

so that practitioners may know how far the authority of English decisions and text-books is applicable in this country.

So far as we have been able to examine the opinions advanced by Dr. Smythe on the construction of those provisions of the Act which are new, we are glad to find ourselves in general agreement with him. It may be mentioned in this connection that in his notes to Sec. 10 (1) and Sec. 14 (3), he agrees with the view already expressed in *THE CANADA LAW JOURNAL*, that under the Act bills payable "at sight" are excluded from the definition of demand bills, and are therefore entitled to days of grace.

Under the title of "Crossed Cheques" at p. 142, a detailed and lucid explanation is given of the system, the introduction of which into this country is one of the most prominent features in the new Act. So far as we are aware, customers of the banks have not as yet availed themselves to any great extent of these new provisions for their benefit; but this fact only renders it the more desirable that every possible aid should be given the public and the profession towards the due comprehension of a system which has been found so advantageous elsewhere. The limits which the author's design prescribed for his work made it incumbent on him not to indulge more freely than was strictly necessary in the luxury of citing and discussing authorities, and we accordingly find that he has confined himself to the comparatively moderate number of 500 or thereabouts. These have, however, been carefully selected out of a much greater number of decisions, many of which have been rejected as being henceforth inapplicable, or as having a merely historical interest which would not warrant their citation in so small a volume.

The arrangement of the work appears to be, on the whole, convenient and satisfactory; the annotations being interspersed throughout the volume immediately after the section or subsection to which they relate, and as a part of the text, obviating the use of reference notes, and enabling the reader at a glance to refer to both without the inconvenience of turning to different pages. Cases cited are entered in foot-notes, an obviously more convenient mode than placing them in the context, where they both interrupt the sense and do not so easily catch the eye when resorted to for reference. It only remains to add that the work is provided with a good index and a useful appendix of forms, in addition to those given in the schedule to the Act. We feel it incumbent upon us to add a word as to the manner in which the publishers (*The J. E. Bryant Company, Ltd.*) have done their part. As our readers are aware, they are the publishers of this journal; but we do not think that this fact need hinder us from remarking upon what every intelligent purchaser of this little book will see for himself, the excellence of the paper, the size and clearness of the type, and the general freedom of the text from printers' errors, in all of which particulars it will compare favorably with any Canadian publication that we have seen. They have certainly done their part of the work excellently well; and though this is their first venture in this line, we doubt if it will be their last.