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Announcements

Lord Cooke of Thorndon: Collected Papers Part XVIII: New Zealand's Legal System

The Cooke Series forms part of the Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper Series (VUWLRPS). Lord Cooke (1926-2006) was one of New Zealand's most prominent jurists and the first and only New Zealander to sit as a judge in the House of Lords. He was a Distinguished Fellow of the Victoria University of Wellington Law Faculty. The faculty gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the Cooke family for their sponsorship of the series. Lizzie Chan and Tim Cochrane, Wellington solicitors, abstracted and posted Lord Cooke's papers.

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LEGAL SCHOLARSHIP NETWORK: LEGAL STUDIES RESEARCH PAPER SERIES VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON LEGAL RESEARCH PAPERS

"The New Zealand National Legal Identity"

Canterbury Law Review 171, 1987

Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper Series, Cooke Paper No. 79/2017

ROBIN COOKE (1926-2006), Victoria University of Wellington - Faculty of Law

Email: robincookevuw@gmail.com

In this article, Sir Robin Cooke advocates for the abolition of the right of appeal from the New Zealand Court of Appeal to the Privy Council in two parts. First, he describes New Zealand's "distinct national legal identity" by discussing how New Zealand law has developed in a number of different fields, including criminal, family, property, contract, employment, torts, and administrative law. In the second part, he argues for abolition of the right of appeal to the Privy Council. Sir Robin outlines this argument by referring to his personal experience as a member of the Privy Council, historic examples of New Zealand appeals, and the development of a distinct New Zealand national legal identity. Abstract by Tim Cochrane.

"Address by Sir Robin Cooke to New Zealand Bar Association Seminar"

Robin Cooke "Address to the New Zealand Bar Association Seminar" (New Zealand Bar Association Seminar, Wellington, 12 March 1994)

Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper Series, Cooke Paper No. 80/2017

ROBIN COOKE (1926-2006), Victoria University of Wellington - Faculty of Law

Email: robincookevuw@gmail.com

This paper comprises the notes of a speech given by Sir Robin Cooke at a seminar of the New Zealand Bar Association held in Wellington on 12 March 1994. Sir Robin begins by musing on the history and likely future of the independent Bar in New Zealand, hoping that the rank of Queen's Counsel (or an equivalent title) will be retained and suggesting that there may be room for awarding the status of a High Court judge to holders of other high legal offices. Sir Robin then outlines two of his prejudices. First, he objects to the dropping of the traditional "Mr" in favour of merely "Justice" as the conventional designation for judges of the High Court and Court of Appeal. Secondly, he cautions against long judgments. The remainder of the seminar comprises Sir Robin's comments on three matters he considered were likely to be debated by other seminar participants. First, Sir Robin argues that judges who resign from their judicial offices should be entitled to return to court practice as advocates. Secondly, he predicts that televised broadcasting of court hearings will be "inevitable" by the year 2000. Finally, he advises that the new art for counsel is the "ability to speak simply and vividly" to their written arguments, which should be of "disciplined length". Abstract by Tim Cochrane.

"The Laws of New Zealand: Introduction"

Robin Cooke "The Laws of New Zealand Introduction" [1994] NZLJ 278

Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper Series, Cooke Paper No. 81/2017

ROBIN COOKE (1926-2006), Victoria University of Wellington - Faculty of Law

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This is the introduction written by Sir Robin Cooke as the Editor-in-Chief of The Laws of New Zealand. Sir Robin describes this encyclopedia as the New Zealand counterpart to The Laws of England. It is a text that marks the development of New Zealand law, towards "independent nationhood", both in terms of statute and case law. He comments that in statute law, New Zealand has made its mark in many areas, including constitutional law and human rights (referring to the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, the Human Rights Act 1993, and Official Information Act 1982), race relations (Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975), private law (Land Transfer Act 1952), and commercial law (Commerce Act 1986, Fair Trading Act 1986, and Consumer Guarantees Act 1993). Sir Robin notes that the New Zealand common law has also progressed in the fields of negligence law, constructive trusts, de facto unions, the range of civil remedies, and the total absence of fault defence. Finally, he comments on his role as Editor-in-Chief.

"Introduction: Portrait of a Profession"

Robin Cooke, "Introduction" in Robin Cooke (ed) *Portrait of a Profession* (AH & AW Reed, Wellington, 1969)

Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper Series, Cooke Paper No. 82/2017

ROBIN COOKE (1926-2006), Victoria University of Wellington - Faculty of Law

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This is a book about New Zealand lawyers by New Zealand lawyers. Liberally seasoned with a wit and anecdote, it portrays the men (and a few women) who have given life to the law, from the founding of the colony until the present day. Some new and rather surprising facets of the country emerge. The book has been prepared for the New Zealand Law Society by a Committee consisting of W. G. Smith (Convener), R.B. Cooke Q.C., P. A. Cornford, and R. S. V. Simpson; with the assistance of Ross Gore. Mr Cooke has acted as general editor and the book includes contributions from a constellation of members of the profession who, having achieved eminence and livelihood partly by skill in the use of words, have now been induced to try their hands in a slightly different field.

ROBIN COOKE (1926-2006), Victoria University of Wellington - Faculty of Law
Email: robincookevu@gmail.com

These are the notes for the address of Sir Robin Cooke given at the opening of the new headquarters for the publishing house, Commerce Clearing House New Zealand Ltd (CCH) in Auckland on 5 April 1990. In this address, Sir Robin sketches the history of New Zealand law and New Zealand's various sources of law. He considers that CCH publications accurately reflect the working of the New Zealand legal system and these sources of law, and outlines a selection of the range of legal publications offered by CCH, including specialist publications. Sir Robin comments negatively on the future development of electronic legal databases, he concludes with his well wishes that CCH will "go on from strength to strength". Abstract by Tim Cochrane.

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About this eJournal

Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Papers Series primarily contains scholarly papers by members of the **Faculty of Law at Victoria University of Wellington**. Some issues collect a number of papers on a similar theme to form a suite of papers on a single topic. Others issues are general or distribute mainly recent work.

The Student/Alumni Series is a subseries of the Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper Series. The subseries started in 2015 and publishes papers by students and alumni of Victoria University of Wellington, comprising primarily work for honours and postgraduate courses. Papers are collected into thematic or general issues.

The Victoria University of Wellington was founded in 1899 to mark the Diamond Jubilee of the reign of Queen Victoria of Great Britain and of the then British Empire. Law teaching started in 1900. The Law Faculty was formally constituted in 1907. The first dean was Richard Maclaurin (1870-1920), an eminent scholar of both law and mathematics. Maclaurin went on to lead the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as President in its formative years. Early professors included Sir John Salmond (1862-1924), still one of the Common Law's leading scholars. His texts on jurisprudence and torts have gone through many editions and remain in print.

Alumni include Sir Robin Cooke (1926-2006), one of the leading judges of the British Commonwealth. As Baron Cooke of Thorndon, he sat on over 100 appeals to the Appellate Committee of the House of Lords, one of very few Commonwealth judges ever appointed to do so.

Since 1996 the Law School has occupied the Old Government Building in central Wellington. Designed by William Clayton and opened in 1876 to house New Zealand's then civil service, the building is a particularly fine example of Italianate neo-Renaissance style. Unusually among large colonial official buildings of the time it is constructed of wood, apart from chimneys and vaults.

The School is close to New Zealand's Parliament, courts, and the headquarters of government departments. Throughout Victoria's history, our law teachers have contributed actively to policy formation and to law reform. As a result, in addition to many scholarly articles and books, the Victoria SSRN pages include a number of official reports.

Victoria graduates approximately 230 LLB and LLB(Hons) students each year, and about 60 LLM students. The faculty has an increasing number of doctoral students. Ordinarily there are ten to twelve students engaged in PhD research.

Victoria University observes the British system of academic ranks. In North American terms, lecturers and senior lecturers are tenured doctrinal scholars, not legal writing teachers. A senior lecturer corresponds approximately to a North American associate professor in rank.

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