

- *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

Secretary of the Attorney-General's Department in Canberra. Aged 54, Mr. Neaves took over from Sir Clarrie Harders who retired on 4 July 1979. Mr. Neaves was educated at Canterbury Boys' High School and Sydney University. He saw war service with the R.A.A.F. and was admitted to the New South Wales Bar in 1949. Between 1970 and 1975 he was Deputy Commonwealth Crown Solicitor for New South Wales, holding the post of Crown Solicitor until his appointment as permanent head of the Attorney-General's Department. Sir Clarrie Harders had taken up a post as Legal Advisor to the Department of Foreign Affairs, a position he will hold for 3 years. Sir Clarrie's last act was to sign the first Annual Report of the Attorney-General's Department, an innovation that will be widely welcomed.

#### **Mr. J. F. Robertson**

The new Secretary for Justice in New Zealand is Mr. John Fraser Robertson, 54. Mr. Robertson was formerly Secretary for Defence. He attended Canterbury and Victoria Universities and holds the Diploma in Public Administration. He is an Associate Chartered accountant. In 1966-7 he was National President of the New Zealand Institute of Public Administration. In 1968 he attended the Imperial Defence College and has held numerous posts in a series of Government Departments before becoming a permanent head. One of his chief tasks is piloting implementation of reforms of the court structure in New Zealand. (See p. 78.)

#### **Mr. M. R. Wilcox, Q.C.**

In July 1979 Mr. Murray Wilcox completed 3 years' association with the Australian Law Reform Commission. Originally appointed a full-time Commissioner for 18 months from 1 July 1976, Mr. Wilcox completed his subsequent term as a part-time Commissioner, having had his appointment extended from 1 January 1979 to 31 July 1979, in order to permit him to complete the Commission's report on the reform of Lands Acquisition Law. That report is now with the printer. During his time as a Commissioner, Mr. Wilcox led the Commission in its work on Defamation reform and the report on *Unfair Publication* (see p. 76) bears witness to his imaginative and practical approach, especially in matters of procedural reform.

#### **Mr. James Mazza**

The Federal Attorney-General, Senator Durack, announced on 29 August 1979 the appointment of a new Part-Time Member of the Australian Law Reform Commission. He is Mr. James Antonio Mazza, 53, a Barrister and Solicitor of Perth, W.A. Mr. Mazza graduated in Law from the University of Western Australia in 1948 with First Class Honours and prizes in Law and Economics. He has practised as a solicitor since that time, specialising in criminal law and business law. His appointment is for three years, to fill the vacancy left by the retirement of Mr. Allan Hall. Announcing his appointment, Attorney-General Durack said that his

experience in the practical application of the law would be of great benefit to the A.L.R.C.

#### **A.L.R.C. Part-Time Commissioners**

The Attorney-General has announced the extension of the term of two A.L.R.C. part-time members, Mr. Brian Shaw, Q.C., and Mr. Howard Schreiber. In each case, the commissioners have been reappointed for a term of two years. Mr. Shaw practices at the Melbourne Bar and has taken a leading part in the A.L.R.C. projects on Lands Acquisition and Insurance Contracts reform. Mr. Schreiber has recently returned to his practice as a Sydney solicitor after a period of six months as Visiting Professor at the New South Wales Law School. He is involved in a number of projects including Sentencing and Child Welfare. Mr. Allan Hall has retired as a part-time commissioner, following the completion of his two-year appointment. Mr. Hall, shortly after his appointment to the Commission, took up a post as a Senior Member of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal in Canberra. Despite the heavy burdens of this new office, he took a keen interest in the A.L.R.C. project on Lands Acquisition, in which important new functions are considered for the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

#### **Rt. Hon. Lord James MacKay of Clashfern**

One of the part-time Law Commissioners of the Scottish Law Commission, Mr. J. P. H. MacKay, Q.C., has been appointed by the Thatcher Administration as Lord Advocate for Scotland. Lord MacKay was educated at Edinburgh University and was a lecturer in Mathematics before turning to the law. He took silk in 1965 and rose to be Dean of the Faculty of Advocates. In September 1978 he visited Australia and called on the A.L.R.C.

#### **The Honourable Mr. Justice Legoe**

The appointment has been announced of Mr. Justice Legoe as a Deputy Chairman of the Law Reform Committee of South Australia. Zelling J. is the Chairman of the Committee. His Honour takes the place left vacant by the appointment of Mr. Justice King as Chief Justice of South Australia. Legoe J. was appointed to the Supreme Court of South Australia in 1978.

#### **The Honourable Mr. Justice Matheson**

Mr. Roderick Matheson, Q.C., has been appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of South Australia. Between 1971 and 1974 Matheson J. was a member of the Law Reform Committee of South Australia. He has also been in turn a council member, Vice-President, and President of the Law Society of South Australia. Educated at St. Peter's College and the University of Adelaide, his Honour was appointed a Q.C. in 1972.

#### **Mr. Bruce Piggott, C.B.E.**

The Attorney-General for Tasmania, Mr. Miller, has announced that Mr. J. B. Piggott has been appointed Chairman of the Tasmanian Law Reform

Commission for three years from August 1979. Mr. Piggott was President of the Law Society of Tasmania for two terms and later President of the Law Council of Australia from 1961 to 1964. He has taken a keen interest in community and professional activities in Australia and beyond. A feature of his career has been his interest in international association. He has been decorated by the Government of Italy and was awarded the C.B.E. in 1962 for distinguished service to the law in Australia. An innovative and imaginative lawyer, he is a strong supporter of communicating legal issues to the general public. "Every lawyer should be a reformer, and I think most of them are", he said on his appointment.

#### **Tas.L.R.C. Commissioners**

At the time of the appointment of Mr. Piggott as chairman, other appointments to the Tas.L.R.C. were announced. Mr. W. H. Goudie, M.C., has been reappointed as Deputy Chairman and Executive Director of the Commission. Other commissioners include Mr. Peter Cranswick (Law Society), Mr. Peter Underwood (Bar Association), Mr. Frank Bates (University of Tasmania) and two lay members, Mrs. Marion Crothers and Mrs. Frances Bladel. Mrs. Crothers teaches unemployed youth at the Burnie Technical College and has been active in women's affairs. She has played a part in developing video films to illustrate available social welfare benefits to the disadvantaged. Mrs. Bladel holds the degree of B.A.(Hons.)(Tas.). She taught English and Social Science to secondary students and has helped to co-ordinate innovatory high school teaching projects, particularly in language development. Mrs. Bladel has played an active part in political life in Tasmania.

#### **Mr. Roger Court, Q.C.**

The former head of the Criminal Law Review Division of the New South Wales Attorney-General's Department, Mr. Roger Court, Q.C., has been appointed Crown Advocate of the State of New South Wales. This is a new post, in which Mr. Court will be assisting the Solicitor-General for New South Wales, Mr. G. T. A. Sullivan, Q.C., in major legal advice to the Government. The successor in the Criminal Law Review Division has not yet been announced. Mr. Court attended the Fifth Law Reform Agencies Conference in Perth in July 1979. He was appointed to silk in 1978.

#### **Mr. Trevor Griffin, M.L.C.**

With the change of government the new South Australian Attorney-General and Minister of Corporate Affairs is Mr. Trevor Griffin, M.L.C. Mr. Griffin has been a member of the State Upper House

since March 1978. He holds both Bachelor and Master of Laws degrees from the University of Adelaide and brings over sixteen years' experience as a practitioner to office. Law Reformers will be watching developments with interest as the new Attorney was a member of the South Australian Law Reform Committee from 1973 to 1978 and the new government has promised to replace the present part-time body with a full-time Law Reform Commission.

#### **A.L.R.C. Staff Changes**

Mr. Murray Stephenson, an experienced Sydney solicitor, has been appointed as a Senior Law Reform Officer of the A.L.R.C. Admitted to practice in 1962, Mr. Stephenson became a partner in one of Sydney's leading firms of solicitors. He will take the place of Ms Susanne Tongue, who has proceeded to Harvard University to further her studies. Mr. Stephenson will be working on the A.L.R.C. project on Insurance Contracts, where his many years of practice will be a decided advantage to the A.L.R.C. team. The second officer to take part in a period of secondment to the Australian Law Reform Commission as part of the Executive Development Scheme is Mr. Leigh Powell. He is spending fifteen weeks with the Commission and is working on the regulation of corporate behaviour through criminal and class actions laws. Mr. Powell's substantive appointment is to the Commonwealth Auditor-General's Office. He holds a B.Ec.(Hons.) Degree from Monash University and has commenced legal studies at the Australian National University in Canberra.

#### **N.S.W.L.R.C. Staff Changes**

Mr. Stephen Catt completed his term as a Research Officer with the N.S.W.L.R.C. in July 1979. Recent appointees to the Commission are Mr. John Sautelle and Mr. Leo Grey. Both appointees hold Law Degrees from the University of New South Wales.

#### **P.N.G.L.R.C. Staff Changes**

Mr. Edward Graziano, an attorney of the Supreme Court of California, has commenced duties as the Principal Projects Officer of the P.N.G.L.R.C.'s "Economic Law Reference". Mr. Graziano holds a B.A. Degree from Stanford University (1968), a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard (1972) and a Doctor of Laws Degree from Columbia University Law School (1973). He has worked as a consultant on a wide variety of projects in the U.S. public sector. Before his appointment to the P.N.G.L.R.C. he maintained a sole practice in San Rafael, California.

#### **Sydney**

24 September 1979

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