

to be a Commission to inquire into the structure and operation of the judicial system of New Zealand, comprising the Court of Appeal, Supreme Court, Magistrates' Courts, and Children and Young Persons Courts, and to report on what changes are necessary or desirable to secure the just, humane, prompt, efficient, and economical disposal of the civil, criminal, and domestic business of the Courts and to ensure the ready access of the people of New Zealand to the Courts for the determination of their rights and the remedying of their grievances now and in the future; and to ensure that the Courts are as well equipped as possible to adapt to changing social needs:

And, in particular, to inquire into and report on:

1. The jurisdictions of the existing Courts and divisions thereof, whether any new all-purpose or specialist Courts or divisions are necessary or desirable, and what functions and jurisdictions the several Courts or divisions should have, whether exclusive or concurrent:

2. The constitution of the Court of Appeal, in each of the following circumstances—

- (a) That the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council remains the final appellate tribunal for New Zealand:
 - (b) That the Court of Appeal becomes the final appellate tribunal for New Zealand in all cases:
3. The constitution of the Courts (including any new Courts or divisions recommended) with particular reference to:
- (a) The qualifications for, the methods of appointment of, and the promotion of, judicial officers:
 - (b) The degree of specialisation on the part of judicial officers that is desirable and practicable in the conduct of the business of the Courts:
 - (c) The manner in which the number of judicial officers required to dispose of the business of the various Courts and divisions is determined, the manner in which those officers are allocated to the various places where sittings of the Courts are held, and what person or body should perform this function:
 - (d) Whether, in respect of Courts other than the Supreme Court or Court of Appeal, it is necessary or desirable to appoint chief judicial officers of the various Courts or divisions or senior judicial officers at any place where there is more than one judicial officer and, if so, what duties or powers such a chief or senior judicial officer should perform or exercise:
 - (e) Whether, and if so in what circumstances, there should be a power to investigate the conduct of judicial officers and, if so, what person or body should exercise that power and in what manner:
 - (f) Whether it is desirable to hold conferences and refresher courses for judicial officers of the various Courts and divisions and, if so, the nature and extent of such courses:
 - (g) The extent to which it is proper and expedient to make use of the services of Justices of the Peace as judicial officers in the lower Courts, and what special provision should be made for the selection and training of Justices of the Peace to exercise the jurisdiction of such Courts:

4. The obligations and responsibilities of barristers and solicitors to the Courts and to their clients to aid in securing the just, prompt, efficient, and economical disposal of the business of the Courts:

5. Whether, and if so, to what extent, the Courts or any of them should exercise greater supervision over the progress of proceedings and the making of appropriate interlocutory orders, and what judicial officer should exercise such supervision:

6. The role of Registrars of the several Courts, whether and to what extent it is proper or desirable and practicable that Registrars perform judicial functions and whether the appointment of legally qualified officers of any Court to exercise subordinate judicial functions would be desirable, practicable, or convenient:

7. The administrative procedures and the organisation and the management of the several Courts and divisions, including the places appointed and the frequency and times of sittings for the dispatch of business and the arrangement of the business thereof:

8. The relation between the Courts and officers thereof and persons who attend the Courts as applicants, or as parties to any proceedings, or as witnesses, or jurors, or otherwise and the extent to which changes in the facilities and administrative

procedures of the Courts are necessary or desirable to meet the convenience of such persons:

9. Any associated matters that may be thought by you to be relevant to the general objects of the inquiry:

And We hereby appoint you the said

The Honourable DAVID STUART BEATTIE

to be the Chairman of the said Commission:

And for the better enabling you to carry these presents into effect you are hereby authorised and empowered to make and conduct any inquiry or investigation under these presents in such manner and at such time and place as you think expedient, with power to adjourn from time to time and place to place as you think fit, and so that these presents shall continue in force and any such inquiry may at any time and place be resumed although not regularly adjourned from time to time or from place to place:

And you are hereby strictly charged and directed that you shall not at any time publish or otherwise disclose, save to His Excellency the Governor-General, in pursuance of these presents or by His Excellency's direction, the contents of any report so made or to be made by you, or any evidence or information obtained by you in the exercise of the powers hereby conferred on you, except such evidence or information as is received in the course of a sitting open to the public:

And it is hereby declared that the powers hereby conferred shall be exercisable notwithstanding the absence at any time of any one or any two of the members hereby appointed so long as the Chairman or a member deputed by the Chairman to act in his stead, and two other members, are present and concur in the exercise of the powers:

And We do further ordain that you have liberty to report your proceedings and findings under this Our Commission from time to time if you shall judge it expedient to do so:

And, using all due diligence, you are required to report to His Excellency the Governor-General in writing under your hands, not later than the 31st day of December 1977, your findings and opinions on the matters aforesaid, together with such recommendations as you think fit to make in respect thereof:

And, lastly, it is hereby declared that these presents are issued under the authority of the Letters Patent of His Late Majesty King George the Fifth, dated the 11th day of May 1917, and under the authority of and subject to the provisions of the Commissions of Inquiry Act 1908, and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council of New Zealand.

In witness whereof We have caused this Our Commission to be issued and the Seal of New Zealand to be hereunto affixed at Wellington this 4th day of October 1976.

Witness Our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Sir Edward Denis Blundell, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight Grand Cross of Our Royal Victorian Order, Knight Commander of Our Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in and over New Zealand.

DENIS BLUNDELL, Governor-General.

By His Excellency's Command—

BRIAN TALBOYS, for Prime Minister.

Approved in Council—

P. G. MILLEN, Clerk of the Executive Council.

Honorary Staff of His Excellency the Governor-General

His Excellency the Governor-General has been pleased to approve the following appointments to His Excellency's Honorary Staff for a period of 1 year from 1 October 1976:

1. HONORARY AIDES

(a) *Auckland*

Commander John Joseph Maire, M.B.E., RNZN,
Lieutenant Colonel Alan Guy Armstrong, RNZIR,
Wing Commander William Joseph Cranfield, A.F.C.,
RNZAF.

(b) *Wellington*

Commander Graham James Bosson, RNZN,
Lieutenant Colonel John Milbanke Masters, M.C., RNZA,
Wing Commander John Alan Scrimshaw, M.B.E., A.F.C.,
RNZAF.