

*Law Reports of Trials of War Criminals*; Selected and Prepared by the United Nations War Crimes Commission: Vol. xv: Digest of Law and Cases: London: His Majesty's Stationery Office: 1949: 5/- (Stg.)

This is the last volume of this series and the Foreword appropriately is written by Lord Wright. Out of 1,911 cases available, the previous 14 volumes report 89 which were considered as having sufficient legal interest to justify selection and as providing a basis for the further development of law in the future. This last volume is a narrative discussion of the points that have emerged in the previous volumes and will be of enormous benefit to research workers. It deals with the sources of international criminal law, the legal basis of courts, the parties to crimes, types of offences and particular defences. No legal library should be without this very moderately priced series.

G.W.P.

*Stamp Duties of Victoria*, by KEVIN ANDERSON, LL.B., Barrister-at-Law; pp. xxv, 161. Index pp. 163-200. 1949. Butterworth & Co. (Australia) Ltd. 30/-.

Until the recent publication by Butterworths of *Stamp Duties of Victoria*, by Kevin Anderson, LL.B., there had been no book to which one might turn in seeking assistance in the interpretation of the *Stamps Act* 1946, and Mr. Anderson's work should be a welcome addition to the library of every practitioner. The *Stamps Act* 1946, which regulates the duties payable in Victoria by either adhesive or impressed stamps, covers a wide range of transactions—Bills of Exchange and Bookmakers' Licences, Sales of Land and Sales of Pigs, Discharges and Deeds of Gift, and so on—and as a result contains a large number of definition sections. It is in connexion with these sections that most questions arise, and this work should be of great assistance in their interpretation.

Mr. Anderson's book is written in the form of an annotated copy of the Act, each section being followed by full references to the relevant authorities, with discussion and comments. Over four hundred cases are referred to. The question of the admissibility in evidence of unstamped documents is dealt with very fully, some ten pages being devoted to the authorities bearing on this point, while the same amount of space is occupied by a discussion of the meaning in the Act of the expressions "Settlement" and "Deed of Gift"—probably the question which most frequently arises in practice.

The Regulations under the Act are printed as an Appendix, and there is a full index which itself extends over thirty-seven pages.

The inclusion in Appendix "D" of "Usual requisitions by the Comptroller" is a feature which will appeal to solicitors, but its practical value is somewhat lessened by the phrasing of some of the headings. For example, the requisitions set out under "Transfer by way of sale"