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Announcements

Lord Cooke of Thorndon: Collected Papers Part V: Addresses at Court Sitings for the Appointment of Judges

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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"Proposed Remarks of Sir Robin Cooke at Swearing-In Ceremony (Justice McGechan)"

Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper Series Cooke Paper No. 22/2016

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

These are the remarks of Sir Robin Cooke at the swearing in ceremony for Mr Justice Andrew McGechan. Sir Robin notes that New Zealand judicial work has increased in volume and become more difficult since 1952, when the New Zealand population was two million, and that therefore "it is important at least to maintain judicial standards". He then remarks on Justice McGechan's biography, comment on Sir Robin's own experience presiding in *Brightwell v ACC* [1985] 1 NZLR 132 (CA), a case

in which Mr McGechan appeared as counsel, Garrow and McGechan on Procedure, and Professor Robert Orr McGechan, Justice McGechan's father. Abstract by Tim Cochrane.

"Proposed Remarks of Sir Robin Cooke at the Swearing-In Ceremony of Mr Justice Ellis"

Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper Series Cooke Paper No. 23/2016

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

Email: robincookevuw@gmail.com

This paper contains the proposed remarks of Sir Robin Cooke at the swearing-in ceremony of Mr Justice Ellis at the Wellington High Court on 27 June 1985. Sir Robin notes that the first judicial oath was taken in 1842 by Chief Justice Martin and that Mr Justice Ellis was the 104th man to receive that appointment, 143 years later (as no women had yet been appointed to the New Zealand bench). He comments that the work of a Judge has become more difficult in a "restless era". In criminal law, drug-related offences, violent offences, and sentencing policy have been particularly challenging. In civil law, Sir Robin refers to the need to develop the common law to meet the needs to the community. Finally, he praises Mr Justice Ellis for his contribution to the legal profession so far, especially in his rank as Queen's Counsel, and welcomes his appointment to the Bench.

"Notes of Remarks by Sir Robin Cooke, President of the Court of Appeal, on the Taking of the Judicial Oath by Mr Justice McKay"

Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper Series Cooke Paper No. 24/2016

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

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This paper is the notes of Sir Robin Cooke's remarks at the swearing-in of Mr Justice McKay as a Judge of the Court of Appeal on 10 June 1991. Sir Robin begins by discussing the historical development of the Court of Appeal in New Zealand, which initially comprised the Governor and members of the Executive Council. Sir Robin then comments on Mr Justice McKay's achievements in the law, before discussing famous judges from other jurisdictions, including Australia and Canada, who have been appointed directly to an appellate court. He concludes by recalling that Mr Justice McKay had been one of his (Sir Robin's) most outstanding students at Victoria University College. Abstract by Elizabeth Chan.

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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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