

7. finally recommended that the Secretariate consider the desirability of extending the studies also to the rights of performing artists.

Victoria Rubensohn

Case Notes

(Con'd from PAGE 9)

television commercial licensees indicating that if the Volvo commercial was televised, the matter would be considered by the ABT at the next review of the particular station's licence. Although the ABT sent a subsequent telex making it clear that, in view of the Saatchi & Saatchi decision, it was a matter of individual judgment as to whether, pending the outcome of an appeal of that decision, the commercial should be televised, Morling J found that the licensee should not have any uncertainty in Saatchi's case pending the hearing of an appeal to the Full Court.

The ABT has appealed from the decision of Saatchi & Saatchi to the Full Court and that matter should be heard in the near future.

However, the Australian Government has indicated that it will, if necessary, amend the Broadcasting & Television Act to empower the ABT to make Television Standards regulating content of programmes, in order to overcome the Saatchi decision. The precise terms of any amendment have not been disclosed. However, it would seem that prompt legislative action will be taken, in the event that the Full Court affirms Beaumont J's decision. Stephen J. Menzies

Freedom of Information - Peter J. Byrne

This recently published book is an analysis of the Commonwealth Freedom of Information Act and the Victorian Freedom of Information Act. As well as providing an explanation of the provisions of the Acts, it includes a practical guide to using them. (The Law Book Company Limited)

BOOKS IN BRIEF

The Rights of Journalists and Broadcasters - Geoffrey Robertson and Andrew Nicol.

This book is a comprehensive guide to media law in the United Kingdom. Although parts of it relate to areas of law where Australian law has diverged from that of the U.K., such as contempt of court, official secrets and company law, there is still in the book a large amount of material which is of interest and assistance to Australian practitioners. These areas include defamation, obscenity, breach of confidence and copyright.

As those who are familiar with the hypotheticals run on the Channel 9 "Sunday" program are aware, Geoffrey Robertson is highly articulate. He, together with his co-author Andrew Nichol, has produced a book which not only conveys an immense amount of information without becoming stodgy, but is also extremely readable. (Oyez Longman)

The Law of Intellectual Property - Staniford Ricketson

This book was published late last year and was written by Sam Ricketson, a senior lecturer in law at the University of Melbourne. It is the only comprehensive guide to industrial and intellectual property in Australia and is useful both as a student's text book and for practitioners. Despite the numbering system so dear to the heart of the Australian publishers, this book is also easy to read and contains useful sections dealing with areas such as the relationship between intellectual property rights and consumer protection under the Trade Practices Act 1974, the registration of business names and a comparison between the new UK Patent Act and our current Australian Act. It is lengthy (over 1200 pages) but an invaluable tool. (The Law Book Company Limited)