

Frank Harris, who knew the plays as few men have known them, has pointed out that Shakespeare never drew a fanatic or a reformer, never conceived a man who swam against the stream of his time. "He had but a vague conception of the few spirits in each age," continues Harris, "who lead humanity to new and higher ideals; he could not understand a Christ or a Mahomet, and it seems as if he took but small interest in Jeanne d'Arc, the noblest being that came within the ken of his art."²⁵

Who can explain the mystery of this man? Others abide our question, he is free. As W. F. Osborne once wrote, he impresses us more as a phenomenon than as a man.²⁶

R. ST. GEORGE STUBBS*

STUDIES IN CANADIAN COMPANY LAW,

Edited by Jacob S. Ziegel; (Butterworths: Toronto), 1967,
xlii and 670 pp., (index) 47 pp.

As a teacher in company law, nothing has been more frustrating for me than having to tell students that the best texts on Canadian company law were Professor Gower's excellent English publication or the outdated and out-of-print book on Canadian companies by F. W. Wegenast. Finally, we have under one cover, a book which covers almost all the contentious areas on Canadian company law and which this reviewer has no hesitation in recommending to his students as *the* text for his course on company law.

The book consists of twenty-one essays in varying fields of company law, written by both teachers and practitioners. Of particular interest and importance is the fact that there is throughout an attempt to distinguish, explain and clarify the essential difference, both academic and practical, between registration-type companies and letters patent companies. This is particularly relevant in dealing with the rule in *Foss v. Harbottle*, personal rights, ultra vires, and internal regulations generally.

It is surprising that in a book of this nature, where several authors have contributed to the whole, there is very little overlapping in subject-matter. No doubt the editor deserves much praise for this. To say that the content and quality of the essays is first-class perhaps

25. *The Man Shakespeare*, (1923 edition) p. 380.

26. *The Genius of Shakespeare*, (1908) p. 9.

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understates this reviewer's delight with this much-needed addition to corporate jurisprudence.

An attempt was made to make the book bilingual in character in that three of the twenty-one essays are in French. As a somewhat insular person, I would say the purpose of this was to enable the book to have a wider circulation in Quebec. It might have been better if two volumes had been published, one in English and one in French.

Although by its nature this book will appeal to the law teacher, its virtue does not lie solely in this appeal, for it is also an excellent starting point for a practitioner who is faced with a corporate problem.

I certainly recommend this book to students, teachers and practitioners.

E. ARTHUR BRAID*

**JUDGE OF THE FAR NORTH, THE MEMOIRS OF
JACK SISSONS, (McClelland and Stewart: Toronto),
1968; 190 pp.**

John Howard (Jack) Sissons has been accused sometimes of using the Eskimos and the Indians as vehicles for his own personal aggrandisement, and I must confess that, although I have only met the gentleman and been in his presence on one occasion, the accusation struck me as plausible. However, inter alia, *Judge of the Far North* gradually but convincingly dispels this notion completely. This is not to say that Jack Sissons is not a vain man, the proof of which in my opinion probably lies in the very fact that he wrote his memoirs.

For the first sixty-four pages (chps. 1-14), Mr. Sissons rushes us through a recapitulation of his childhood, university days, early years of practice in the Peace River country, District Court judgeship in Southern Alberta and his call to the Territorial Court of the Northwest Territories.¹ This is certainly the least interesting portion of Mr. Sissons' Memoirs and it points up a general criticism of the entire book, namely Mr. Sissons' apparent lack of patience or discipline to deal thoroughly with any event, incident, case or issue. In this por-

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1. As one would expect, Mr. Sissons only accepted the call to the Territorial Court of the Northwest Territories after he had conferred with his wife. To her everlasting credit, Mrs. Sissons almost immediately agreed to this new challenge for her husband although, as Mr. Sissons states at p. 14, she "knew that in pioneer surroundings there is no equality of sacrifice—women sacrifice more."