

"by" was omitted inadvertently from between "Road" and "By-law," and by the strict grammatical construction a former by-law dealing with the same road was declared closed instead of the road itself.

Held, that the words "By-law No. 327, being the Craigflower re-opening by-law" in the enacting clause should be regarded as a parenthetical expression and as descriptive of the portion of the road referred to, thus giving the by-law a sensible meaning and the one intended.

The Court will not hold any legislation to be meaningless or absurd unless the language is absolutely intractable.

Appeal allowed, Irving, J., dissenting.

W. J. Taylor, K.C., and *Bradburn* for appellants. *A. P. Luxton* and *R. H. Pooley* for respondents.

Book Reviews.

An Epitome of Real Property law for the use of Students. By W. H. HASTINGS KELKE, M.A., Barrister-at-Law. 3rd edition. Sweet & Maxwell, Limited, 3 Chancery Lane, London, 1903. 190 pp.

That this manual has been found to meet the needs of students is evident from its having attained to its third edition in a comparatively few years. As the author says, "It is not intended to supplant any of the larger manuals but to be read along with them." As he also correctly says, "a student who attacks a big law book is apt to be appalled by the multiplicity of detail and the enormous number of cases and statutes." We thus readily see its *raison d'etre*.

Rating Forms of grounds of notices of objection and appeal. By W.L.L. BELL, Barrister-at-Law. Sweet & Maxwell, Limited, 3 Chancery Lane, London, 1903. 138 pp.

We, in this country, are surprised to be told that in England, "few things are more difficult to the legal draftsman than the drawing of a notice of objection or appeal against a valuation list or rate." In this portion of the empire nothing is much simpler. It might perhaps be well for the solicitor of the Ontario Municipal Association to look into this matter. Appeals should not be too easy! And besides a change in our practice in this respect might help to supplement waning professional incomes, which are now mercifully aided by the bountiful grist of municipal amendments which pass through the legislative mill of this Province, still further confusing things already worse confounded.