

of the book. No attempt has been made to produce a digest of cases on bailment. The cases which are cited are those which lay down a principle or contain an apt statement of one, and those which provide useful illustrations. The author has primarily based his book upon English authorities, but he has also drawn on Australian, Canadian, and New Zealand cases.

Those who read this review may, however, feel themselves better informed by subjective comment rather than objective description of certain features of the book. Even to one for whom the delights of reading the literature of the law have lost their novelty this book is stimulating. It gains that quality through a combination of clarity of thought and clarity of expression which brings into full view difficulties which one has felt but never properly analysed and offers an intellectually satisfying explanation, solution, or comment.

The reviewer feels compelled to comment on the excellence of the printing of the book.

G. H. LUSH

*The Victorian Solicitor*, by A. HEYMANSON, K. H. GIFFORD and E. H. COGHILL (The Law Book Co. of Australasia, 1949), pp. xxiv, 227, with Second Cumulative Supplement 1952, pp. 16.

It is very late in the day to review a book published in 1949 and at the present time widely known in Victoria. It is desirable however to draw to the attention of those who are using the book the second cumulative supplement bringing the principal work up to date (to July 1952), and the occasion may be taken for some comment on the book itself as well as the supplement.

The primary purpose of the book was, as indicated in the preface, to inform Victorian solicitors of the manifold duties imposed on them by the Legal Profession Practice Act 1946 and the Rules thereunder, but its scope was extended to cover other matters in connection with the legal profession in Victoria, including the rules governing admission to practise and the rules of professional conduct recognized as being in force here.

The book consists primarily of Acts and Regulations with appropriate annotations. This mode of treatment, while complete and accurate, does not enhance readability, and the reader who wishes merely a general description of the duties of the solicitor in Victoria will be grateful for Mr. Heymansons' introduction where the position is summarized in narrative form.

When a second edition is prepared it may be hoped that another narrative chapter will be introduced covering the rules for admission

to practise. Such a treatment would be of special value to the present writer who from time to time has occasion to advise persons in other States and overseas who are considering the possibility of practising law in Victoria. It would be very helpful to be able to refer these enquirers not only to the Rules, which are somewhat indigestible, but to a general description of the prerequisites to admission, in a book which might be available to them in a library in their own city.

It might further be suggested that the title of the book could without inaccuracy extend to the whole of the legal profession in Victoria. The present treatment in fact does cover both branches of the profession since the rules for admission to practise are the same for both barrister and solicitor and the rules of professional conduct applicable to the Bar, and the Victorian Counsel rules, are included in appendices. It may be admitted that the book will be of greatest importance to the Victorian solicitor since the new and complex rules are directed exclusively to him. It is not very likely that a barrister in Victoria, whose conduct is regulated by well understood traditional practices, will have occasion to refer to this book for guidance. However the utility of a book of this kind is not to be judged solely by the needs of local practitioners. It would be unfortunate if an overseas reader desirous of obtaining information on the position of barristers here should pass by this book, thinking, because of its misleading title, that it had nothing to tell him.

The new supplement adds a large number of annotations and amendments. In particular it includes the new rules concerning articulated clerks' courses which brought about substantial changes. These additions will add to the value of the work. It is to be hoped, however, that there will be no call to use the new forms on pages 15 and 16, dealing with claims by persons suffering loss from defalcations by solicitors or their servants.

A. L. TURNER

*Current Legal Problems*, 1952, vol. 5, ed. KEETON and SCHWARZENBERGER (London, Stevens & Sons, Ltd., 1952). Australian price £2 12s. 6d.

This annual volume of lectures delivered at University College London has become a welcome addition to law library shelves. Within very few years it has established itself as a work of permanent value. The 1952 volume is no exception: there are many interesting and important contributions. As in previous years the