

MINUTES forming ENCLOSURE to..... E.D. No. 909/3/58B 19

TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF RESIGNATION: MR GREGORY R KNIGHT

Attached is a notice of resignation which I have received from Mr Gregory Robert Knight. The effective date of the resignation is 29/5/78.

Mr Knight has already been informed by the Minister of Education that he has been dismissed from the teaching service, effective from Wednesday 31 May, 1978. The Minister's letter to Mr Knight is attached.

I understand that Mr Knight has prospects of employment in the Australian Armed Forces and that these prospects would be enhanced if he were allowed to resign.

If the Minister wishes to accept this resignation it will be necessary for him to rescind the notice of dismissal and to inform Mr Knight accordingly.

Whilst the acceptance of the resignation achieves the same result as dismissal so far as the protection of children in our schools is concerned, we should consider whether we have an obligation to take steps to protect schools outside our own government system eg by informing the Teachers Registration Board of the findings of the Knight hearing. Although this aspect need not affect the decision to accept the resignation and waive dismissal, I believe it merits some consideration. Because our relationship with the Teachers Registration Board in matters of this sort is unclear (at least to me), this matter could well be referred to Policy Committee for consideration.

I RECOMMEND that this information be made available to the Minister of Education.

C.A. Laubsch.

C A Laubsch
DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL

CAL:NJS
12 June 1978.

ME:

It is unfortunate that the present Education Act gives no flexibility in censuring and punishing teachers in such cases. Accordingly, in order to protect children, we have acted very harshly in this instance, as no options were available.

I do not counsel, however, the back, especially adults, and accordingly I recommend that you inform Mr Knight that you agree to rescind his dismissal and that you accept his resignation from 29.5.78

J. Steiner
200 12/6/78