

CRAIES ON STATUTE LAW, 6th Ed. By S. G. G. Edgar, M.A. [London: Sweet & Maxwell. 1963. cxix + 643 pp. £7 7s. 0d.]

Mr. S. G. G. Edgar has brought *Craies On Statutes* up to date. It should be said at once that the book includes all the recent authorities on the subject.

Only one chapter of the book has been re-arranged, *viz.* cap. 13 on Delegated Legislation. The learned author has succeeded in taking the reader behind the scenes and has revealed the problems encountered by those who prepare delegated legislation. This chapter covers, now, sixteen sections. The most interesting sections in this chapter are “Criticism of Delegated Legislation”, “Control of Statutory Instruments by the Courts” and “Sub Delegation”. The last of these, in particular, is extremely well written.

1. (1931) A.C. 1.

In so far as the bringing up to date and re-writing of the new edition is concerned, the present reviewer has not come across any short-coming of importance. There are, however, a few observations to be made about the general character of the book. Craies *On Statutes* is used for teaching purposes as well as by practitioners not only in the United Kingdom but also throughout the Commonwealth. Despite this fact the number of Commonwealth cases cited is negligible. Moreover, in some places it might be advisable to point out clear differences between aspects of interpretation in Britain and the Commonwealth. "Internal Aids to Construction" can serve as an example. The learned editor explains (at pp. 195-197) that marginal notes are often not found on the roll and are but seldom valid aids to construction. In ex-colonies of Britain, on the other hand, marginal notes clearly form part of the Ordinances (see, e.g. *Cashim v. Murray* (1888) 4 Ky. 435, *Reg. v. Khoo Kong Peh* (1889) Ky. 515 and *Re Tan Keng Tin* (1932) 1 M.L.J. 134). Similar observations can be made about "punctuation". In fact, it would assist Craies to hold its ground throughout the Commonwealth if leading decisions of Commonwealth Countries were to be included. In the same context one might, perhaps, also suggest the enlargement of the section on "Rules for the Interpretation of Written Constitutions". American cases which, in this context, may be relevant in South East Asia, as well as South East Asian cases, could, profitably, be added.

These observations are, however, made from the point of view of a reader in a Commonwealth country. For the practitioner and law teacher in Britain the book is eminently suitable.

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