

BIGNOLD'S POLICE OFFENCES. 9th Edition. By A. J. Goran, Q.C. and R. P. Vine Hall. [Australia: The Law Book Co. of Australasia Pty. Ltd. 1962 xxxix + 584 pp. £4 4s.]

More offences are brought within the ambit of the term "police offences" every year, and to deal with them exhaustively in one volume is an enormous task. The authors are therefore to be congratulated for they have provided "a useful reference to the more usual matters that arise in the petty sessions procedure" in addition to

giving practical information on selected and more important offences which are usually dealt with in the Police Courts under the Police Offences Act 1901 - 1961.

The present volume has been completely revised, and the authors have included a number of important decisions which have been given since the last edition. They have also included the amendments to the various acts relating to police offences. The other changes include revised editorial notes, and useful comments have been added and brought up to date. The authors have omitted the Crimes Act, 1900, the Crimes Preventive Act, 1916, and the Service and Execution of Processes Act, 1901 - 1950, which appeared in the eighth edition, but they have included for the first time the Second Hand Motor Dealers Act, 1956.

The present edition has also a useful appendix dealing with the various important sections pertaining to the Local Government Acts. This is a useful addition as the Local Government Acts have an important bearing on Police Offences legislation. The appendix also provides an alphabetical list of ordinance under the Local Government Act, 1919 No. 41 which are relevant under the Police Offences Act together with Regulations made under the provisions of the Police Offences (Amendment) Act, 1908, as amended by the Police Offences Amendment (Drugs) Act, 1927, and the Police Offences Amendment (Drugs) Act, 1934.

It also contains a list of abbreviations used in this volume, a table of forms, a table of statutes, a table of cases, and a table of offences and penalties, with a short description of the more important offences under the Police Offences Act, 1901 - 1947, and the Vagrancy Act, 1902, together with the section of the Act in which such offences occur, and the maximum penalty to which the defendant is thereby made liable.

The authors have maintained accuracy in all that appears in the book. This volume will be extremely useful in providing a handy reference for those who practice in the police courts, and to every other person concerned in the administration of the criminal law — lawyers, magistrates and students of criminal law.