

- California L.R.C. : Tentative recommendations relating to the attachment law, March 1977.
: Tentative recommendations relating to review of resolution of necessity by writ of mandate, April 1977.
: Tentative recommendations relating to revision of the psychotherapist-patient privilege, June 1977.
: Tentative recommendation relating to attachment of property subject to security interest, June 10, 1977.
: Tentative recommendation relating to the parole evidence rule.
- Michigan L.R.C. : Eleventh Annual Report, 1976.
New York L.R.C. : Annual Report of the Law Revision Commission, May 1977.

Whats Going on in the LRCs?

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

- * *Privacy*. Work in hand (W.I.H.). Draft legislation on privacy in publication due October 1977. Paper on Trans-border Data Flows (p.69).
- * *Defamation*. Draft uniform Act ready October 1977.
- * *Human Tissue Transplants*. Report tabled 21 September. See p.59.
- * *Consumers in Debt*. Report due for tabling October 1977.
- * *Debt Recovery*. W.P. for distribution October 1977.
- * *Insurance Contracts*. Comment on *Issues Paper No. 2* being studied.
- * *Access to the Courts*. (*Locus standi* and *Class actions*). Draft W.P. on public law due November 1977.
- * *Aboriginal Customary Laws*. Seminar Institute of Technology 15 October 1977.
- * *Lands Acquisition*. Preliminary work on new reference started. See p.65.
- * *Law Reform Digest*. Manuscript being checked and updated.

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

As [1977] Reform 54.

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

As [1977] Reform 54.

N.Z. Criminal Law Reform Committee (N.Z.C.L.R.C.)

- * *Culpable Homicide*. Report recommends major changes in New Zealand criminal law of murder, manslaughter and provocation. It also deals with suicide pacts and acts and omissions endangering life, safety and health. It recommends a single offence of "unlawful killing". Maximum instead of obligatory life imprisonment is proposed. Provocation to be taken into account in sentence.
- * *Evidence : Juvenile Witness in Sexual Cases*. Report recommends no immediate changes.
- * *Evidence : Identification and Identity Parades*. W.I.H.
- * *Evidence : Failure of Accused or Spouse to Testify*. W.I.H.
- * *Bail* : Preliminary Report presented, further W.I.H.
- * *Self Defence* : W.I.H.
- * *Rape : Evidence of Complainant in Rape Cases*. This is being considered in conjunction with the Private Member's Evidence Amendment Bill. Draft amendment submitted. (*Morgan*, and the Heilbron recommendations considered).
- * *Royal Commission on the Courts*. Submission made.

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

- * *Disciplinary Powers and Procedures of Professional Bodies*. Ninth report published favouring participation by representative of the public on consideration of allegation of misconduct by a member of a profession or occupation. Greater uniformity among professions is suggested. The lay representative to review treatment of complaints rejected as trivial or misconceived.

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

- * *Legal profession disciplinary and complaints procedure.* Separate W.P. released July 1977.
- * *Marine Farm Claims.* New procedures proposed to resolve conflicting claims of marine farms, adjacent owners and public interest groups.
- * *Locus Standi.* W.I.H. Report due late 1977.
- * *Discretionary powers.* W.I.H. Preliminary study nearing completion.
- * *Ground for Review of Admin Action.* Background papers prepared. Include liability of administrative authorities for damages.
- * *Inquiries.* W.I.H. re *Commissions of Inquiry Act* (1908) N.Z.

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

- * *Trustee Act.* Report delivered re increase in monetary limit on trustees.
- * *Mortgagees' Sales.* Report due on sale re indefeasibility of title and payment of compensation.
- * *Life Tenancy.* W.P. issued re allocation of increases of livestock due to good husbandry as between life tenant and remainder.
- * *Charities-* W.I.H. W.P. due.
- * *Companies : Payments to Shareholders.* Payment out of share premium reserves in lieu of dividends. W.I.H.
- * *Fire Insurance.* Insurance of buildings between execution of agreement for sale and settlement.
- * *Title.* Guaranteed search notes. W.I.H.

Papua New Guinea Law Reform Commission (P.N.G.L.R.C.)

- * *Criminal Procedure : Committals.* A joint working paper No. 2 suggests proceeding by written evidence in place of oral. The accused is to be permitted to make a statement without cross-examination.
- * *Adultery.* Report 5 has now been published recommending an *Adultery and Enticement Bill.* Compensation of up to K200 is proposed. In default six months' prison. The new law is to apply to all races. Village courts are to be the main administrators of the law, Mediation before determination is proposed. Community work in lieu of prison is suggested.
- * *Sorcery.* A discussion paper is nearly completed.

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

- * *Children's Services*)
- * *Pawnbrokers Act*) W.I.H. Reports in preparation
- * *Secondhand Dealers Act*)
- * *Crown Proceedings Act.* W.P. circulated.
- * *Bail*)
- * *Criminal Law Matters*)
- * *Animals : Liability for damage caused by*) W.I.H. W.P.s being prepared

South Australian Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee (S.A.C.L.R.C.)

- * *Criminal law.* Fourth and final report due shortly.

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

- * *Class Actions.* Committee's report sent to A.G. but not yet made public. Report limited to class actions, not extended to locus standi.
- * *Industrial and Provident Society.* Report approved.
- * *Infants' Contracts.* W.I.H.
- * *Gaming and Wagering.*) W.I.H.
- * *Contribution among tort feasons*) W.I.H.
- * *Solar Energy.* W.I.H. Interdisciplinary Sub-committee formed.

Tasmanian Law Reform Commissioner (Tas.L.R.C.)

- * *Fisheries : Forfeiture in Unlawful Fishing.* Report submitted 22 August 1977.
- * *Goods : Disposal of Uncollected and Found Goods.* Report due November 1977.
- * *Exemption Clauses and Implied Obligations in Goods and Services Contracts.* W.I.H.

Tasmanian Law Reform Commissioner (Tas.L.R.C.)

- * *Evidence : Corroboration.*: Law and procedure of corroboration re accomplices, sex cases, child witnesses, perjury, forgery, bigamy and treason. Draft report ready. W.I.H.
- * *Evidence : Computer Data.* Supplementary report due September 1977.
- * *Civil Procedure.* W.I.H. In Committee.
- * *Landlord and Tenant : Residential Tenancies.* Committee has reported for consideration by Tas.L.R.C.
- * *Discrimination.* Report on discrimination on the ground of sex delivered. Majority favour civil action. Minority (Professor D. Roebuck) favours Commissioner for complaints. Other legislative changes proposed.
- * *Evidence : Spouses.* W.I.H. Committee report on privileged communication for consideration.
- * *Drinking Drivers: Course for Disqualified drivers.* For consideration Tas. L.R.C., September 1977.

Victorian Chief Justice's Law Reform Committee (V.C.J.C.)

- * *Occupier's Liability.* Draft Bill for consideration end October 1977.
- * *Wills : Construction.* sub-committee to be reconstituted.
- * *Forgery and Counterfeit Currency.* No developments.
- * *Unincorporated Associations.* A new chairman of sub-committed appointed owing to illness of previous Chairman. W.I.H.
- * *Escape from Custody.* Sub-cttee report adopted 8 September 1977.
- * *Oaths and Affirmations.* W.I.H.
- * *Liquidators : Appointment of.* Concluded.
- * *Workers' Compensation Act s.6.* Report of sub-cttee adopted 8 September 1977.
- * *Insurance on Real Property.* Deferred [illness of chairman].
- * *Habeas Corpus Act.* W.I.H. Reference extended to include admissibility of evidence before a jury empanelled.
- * *Limitation of Actions s.23A.* W.I.H.
- * *Constitution Act 1975.* V.C.J.C. does not wish to make submission to V.S.L.R.C.
- * *Supreme Court Act 1958.* W.I.H. Ss.142-159.
- * *Commercial Arbitration.* Sub-cttee adopted 8 September 1977.

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

- * *Animals.* W.I.H.
- * *Imperial Acts Application Act.* W.I.H. actively. Report Spring Sitting.
- * *Privacy.* W.I.H. Terms of reference advertised.
- * *Magistrates (Summary Proceedings), Publicity of.* Witnesses called. W.I.H.
- * *Adoption of Children: Access to Information.* 200 submissions received. W.I.H.
- * *Animals on Highway : Civil Liability For.* New reference. W.I.H.
- * *Constitution Act 1975.* Submissions sought on Bill of Rights; Role of Upper House, Disqualification of M.P.s; Governor's powers; Parliamentary Procedures; Delegation to the Executive; Public Officers and Political Affairs. W.I.H.

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

- * *Bail procedures.* (No. 64). W.P. due shortly. Priority being given at request of A.G.
- * *Appeals from Petty Sessions* No. 55(1). W.P. due shortly. W.I.H.
- * *Fatal Accidents Act.* (No. 66). W.P. due shortly.
- * *Juries : Exemption.* (No. 71). New reference.
- * *Evidence : Privilege for Journalists.* W.P. (No. 53) issued June 1977.
- * *Defamation : Privileged Reports.* Bill to amend criminal code introduced to implement 1972 report.

New References

The following new references were received between July and October 1977.

- A.L.R.C. : Lands Acquisition Act : Laws and Procedures. See p. 65.
- V.C.J.C. : Contribution : Review of the report of the Law Commission (England).
- V.S.L.R.C. : Animals : Civil Liability for. (*Searle v. Wallbank*).
- W.A.L.R.C. : Jury Service Exemption (No. 21). Principles and procedures, including class exemption.