribunal.

All of the above details concerning the current work and new references of Australian agencies are in accordance with the latest information received by the ALRC as at March 1976.

Library News

Editor : R.Jordan (A.L.R.C.)

Federal Acts: With the publication of Volume 12 of the Acts of the Australian Parliament 1901-1973, the latest bound reprint of the Commonwealth Acts is now complete. The speed at which the Attorney-General's Department has been able to publish the set of Acts proves just what computers and determination can do to ensure access to the law. A general index to the statutes has been compiled by B.M.Wicks, LL.B., A.L.A.A. Titled "Subject Index to the Acts of the Australian Parliament", the 128 page index costs \$6.00 (+ 48c postage), Libra Books, Box 1901, Canberra, 2601.

Keeping up to date on Law Reform: As from January 1976 Australian Current Law (issued by Butterworths) will be listing all new publications of law reform agencies at the end of the legislation section. This service should prove valuable in drawing attention to all recent Australian law reform publications.

Tasmanian Statutes and Cases: Two reference publications relating to Tasmanian Law have recently been issued by the Law Society. They are - Tasmanian Legal Information Guide: In March 1976 the Law Society of Tasmania intends to publish the Guide which will contain current information on Tasmanian law and legal activities including cases and articles. Available C/- The Law Society of Tasmania, Public Buildings, Franklin Square, Hobart). Tasmanian Supreme Court Judgments 1960-1972: This Digest is a guide to cases decided, whether reported or not, between 1960-72. Supplements will be produced for the Digest which has been prepared by Michael Lillas. Price \$20.00 from the Law Book Co. Ltd.

Comparative Law : European Codes Translated: A major improvement in availability of English translations is Sweet & Maxwell's "American Series of Foreign Penal Codes". The Council of Europe has also recently issued "Bibliography of Translations of Codes and Other Laws of Private Law" : Available Morgan-Grampian Ltd., Calderwood Street, London.

Personalia

The Hon. D.S. Thomson, M.C., E.D., M.P. :

The new Minister of Justice and Secretary of the Law Reform Council in New Zealand is the Hon. David Spence Thomson. Before the recent elections, the posts of Attorney-General and Minister of Justice were combined. The positions have now been split again and Mr. Thomson takes over ministerial responsibility for law reform. First elected to the Parliament in 1963, he became Minister of Defence in 1966 and thereafter held a number of portfolios. Following the recent election, Mr. Thomson became Chairman of the Cabinet Committee on legislation. He is a dairy farmer and is married with one son and daughter. During War service he was awarded the Military Cross with Efficiency Decoration and Bar. He retired from military service in 1959 with the rank of Brigadier.

The Hon. Mr. Justice E.P. Hartt :

The Chairman of the Law Reform Commission of Canada, the Hon. Mr. Justice E.Patrick Hartt, completes his five year commission at the end of March 1976. He will be returning to judicial duties as a member of the Supreme Court of Ontario. Aged 49, Hartt J. specialised in criminal law in Toronto before being appointed to the Supreme Court. He was a member of that Court for a little more than four years when called to be the first Chairman of the national Canadian Commission. Canadian Justice Minister Turner described him as "the finest, most progressive of the younger judges with all the human qualities needed to make a profound examination of our federal laws".

The Hon. Mr. Justice E.P. Hartt (contd)

Chairman of the Ontario Commission, Allan Leal, said that he "was not preoccupied with the letter of the law but with its function". These predictions proved accurate. His Honour left an indelible mark on the Canadian Commission. Not only is this the biggest (78 officers). It has taken quite a different course to other Commissions in exploring the purposes of law. His Honour will be succeeded as Chairman by the Hon. Mr. Justice Antonio Lamer.

Associate Professor R.W. Harding :

Professor Harding completed his term as Chairman of the W.A.L.R.C. on 10 February 1976. The Chairman is elected from amongst the Members in accordance with the Act.

During his period as Chairman, six reports were published and he was principally responsible for those on special constables, criminal injuries and cautions.

Professor Harding was recently appointed a Commissioner of the Australian Broadcasting Commission. The Federal Attorney-General appointed him a Consultant to the A.L.R.C. during its exercise on criminal investigation, in 1975. He holds an LL.B. from London University and an LL.M. from Columbia and teaches law at the University of W.A.

Mr. D.K. Malcolm :

The new Chairman of the W.A.L.R.C. is David Kingsley Malcolm. Mr. Malcolm is a barrister and solicitor practising in Perth and is aged 37. He took the degree of LL.B. with first class honours in Western Australia in 1959. He was chosen Rhodes Scholar in 1960 and at Oxford acquired the B.C.L. degree with first class honours in 1962. Mr. Malcolm has taught law at the University. He was a member of the W.A.L.R.C. between 1966 and 1967 and has been Assistant and later Deputy General Counsel to the Asian Development Bank, Manila. He is a keen horseman and is married, with one son.

Mr. John Cain :

One of the Part-Time Members of the A.L.R.C., Mr. J. Cain, has been elected to the Legislative Assembly of Victoria as Member for the new seat of Bundoora. Mr. Cain is a past President of the Law Institute of Victoria and Member of the Law Council of Australia. Some details of his career appear in 49 A.L.J. 642. In a statement to "the Age" following his election, Mr. Cain said that in the Legislative Assembly he intended to concentrate on law reform, particularly the administration of justice.

His Honour Judge R.F. Loveday, Q.C. :

Judge Loveday retired as a Commissioner of the N.S.W.L.R.C. on 4 March 1976, although it is understood that he will be returning to the Commission for a short time to complete certain work. His Honour's concerns have been in relation to the working paper on the court system. He has also been concerned in the work of the N.S.W.L.R.C. on judgment procedures. Details of His Honour's career appear in 45 A.L.J. 776.

Mr. J.R. Nosworthy, C.B.E. :

The appointment was announced in January 1976 of Mr. John Nosworthy as a part time Member of the Queensland L.R.C. Born in 1915 and educated at the Brisbane Grammar School, Mr. Nosworthy is senior partner in a large firm of solicitors in Brisbane. He was president of the Queensland Law Society between 1970 and 1972. He is a Notary Public and was recently also appointed to the newly established Interstate Corporate Affairs Commission. He was also recently elected a Vice President of the Law Council of Australia.

Professor Derek Roebuck

Professor Roebuck, a member of the Tasmanian Commission, has taken leave of absence during a sabbatical year which he will spend at Hertford College, Oxford. The Faculty of Law in the University of Tasmania has been invited to nominate a replacement for Professor Roebuck, during his absence. Professor Roebuck is Dean of the Faculty and has specialised in contracts and commercial law subjects, in which area he has had a number of published texts.

Law Reform Researchers

Mr. John Karkar has joined the A.L.R.C. research team as a Senior Law Reform Officer. He holds the degree of LL.B.(Hons) from the University of Melbourne where he was a tutor in commercial law during 1975. He is a candidate for LL.M. within that University. Mr. Karkar is a solicitor and has practised in Melbourne before joining the Commission. He has a special interest in Islamic Law and has written a number of papers on this subject.

Mr. Thomas John Bickley has joined the W.A.L.R.C. as a research officer. Born in New Zealand, he graduated in 1970 from the University of Otago as LL.B. He took the degree of LL.M. with first class honours in the same University in 1971. He has worked as a tutor and lecturer in law in New Zealand and practised for a time as a solicitor there.

Ms. Pamela Smith, aged 25, has joined the A.L.R.C. team. She graduated LL.B. from Sydney University, 1975. During 1974-75 she was engaged as a research assistant for Professor J.D. Heydon and Associate Professor D.C. Thomson in that University. She has been working on the Digest project as has Mr. Steven Crawshaw, who has joined the A.L.R.C. as the Chairman's Associate. Mr. Crawshaw holds the degrees of B.Comm. and LL.B. within the University of New South Wales.

Third Law Reform Conference, 1976

The Third Australian Law Reform Agencies Conference will convene in Canberra on 8 May 1976. It will be opened by the Attorney-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Hon. R.J. Ellicott, Q.C., M.P. Participants will hold a Dinner on 8 May 1976, which will be attended by His Excellency the Governor-General. A number of Judges, Ministers and government lawyers in Canberra are expected to attend various functions during the Conference.

A paper containing proposals for the Conference is being circulated by the A.L.R.C. Participants will discuss work in hand and various avenues for co-operation. The question of uniform law reform is also on the provisional agenda for discussion. A number of practical subjects will be debated, including a paper by the A.L.R.C. librarian, Mr. Roy Jordan, concerning library needs and exchange arrangements. The Secretary of the Attorney-General's Department, Mr. C.W. Harders, O.B.E. will address delegates and a number of other distinguished speakers have been invited.

The Papua-New Guinea L.R.C. has indicated that a delegation will attend. A representative from New Zealand is also expected. Invitations have been sent out to law reform commissions overseas. Previous Conferences have attracted participants from Canadian commissions.

The project for a Law Reform Digest will be debated at the Conference. The A.L.R.C. has prepared a paper with sample pages of the proposed Digest, designed for use as a research tool to assist law reformers in securing ready access to the work of law reform already completed. The Interim Law Reform Digest is meanwhile being improved with a quarterly supplement of law reform material, and this is presently being distributed together with material on the legislative follow-up of L.R.C. reports.

Sydney.
30 March 1976

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Attorney-General, his Department or the Commission. Correspondence, information and views should be addressed to the Hon. Mr. Justice M.D. Kirby, Chairman, The Law Reform Commission, 99 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, 2000, New South Wales, Australia. (Telephone 02-231-1733 (Sydney)).



The Law
Reform
Commission