

COCKLE'S CASES AND STATUTES ON EVIDENCE, 10th Ed. By G. D. Nokes.  
[London: Sweet and Maxwell. 1963. xxxi + 564 pp. (incl. index).  
£2 11s. 6d.]

Since the first edition of this book by Ernest Cockle appeared in 1907 it has been an indispensable *vade-mecum* for students of the law of Evidence. Professor Nokes, an acknowledged authority on the law of Evidence, took charge of the book with its 9th Edition in 1957.

Under the present Editor, the book has become increasingly a source-book. Much of the introductory matter has been eliminated. Nevertheless, the practice of appending useful notes to cases has been retained and with the lack of introductory matter the notes have become increasingly important. It is perhaps a feature that needs expansion in future editions.

The policy of making this book primarily a source-book has resulted in an omission of references to essays and articles. This is presumably the reason that in the "Table of Books Cited" (at page xxxi) there is no mention of Cowen and Carter's excellent *Essays on the Law of Evidence*. The essays contain much in the way of criticism of the cases reported and as the student ought to go from the sources to analytical material this omission is to be regretted. There are, however, in places, references to some text-books and the student is not left entirely without a "lead". The arrangement of the material has been brought more in line with that of Professor Nokes' book *Introduction to Evidence*. Thus the book will be extremely useful as a "companion volume".

The recent increase in the number of criminal decisions reported has aggravated the editor's problems of selection. The author has sought to deal with this problem by excluding Scottish, Commonwealth and American decisions, except where the advice has come from the Privy Council. The law teacher and student outside England will still have to supplement the material drawn from this book with those from local sources. The cases selected have been ably edited and there is no doubt that the book will continue to be both useful and valuable.

L. W. ATHULATHMUDALI.