

ating upon the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Compensation for Personal Injury and the recommendations of the earlier Committee on Absolute Liability, the preference expressed by Professor Street and the reasons for that choice are of particular interest. In case his suggestions for radical reform should not, for one reason or another, be implemented, Professor Street suggests that at the very least there should be some improvements in the existing system. Extension of the availability of damages for breach of a statutory duty; extension of the types of injury and loss for which damages may be recovered, especially in the area of emotional injury and consequential economic loss; provision for damages to be revised from time to time as circumstances change—these were the suggested improvements which most attracted the attention and interest of this reviewer.

This book is very attractively and accurately printed and is published in both a hardback and softback edition. The latter is so priced as to put it within the range of the impecunious student and law school, not to mention the practitioner who is nowadays assailed with so many competing demands by publishers upon his time and money. It is to be expected also that this book will be read with very great interest in the government departments which are most concerned with the improvement of our systems in New Zealand for eliminating the causes, and remedying the effects, of road accidents.

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**FORMATION AND MANAGEMENT OF PRIVATE COMPANIES  
IN NEW ZEALAND**, by D. A. Dale, F.C.I.S., F.P.A.N.Z.,  
A.N.Z.I.M., and J. G. Sclater, LL.B. Wellington. Sweet & Maxwell  
(N.Z.) Ltd., 1968. 198 pp. (incl. index) plus supplement. Price  
\$6.50.

This book purports to outline the procedure necessary for the formation of private companies and to deal with the statutory obligations connected with the management of such companies. It contains 198 pages, plus a useful 9 page supplement dealing with taxation, which is inserted in the inside back cover of the book. Replacement supplements incorporating any new amendments are to be issued as they become necessary.

The book is of a very elementary nature and it is difficult to know for what class of reader the book is intended. It is obviously not designed to be a reference book for legal practitioners since it contains very few authorities—either judicial or statutory. By the same token it is not designed for law students as it makes no reference to the many difficult and complex problems which arise in this area of the law. Similarly it is doubtful whether the book itself is of any benefit to accountants or accountancy students since (for example) such an important accountancy matter as “accounts and balance sheets” is dealt with in a mere 2½ pages.

It appears that the book is designed for the layman who is interested in some way in a private company—perhaps as a director or secretary—and who will also be receiving professional advice from his solicitor and accountant. It is possibly also useful for students sitting examina-

tions for the Chartered Institute of Secretaries who need an elementary introduction to the practical side of the law relating to companies, as part of a broad general business course.

The book contains a number of simple forms and precedents interspersed throughout the text and also in the appendices at the end of the book. Apart from their value as illustrations there seems to be little point in including these. As already mentioned it is doubtful whether the book will be used as a source and reference book by solicitors, and even if used in legal offices the forms and precedents are adequately set out in such standard works on company law as *Anderson and Dalglish* and *Morrison*. It is unlikely that the forms will be used by laymen.

The book is written in a clear and simple style. At times it appears in danger of over-simplification—such matters as ultra vires, protection of minority shareholders, priorities of charges, etc. are barely mentioned. There is a certain amount of repetition—for example a paragraph dealing with “proprietary companies” on p. 12 (not p. 11 as shown in the index) is repeated almost word for word on p. 56. The book however is well produced, and the reviewer noted only a few printing mistakes.

Within its limits this small manual provides a concise, simple and elementary introduction to the law relating to private companies, for non-professional readers.

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*Dunedin.*

INTRODUCTION TO NEW ZEALAND LAW, by J. A. B. O’Keefe, B.A., LL.M., and W. L. Farrands, B.Com., LL.M. Wellington. Butterworth & Co. (N.Z.) Ltd., 1969. xxviii and 451 pp. (including index). New Zealand price: \$7.75 (hard cover), \$6.25 (soft cover).

People will quite commonly brush aside the mispronunciation of a word by facetiously suggesting that “it all depends on which school you went to”. There is nothing too facetious in the suggestion that in New Zealand the approach which academics take to introductory courses in law depends largely on the university to which they belong. It is the misfortune of Mr O’Keefe and Mr Farrands that their book *Introduction to New Zealand Law*, written no doubt with their own university’s courses in mind, should be reviewed by a member of one of the “other” universities.

As is reflected in the recent preparation by members of the Law Faculty at Canterbury University of a New Zealand edition of Derham, Maher and Waller’s *An Introduction to Law* (1968), there is a growing body of opinion that a student is best introduced to law and is best prepared for his future study of specific law subjects by having fully explained to him such things as: the history and development of our law and legal system; the sources of our law; the use of law as a social tool and the effect on it of economic and social influences; the role of the judiciary and the effect of judicial personality and temperament; the way in which cases are heard and decided; law reports, statutes and the correct method of citing them; the hierarchy of the courts; the doctrine of precedent; the method of analysing a case; statutory interpretation; legal reasoning; the use of the law library.