

followed by a citation of the section of the Act referring thereto; after which the author reviews and explains the state of the law, and refers to the authorities found in the reports of the various provinces of the Dominion and the Supreme Court, and to such of the English and American cases, as throw light on the various enactments. Then we are given the statutes affecting life insurance in the other provinces of the Dominion. Cross references give the reader the sections of the Ontario Act where similar law is discussed. We are thus given in convenient form the law as it stands affecting a subject of great importance to the public and increasing interest to the profession.

The industry and research of the author and his careful selection of authorities is very manifest; nor are we disappointed in his skillful analysis of some conflicting decisions; and in this connection we may refer to chapter VIII. which deals with the right of an insurer to exact conditions, and to chapter XII. which contains a valuable discussion as to the nature and character of the trust created in favour of a beneficiary. Mr. Hodgins has made a valuable contribution to the library of Canadian law books, and the publishers have well done the share of the work allotted to them.

A Treatise on Guaranty Insurance by Thomas Gold Frost, Ph.D., of the New York Bar. Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1902. 550 pp. \$5.00.

This is a work on a new branch of law which has come into prominence during the last few years. Before 1840 there were no companies organized for protection against loss by dishonesty of employees even in England, and none on this continent until about twenty years ago. The modern practice of giving private fidelity bonds had almost ceased, and persons desiring employment who have to secure their employers against loss do it now through the instrumentality of Guaranty Insurance Companies.

The book includes as subsidiary branches of the main subject the law of fidelity, commercial and judicial insurances—covering all forms of compensated suretyship such as official and private fidelity bonds, building bonds, court bonds, credit and title insurances. He claims the indulgence in view of his work being a "pioneer treatise" upon a new subject, but he seems to have done his work so well that he is likely to receive that "generous and charitable reception at the hands of the profession," which in his preface he hopes for.

One is surprised to see the number of cases that have accumulated on this branch of the law during these few years. These are gathered by the author with great diligence from all quarters, including our own Ontario Reports; and they seem to be carefully arranged and intelligently discussed with the modesty befitting a "pioneer." The typographical execution is in the publishers' best style.