

- : Tentative recommendations relating to Quiet Title Actions, 1979.
  - : Tentative recommendations relating to Assignments for the Benefit of Creditors, 1979.
- Michigan L.R.C.: Thirteenth Annual Report, 1978.  
New York L.R.C.: Annual Report for 1979.

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

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

- *Defamation*: Report Tabled. (See p. 76.)
- *Debt Recovery*: Work in hand (W.I.H.). Co-operation with N.S.W.L.R.C.
- *Insurance Contracts*: W.I.H. The Commission has decided to present an early report on the issue of the regulation of insurance intermediaries (brokers etc.).
- *Class Actions and Standing*: Discussion Paper issued. (See p. 79.) Public hearings to be held throughout Australia in November 1979.
- *Privacy*: W.I.H. Report on *Privacy and the Census* with the printer. Expected to be tabled in Parliament shortly.  
R.P. #8, Federal Police Records (Mr. K. O'Connor).  
R.P. #9, Educational Records, expected shortly.
- *Aboriginal Customary Laws*, W.I.H. Discussion Paper expected December 1979. Research tour of Northern Queensland completed.
- *Lands Acquisition*: Report with printer.
- *Sentencing*: W.I.H. D.P. 10 published. (See p. 84.) The following in-house Research Papers have been prepared on the Sentencing Project:  
R.P. #1: An Analysis of Penalties Provided in Commonwealth and Australian Capital Territory Legislation (Mr. J. Gilchrist).  
R.P. #2: Minimum Standards for Treatment of Federal Offenders (Mr. M. Richardson).  
R.P. #3: Alternatives to Imprisonment: The Fine as a Sentencing Measure (Ms J. A. Scutt).  
R.P. #4: Community Work Orders as an Option for Sentencing (Ms J. A. Scutt).  
R.P. #5: Sentencing the Federal Offender—Jurisdictional Problems (Ms R. Davies).  
R.P. #6: Federal Parole Systems (Mr. M. Richardson).  
R.P. #7: Limiting Sentencing Discretion: Strategies for Reducing the Incidence of Unjustified Disparities (Mr. I. Potas).  
R.P. #8: *Probation as an Option for Sentencing* (Ms J. A. Scutt).
- *Child Welfare*: W.I.H. D.P. circulating.
- *Evidence*: New reference received. (See p. 74.)
- *Law Reform Digest*: W.I.H.

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

- *Legal Profession Inquiry*: Drafting is proceeding on four further discussion papers and the Commission is evaluating response to D.P.s 1 and 2.

- *Money Judgments*: W.I.H. Co-operating with the A.L.R.C.
- *Evidence*: W.I.H. Working paper on Illegally and Improperly Obtained Evidence is circulating. Four further working papers are nearing completion.
- *Unincorporated Associations*: W.I.H. Discussions continuing. Draft bill is near finality.

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

Matters currently under consideration:

- Access to the Courts (Class Actions).
- Costs in Summary Proceedings.
- Criminal Injuries Compensation.
- The Rights to Stand by Jurors.
- Vicarious Liability—*Lister v. Romford Ice & Cold Storage Ltd.* Employer's rights of recovery as against employee.
- Wills: (a) Interested witnesses  
(b) Effect of  
(c) In contemplation of marriage.
- Lands Acquisition—Injurious Affection.
- Enduring Powers of Attorney.
- Fitness to Plead.
- Noise Pollution.

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

- See [1979] *Reform* 22.

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

- See [1979] *Reform* 22.

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

- See [1979] *Reform* 44.

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

- Bills have been introduced into the Parliament based on the following reports:  
Report No. 29: Actions By and Against the Crown (Crown Proceedings Bill).  
Report No. 25: Bail in Criminal Proceedings (Bail Bill).

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

- Exclusion clauses and implied obligations in contracts relating to the supply of goods and services. Research completed and a preliminary report expected to be placed before the Commission in the near future.
- *Wills*: D.P. in draft for settlement at an early date by the Commission and its Wills Committee.
- *Insanity and diminished responsibility*: In Committee.
- *Ejectment, Common Law Procedure Act 1854, and Supreme Court Orders and Rules*: In Committee

- *The Rule in Hollington v. Hewthorn*: In Committee at Launceston.
- *Conveyancing Reference*: In Committee.
- *Stock straying on the highway*: Effect of judgment in High Court of Australia, *State Government Insurance Co. v. Trigwell and Others*, to be considered.

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

- Reforming the Law of Locus Standi.
- Simplified Form of Mortgage.
- Data Protection.
- Fire Insurance Law.
- Crown Proceedings Bill.

**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 Justice Law Reform Committee (V.C.J.L.R.C.)**

- Family Law Act and State and Territory Welfare Legislation: W.I.H.
- Pecuniary Interests of Councillors: Sub-Committee's Report to follow.
- *Limitation of Actions*: W.I.H.

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

- *Crime*: Duress, Coercion and Necessity. Work is taking place.
- *Crime: Corporate Crime*: Work on problems in investigation and prosecution still proceeding.
- *Delivery of Deeds*: Draft report circulated.

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

- *Local Government (Pecuniary Interests of Councillors)*: The Committee has commenced hearing evidence.
- *Privacy*: Submissions have been received but no evidence has been taken.
- *Protection of Animals Act 1966 and related provisions*: There are still eight terms of reference to be examined.
- *The Constitution Act 1975*: Committee is continuing to hear evidence in relation to this enquiry and a report relating to a Bill of Rights will be presented to Parliament later this year.

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

Report to be submitted to Parliament shortly: Defamation (Project No. 8).

V.S.L.R.C.: Trustee Companies: Takeover bid for Union—Fidelity Trustee Co.: Submissions have been received and the Committee will soon commence hearing evidence. A report on this subject should be presented to Parliament later this year.

: Imperial Acts Application Bill. The Committee will be hearing evidence on this inquiry in the near future and anticipates presenting a report to Parliament on this subject later this year.

## Public Hearings: Class Actions

During the current quarter the following public hearings will be held on the Commission's Reference on Class Actions. The hearing times are 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.; 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in each case.

**PERTH:**

Tuesday, 6 November, 1979  
Conference Room, Dept. of Veterans' Affairs,  
5th Floor, Room 515, 11-13 William Street.

**ADELAIDE:**

Friday, 9 November, 1979  
Conference Room, Bureau of Meteorology,  
25 College Road, Kent Town.

**HOBART:**

Tuesday, 13 November, 1979  
Conference Room,  
12th Floor, Savings Bank Building,  
Cnr. Murray and Collins Streets.

**MELBOURNE:**

Thursday, 15 November, 1979  
6th Floor (Commissioner's Court),  
451 Little Bourke Street.

**BRISBANE:**

Monday, 19 November, 1979  
Conference Room 4, Lower Ground Floor,  
Block 4, Commonwealth Government Centre,  
Ann Street.

**SYDNEY:**

Wednesday, 21 November, 1979  
7th Floor, A.D.C. House, 99 Elizabeth Street.

**CANBERRA:**

Thursday, 22 November, 1979  
Conference Room, 4th Floor,  
National Library of Australia.

**DARWIN:**

Monday, 26 November, 1979  
Court 4, Supreme Court Building,  
Mitchell Street.

## New References

The following new references were received by L.R.C.s or notified since July 1979:  
A.L.R.C.: *Evidence*. (See p. 74.)

## Personalia

**Mr. A. R. Neaves**

The Crown Solicitor of the Commonwealth of Australia, Mr. Alan Neaves, has been appointed