

in England and New Zealand restricts ready use of the text under review. Whilst legislation is virtually identical in Sale of Goods and Negotiable Instruments, even in the Sale of Goods Act, the section numbering is out of line, and must of course be overcome when reference is made to case law. Legislation in parts of Hire Purchase Law is similar, but the body of law there, as here, comes from so many diverse sources that the subject would only be confused by a detailed comparison. The body of common law in other subjects and also in Hire Purchase is of course generally applicable.

Not only is *Commercial Law in New Zealand* more closely aligned to University requirements, it is also a convenient base reference for practitioners in other important topics under the heading of Commercial Law—Chattels Transfer and Insolvency as well as Sureties and Guarantees and Arbitration which are not dealt with by Mr Lowe in his text. It is interesting to note in his preface that the topic, bills of sale, has been omitted by reason of its declining practical importance and virtual extinction as an examination subject. This contrasts rather sharply with the increasing importance of the study of the Chattels Transfer Act in relation to chattel finance in New Zealand.

Ideally, this reviewer would like to see a New Zealand edition of *Commercial Law* by Lowe coupled with a casebook.

N. A. Carroll

COMPANY LAW, by R. Keith Yorston, C.B.E., B.Com., F.C.A., and S. R. Brown, LL.B., F.C.A. Third Edition. Sydney: The Law Book Co. Ltd. 1968. xvii and 594 pp. New Zealand price \$10.50.

This book purports to be "a concise manual of the principles and practice of company law incorporating the legislation of New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland". It is of limited use to practitioners in this country, although the student may find it interesting to compare company law in the three Australian States with the law as it applies in New Zealand. In view of the establishment of the Macarthur Commission in this country the provisions of section 20 of the Companies Acts which modify the traditional doctrine of ultra vires will be of particular interest.

The form and arrangement of the work is traditional. In the main it follows the sequence of the Acts, although in parts changes have been made to give a more logical presentation. The book incorporates some standard forms at the end. Of real interest is Appendix C which is a summary of statutory provisions involving time limits, a feature that an author of a future New Zealand text may consider worthy of adoption.

Regrettably the book offers little in the way of comment. Case law is kept to a minimum although generally it is well integrated with the appropriate part of the statute. There is very little discussion on any of the decisions cited.

The book repeats verbatim many sections of the Act. The worth of this repetition seems doubtful: a practitioner or student desirous of finding the particular wording of the Act, would refer to the appropriate section of the statute itself or wool look at a detailed annotated practi-

tioner's book similar to Anderson and Dalglish. A precis of the statute with an accompanying explanation would in this reviewer's opinion have been of more value.

The authors in their preface state that the edition takes in the various changes made to the company statutes since the second edition in 1964 and "includes the judicial decisions considered relevant to the text brought down since that date". The authors must have felt that there were very few relevant or important judicial decisions in the intervening four years as there are hardly any recent cases mentioned at all. At the very least one would have thought that the important 1966 decision of the High Court of Australia in *Black v. Smallwood* 117 C.L.R. 52 would have been worthy of mention.

The book however achieves its purpose, i.e. to cover a basic statement of the principles and practice of company law in the three Australian States, in a medium sized volume. It will doubtless be of considerable use to Australian company secretaries and accountants. It is doubtful if it contains sufficient discussion for the company law student or enough detail or reference material for the practitioner.

W. J. Rutherford