

| Number and Title of Specification  | Amendment No./AMD |
|--|-------------------|
| BS 903:— Methods of testing vulcanized rubber— Part A38:1978 Determination of dimensions of test pieces and products for test purposes | 1/4032 (\$3.80)   |
| BS 4426:1969 Methods of test for sodium hypochlorite solution  | 1/4427 (\$3.80)   |
| ISO 1942:1983 Dental vocabulary—   |                   |
| Addendum 1:1983 (\$16.30)  |                   |
| Addendum 2:1983 (\$16.30)  |                   |
| Addendum 3:1983 (\$16.30)  |                   |
| Addendum 4:1984 (\$22.80)  |                   |
| Addendum 6:1985 (\$16.30)  |                   |

All persons who may be affected by these amendments and who desire to comment thereon, may obtain copies from the Standards Association of New Zealand, Wellington Trade Centre, 15–23 Sturdee Street (or Private Bag), Wellington.

The closing date for the receipt of comment is 15 October 1985.

Dated at Wellington this 9th day of August 1985.

DENYS R. M. PINFOLD,

Director, Standards Association of New Zealand.

(S.A. 114/2/1)

*Notice of Intention to Vary Hours of Sale of Liquor at Chartered Club—King Country Licensing Committee*

PURSUANT to section 221A (14) of the Sale of Liquor Act 1962, as amended by section 22 (1) of the Sale of Liquor Amendment Act 1976, I, Stanley James Callahan, Secretary for Justice, hereby give notice that the King Country Licensing Committee on 26 June 1985 made an order authorising variations of the usual hours of trading for the chartered clubs known as the Otorohanga Working Men's Club and the Otorohanga Services and Citizens Club.

To the intent that on days other than those on which chartered clubs are required to be closed for the sale of liquor to its members the hours for the opening and closing of the said premises shall be as follows:

- On any Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday—Opening at 11 o'clock in the morning and closing at 10 o'clock in the evening.
- On any Friday, Saturday and Christmas Eve—Opening at 11 o'clock in the morning and closing at 11 o'clock in the evening.
- On any New Year's Eve—Opening at 11 o'clock in the morning and closing at 00.30 o'clock in the morning of New Year's Day.

Dated at Wellington this 8th day of August 1985.

S. J. CALLAHAN, Secretary for Justice.

(Adm. 2/72/5 (5))

Decision No. 8/85  
COM 4/84

*Before the Broadcasting Tribunal*

IN the matter of the Broadcasting Act 1976, and in the matter of a complaint by:

Julia Margaret Stuart of Trentham, Journalist.

WARRANT HOLDER: Broadcasting Corporation of New Zealand (Radio New Zealand):

Chairman: B. H. Slane.

Members: Lionel R. Sceats and Ann E. Wilson.

Co-opted Members: Helen A. Cull and N. L. Macbeth.

Hearing: At Wellington—6 November 1984.

DECISION

Mrs Stuart's complaint relates to the broadcast in the programme *As It Happens* on 17 February 1984 on the National Programme of *Radio New Zealand*. The programme related to the United Nations Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women and consisted of a preliminary background followed by a discussion between Mrs Babette Francis who was campaigning against the Convention and Mrs Ann Hercus a Labour MP who supported ratification of the Convention.

Mrs Stuart was authorised by Mrs Francis to lodge the complaint. As she was dissatisfied with the Corporation's refusal to uphold the complaint Mrs Stuart referred it to the Tribunal.

At the hearing evidence was given by Mrs Stuart, by the interviewer on the programme and by Mr P. E. Downes, Programme Manager, National Programme.

Subsequently the Tribunal was supplied with some further material which had been referred to at the hearing. Mrs Stuart claimed that there were breaches of Rules 1.1 (e) and 4.2 (e) of the Radio Rules which read as follows:

- "1.1 In the preparation and presentation of programmes, broadcasters are required—  
(e) To deal justly and fairly with the person taking part of referred to in any programme."

It is also pertinent to note another sub-paragraph:

- "(g) To show balance, impartiality and fairness in dealing with political matters, current affairs, and all questions of a controversial nature."

"4.2 A radio news and current affairs service should take account of the following points—

- (e) Greater care must be taken in the editing of programme material to ensure that the extracts used are a true reflection and not a distortion of the original event or the overall views expressed."

The complaint can be summarised as follows:

- That the interviewer in collusion with Mrs Hercus, did not reveal information that she had obtained from the office of the Premier of Tasmania about an incident relating to a school library in Tasmania.
- That the failure to warn Mrs Francis about this information resulted in her being unfairly treated in the interview.
- The editing of the discussion was not balanced, impartial and fair and did not reflect the views expressed.

It is not necessary for the purpose of this decision to go into the minute detail which the complainant and (necessarily) the Corporation did in the hearing of the complaint.

We deal with each allegation separately.

1. *Collusion*—As a result of reading a report in the *Dominion*, the *Radio New Zealand* interviewer contacted the press officer at the Tasmanian Premier's office concerning an incident which Mrs Francis had been mentioning in her speeches in New Zealand. She was campaigning during her visit against the ratification of the UN Convention which had earlier been signed by both Australia and New Zealand. (It had since been ratified by Australia but the question of whether it should be ratified by New Zealand was a matter of public controversy.)

The incident was a book culling in a school, the facts of which are disputed. Mrs Francis was using the incident to illustrate the effect of the signing of the convention and/or the possibility that ratification could create a climate which resulted in libraries eliminating such books as *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* and *Born Free*.

Although she claims that she did not associate it directly with the UN Convention, and although the interviewer approached the Premier's office on the basis of enquiring whether it had anything to do with ratification of the convention, the incident was relevant because Mrs Francis raised it as part of her argument against the convention.

The interviewer obtained by telephone the information that as far as the Minister of Education and the Government of Tasmania were concerned, the book incident was not associated with the convention.

We place no great importance on the legalistic point of whether it was to do with the ratification of or with the signing of the convention. The way in which the question was put would have elicited an appropriate response from the Premier's office if it had been associated with the signing of the convention.

Because she was present at the studio for the interview early and because the call from the Tasmanian Premier's office came through while she was there, Mrs Hercus became aware of the telephone call and the information obtained by the interviewer.

Mrs Francis arrived late. The interview was started immediately because of the limited time available in the studio. She was not made aware of the information obtained a few minutes earlier.

The Tribunal considers that the interviewer should have acquainted Mrs Francis with the information she had obtained.

The Tribunal considers that it would not necessarily have been appropriate if the broadcast had been an interview. But as it was to be a discussion and one party already knew what the interviewer had learned, she should have made that knowledge available to the other party.

We do not find there was any collusion between the interviewer and Mrs Hercus. There was an error of judgment on the part of the interviewer.