

such a heavy handed approach". Following the controversy, the Bill was stood over until 1980, with a promise of further consideration.

■ A Director has been appointed to establish the Institute of Family Studies. He is Dr. Donald Edgar, presently Reader in Sociology at La Trobe University. The Institute will encourage and co-ordinate research on factors affecting marital and family stability in Australia. It was envisaged when the *Family Law Act 1975* was passed and is an important step forward in the legislature's assuming the responsibility to monitor reform legislation which it enacts.

"For the first time we will have a multi-disciplinary Institute sponsored by the Government, with the basic role of building up a reliable body of information about the strengths as well as the problems of the Australian family. In other words, it will be trying to identify not only what makes marriages and families go wrong, but what makes them go right. An equally important role is the dissemination of research findings in a usable and practiced way to those who can make best use of them".

Senator Peter Durack

■ The Northern Territory Law Review Committee was established on a part-time basis in April 1976. However, in May 1979 a full time Executive Member was appointed, Mr. A.R. Miller LL.B. Mr. Miller has clerical assistance and the function of the committee is changed somewhat since it was established to "review laws and procedures affecting the Territory". The change reflects the constitutional changes in the Northern Territory. The N.T.L.R.C. operates on references from the Attorney-General of the Territory and from other bodies and private individuals. In addition it has a power of initiation. The committee wrote to over 60 L.R.C.s requesting contributions for its library. The response from within and outside Australia has been good. *Reform* has been asked to incorporate a note of gratitude and a plea for initiation of further exchange arrangements. The address? A.R. Miller, Executive Officer, Northern Territory Law Review Committee, P.O. Box 1722, Darwin, Northern Territory 5794, Australia.

New Reports

Australia

- A.L.R.C.: 12: *Privacy and the Census*, 1979 See p. 11.
: 13: *Annual Report*, 1979 See p. 6.
- N.S.W.L.R.C.: *Outline Scheme for Incorporation by Registration*, 1979
: *Working Paper on Illegally and Improperly obtained Evidence* — available at N.S.W. Government Information and Sales Centre.
- Q.L.R.C.: 22: *Law Relating to Succession*, 1979
- Tas.L.R.C.: *Fourth Report to Year Ended 31 December*, 1979
- V.C.J.C.: *Report on Insurance on Real Property*, 1979
- V.S.L.R.C.: *Report on Trustee Companies: Takeover offer for the Union Fidelity Trustee Company of Australia Ltd. by Burns Philp Trustee Company Ltd.*
: *Constitution Act 1975: Report on a Bill of Rights for Victoria*.
- W.A.L.R.C.: *Proj. No. 8: Report on Defamation*, 1979
: *Annual Report, July 1978 to June*, 1979

Canada

- C.L.R.C.: *Eighth Annual Report*, 1978-79
- Alberta I.L.R.R.: *Annual Report 1978-79*
: 35: *Defamation: Fair Comment and Letters to the Editor*, 1979
- Manitoba L.R.C.: 31: *Report on Political Financing and Election Expenses*, 1979
: 32: *Report on Mechanics' Liens Legislation in Manitoba*
: 33: *Report on Enforcement of Revenue Statutes*

New Zealand

- N.Z.P.L.E.R.C.: *Report on the Decision in re Richards*, 1979

Sri Lanka

- Sri Lanka L.R.C.: *Report on Certain Urgent Amendments Needed in the Civil Procedure Code*, 1979
: *Report Under s. 7 of the Law Commission Act, No. 3 of 1969*, 1978-79
: *Report on Immunities for Service Personnel*, 1979
: *Report on the Draft Children's Charter*, 1979
: *Supplementary Report on the Draft Ombudsman Bill*
: *Study Paper on the General Law of Adoption*, 1979
: *Study Paper on the Death Penalty or Capital Punishment in Sri Lanka*, 1979
: *Draft W.P. : Lands Acquisition*, 1979

United Kingdom

- Law Comm.: *W.P. 74: Family Law Illegitimacy*, 1979
- Institute of Advanced Legal Studies: *Current Legal Research Topics*, 27th edition, March 1979.

United States

- Calif.L.R.C.: *Recommendation relating to Application of Evidence Code Property Valuation Rules in Non-condemnation Cases*, 1979

- : *Tentative Recommendations Relating to Agreements for Entry of Paternity and Support Judgments*, 1979
- : *Tentative Recommendations Relating to the Probate Homestead*, 1979
- : *Tentative Recommendations Relating to Enforcement of Claims and Judgments Against Public Entities*, 1979
- : *Staff Draft Relating to Enforcement of Obligations After Death*

What's Going on in the L.R.C.s?

Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC)

- *Defamation*: Report with Standing Committee of Attorneys-General. Recent review by W.A.L.R.C. See p. 12.
- *Debt Recovery*: Work in hand. (WIH). The A.L.R.C. and the N.S.W. L.R.C are working jointly on a survey of debt recovery actions in N.S.W. Discussions with the Tas. L.R.C. are proceeding with a view to a joint project on debt recovery procedures in that State.
- *Insurance Contracts*: WIH. Consultants meeting has discussed draft report on regulation of insurance intermediaries. This report due early 1980 as stage I of Reference.
- *Class Actions and Standing*: Public hearings held throughout Australia in November 1979. (See p. 24).
- *Privacy*: Report on *Privacy and the Census* tabled in Parliament (ALRC 12). See p. 11. Discussion papers on general protection of privacy due February 1980.
- *Aboriginal Customary Laws*: WIH. Discussion Paper due by March 1980.
- *Lands Acquisition*: Report with printer. Will be tabled February or March 1980.
- *Sentencing*: WIH. Report on judicial survey being circulated to courts for final comments. It will be an annexure to the Interim Report due to be completed February 1980. See p. 20.
- *Child Welfare*: WIH. Time for report extended by the Attorney General until 30 June 1980.
- *Evidence*: No action pending new Commissioners. See p. 27.
- *Law Reform Digest*: WIH.

N.S.W. Law Reform Commission: (NSWLRC)

- *Legal Profession Inquiry*: Comments on DPs 1 and 2 continue to be received (see p. 17). Drafting is proceeding on four further discussion papers.
- *Unincorporated Associations*: Recently published and distributed was an Outline Scheme for Incorporation by Registration.
- *Money Judgments*: WIH. Co-operation with the ALRC.

- *Evidence*: Redrafting of four working papers is now nearing completion.

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

The committee completed the following matters:

- N.T.L.R.C.: 1: *The Order of Closing Speeches in Criminal Trials*
The Right of the Crown to Stand-by Jurors

- N.T.L.R.C.: 2: *Attestation by Interested Witnesses of Wills*
Relaxation of strict requirements as to Attestation of Wills

- N.T.L.R.C.: 3: *Examination of and recommendation to abolish by legislation the Rule in Lister v. Romford Ice & Cold Storage Co. Ltd.*

- N.T.L.R.C.: WPs *Working Papers have been produced relative to:*
Defendant's Costs in Summary Proceedings.
Effect of Divorce and of Marriage on Wills
Fitness to Plead
Law Relating to Encroachments
Consideration of the form of Statutory Declarations and Oaths
Review of the Law and Practice Relating to Estreatment of Bail

N.Z. Property Law and Equity Reform Committee (NZPLERC)

- See [1979] Reform 22.

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

- 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.)

- Report No. 22: *Law relating to Succession received approval by the Governor in Council. Was tabled in Parliament on 9th October 1979.*

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

- *Exclusion clauses and implied obligations in contracts relating to the supply of goods and services*. W.P. has been completely submitted [by John Livermore], he has now been requested to write a D.P. with draft Bills attached. It is proposed that this will be ready by March 31st 1980.
- *Wills*: D.P. is proposed by June 1980.
- *Conveyancing Reference*: In Committee
- *Ejectment, Common Law Procedure Act 1854, and Supreme Court Orders and Rules*: Draft Committee report has been prepared and submitted to the Commission. The Commission's report is expected next month.