

CANADIAN CRIMINAL EVIDENCE

**A Manual of instruction upon the admissibility and use of evidence
in criminal cases with "Briefs" on evidence.**

BRIEFS ON EVIDENCE CANADA EVIDENCE ACT

SECOND EDITION

BY

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Snow's Criminal Code (5th edition)

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Preface

Second edition

A new edition of this work has become necessary owing to the large number of cases decided in recent years on matters of evidence. Rules of evidence play an important part in criminal trials. Recently the courts have been very much concerned with the directions to the jury on matters of evidence (see *Azoulay v. The Queen* (S. Ct. Can.) (1952), 15 C.R. 181, 1952 Can. Abr. 200; *Kelsey v. The Queen* (S. Ct. Can.) (1953), 16 C.R. 119; *Regina v. Hladiy* (Ont. Ct. of App.) 15 C.R. 255, [1952] O.R. 879, 104 C.C.C. 235, 1952 Can. Abr. 199; *Latour v. The King* (S. Ct. Can.), [1951] S.C.R. 19, 11 C.R. 1, 98 C.C.C. 258, [1951] 1 D.L.R. 834, 1951 Can. Abr. 199; *Rex v. Harrison* (1951), 1 W.W.R. (N.S.) 158 at p. 160, 11 C.R. 250, 99 C.C.C. 96, 1951 Can. Abr. 201). The rule relating to the evidence of an accomplice has been before the Supreme Court of Canada (see *Lopatinsky v. The King*, [1948] S.C.R. 220). The nature and sufficiency of corroboration has also been considered by the Supreme Court of Canada (see *Lizotte v. The King*, [1951] S.C.R. 115; *McIntyre v. The King*, [1945] S.C.R. 134; *Macdonald v. The King*, [1947] S.C.R. 90; *Thomas v. The Queen*, 15 C.R. 1, 103 C.C.C. 193, [1952] 4 D.L.R. 306, 1952 Can. Abr. 171). The admissibility and use of "complaints" by the prosecutrix in a sexual case has also been reviewed by the courts (see *Rex v. Lebrun*, [1951] O.R. 387, 12 C.R. 31, 100 C.C.C. 16, 1951 Can. Abr. 177; *Thomas v. The Queen* (*supra*); *Rex v. Calhoun*, [1949] O.R. 180, 7 C.R. 306, 93 C.C.C. 289, 1949 Can. Abr. 164). These and many other cases indicate the necessity for keeping up to date on such matters as accomplices and their evidence, and upon the rules regarding complaints, corroboration and circumstantial evidence.

It is hoped that this new edition will afford some assistance to the practising lawyer in finding the law of evidence in regard to criminal trials. It has been pointed out previously in the original work and in the supplements which have been consolidated in this issue, that the whole policy of the criminal law is to see that the accused has a *fair trial*. The law of evidence plays an important part in achieving this object and a good working knowledge of the underlying principles is essential in order that there shall be a fair trial on proper evidence. One of the functions of a Court of Appeal is to decide whether or not the accused has had a fair trial on proper evidence. *Northey v. The King*, [1948] S.C.R. 135, 5 C.R. 386, 91 C.C.C. 193, [1948] 3 D.L.R. 145, 1948 Can. Abr. 191.

References in brackets [] are to corresponding sections of the new Criminal Code of Canada.

A. E. POPPLE.

A CRIMINAL CASE [PART 1]

A CRIME	THE FACTS	THE ISSUES
A Cause of Action, 6	A Fact, 19	An Issue, 43, 72
Burden of Proof, 36, 101, 416	Admissible Facts, 19	Accomplices, 44
Parties, 3	Accompanying Facts, 20	Admissibility of Evidence, 46
Pleadings, 7	Affirmative Facts, 21	Alibi, 47
Establishing a Case, 10, 18	Circumstantial Facts, 22	Autrefois Acquit, 48
Evidence, 75, 76, 351	Collateral Facts, 23	Bona Fides, 53
Rule as to Reasonable Doubt, 13	Conclusive Facts, 25	Character, 54
Defence, 12, 147, 351, 486	Direct Facts, 26, 39	Competency, 55
Verdict, 318, 321	Essential Facts, 27	Compellability, 55
Appeal, *	Exculpatory Facts, 27	Credibility, 55
	Inadmissible Facts, 28	Fitness to Plead, 57
	Inferences, 201	Guilt, 58
	Irrelevant Facts, 29	Identity, 59
	Negative Facts, 31	Insanity, 60
	Notoriou. Facts, 31	Intent, 62
	Prior Facts, 32	Joint Trials, 63
	Relevant Facts, 33	Jurisdiction, 65
	Subsequent Facts, 32	Innocence, 12, 58
	Similar Facts, 33	Relevancy, 70
	Subsidiary Facts, 35	Provocation, 69
	When a Fact is Proven, 41	State of Mind, 72
	*	Trial of the Issue, 72
		Withdrawing Issue from Jury, 74

[Numbers refer to pages of text]

A CRIMINAL CASE [PART 2]

PROOF	WITNESSES	WEIGHT OF EVIDENCE
A Fact, 19, 75	Accused, 351	A Fact, 327
Admissibility, 46	Accomplice, 353	Accused's Evidence, 327
Burden of Proof, 36, 101, 416	Accredited Witness, 358	Accomplice's Evidence, 328
Circumstantial Proof, 38	Adverse Witness, 359	Admissions, 329
Direct Proof, 39	Child Witness, 360	Affirmative v. Negative Proof, 330
Inferential Proof, 39	Co-defendant, 362	Agents Provocateur, 330
Judicial Notice, 40	Complainant, 363	Ambiguous Facts, 330
Presumptions, 40	Credible Witness, 335, 363	Belief, Disbelief, 330
Rebuttal, 561	Deaf, Dumb, 147	Character Evidence, 332
When a Fact is Proved, 41	Defence, 364	Children, 332
Weight, Value, Sufficiency of Proof, 327	Discredited Witness, 365	Circumstantial Facts, 22, 38, 332
Wrongful Admission or Rejection, 324	Experts, 367	Collateral Facts, 23
Weak Case, 73	Hostile, 359	Complaints, 119, 431
	Husband, 368	Confessions, 333
	Ill Witness, 369	Conflict of Evidence, 334
	Impeached Witness, 370	Corroborated and Un- corroborated Evidence, 131, 469
	Material Witness, 370	Demeanour and Conduct, 121, 335
	Mute, 147	Inferences, 201
	Prisoner, 371	Dying Declarations, 163
	Prosecutrix, 372	Equally Consistent with Innocence as with Guilt, 164, 336
	Rejected Witness, 372	Evenly Balanced Case, 336
	Unsworn Witness, 360	Expert Opinion Evidence, 338
	*	Interest, Bias, 339
	Wife of Accused, 591, 593	Positive v. Negative, 341
		Perjured Evidence, 340
		Presumptions, 342
		Prima Facie Evidence, 343
		Silence, 297
		Sufficiency, 345
		Unsworn Evidence, 360
		Weak Case, 347
		Witnesses, 329
		Unreasonable Verdicts, 41, 588
		*

[Numbers refer to pages of text]

Table of Cases

A.

A., R. v., 83 C.C.C. 94	207
Abbott, R. v., [1944] O.R. 230, 81 C.C.C. 174, [1944] 2 D.L.R. 378, 1944 Can. Abr. 201, 205	172, 214
Abramovitch, R. v., 7 Cr. App. Rep. 145	205
Acker, R. v., 62 C.C.C. 269	410, 478
Ackerman v. Morrison (1910), 9 E.L.R. 198	293
Acomsky v. Bloom, [1945] R.L. 536, 1946 Can. Abr. 129	249
Adams, R. v., [1939] 1 W.W.R. 293	165
Adams, R. v., 80 C.C.C. 269, 1943 Can. Abr. 232	165
Adams, R. v., [1944] 1 W.W.R. 573, 81 C.C.C. 223, [1944] 2 D.L.R. 712, 2 Abr. Consol. 1913, 1914	85
Adduono, R. v., 73 C.C.C. 152, [1940] O.R. 184, [1940] 1 D.L.R. 597	128
Adel Muhammed El Dabbah v. Atty.-Gen. for Palestine, [1944] A.C. 156, 113 L.J.P.C. 65, [1944] 2 All E.R. 139, 171 L.T. 266, 60 T.L.R. 456	104, 373
Affleck v. Empire Meat Co. Ltd., 79 C.C.C. 122	173
Agard, R. v., [1942] 2 All E.R. 342, 28 Cr. App. Rep. 138	280
Agostino, R. v., [1952] 1 S.C.R. 259, 102 C.C.C. 112, 14 C.R. 113	104, 373
Ah Chung Lam, R. v., [1944] S.C.R. 136, 81 C.C.C. 113, [1944] 2 D.L.R. 401, 2 Abr. Consol. 210	85
Ah Jim, R. v., 10 C.C.C. 126	353, 414
Ahearne, R. v., 6 Cox C.C. 6	127
Ainsworth, R. v. (1953), 16 C.R. 158	105, 382, 387
Aird v. Campbell, [1941] 2 D.L.R. 807	82
Akerley, R. v., 30 C.C.C. 343	245, 477
Alaine v. Belleau (1897), 1 Q.P.R. 98	270
Alarie, R. v., 76 C.C.C. 373	265
Alberton Fisheries Limited, R. v., 17 M.P.R. 457, 1944 Can. Abr. 216	88, 147
Alexander, R. v. (1925), 28 O.W.N. 396	459
Alexander, R. v., 18 Cr. App. Rep. 139	596
Allan, R. v., 93 C.C.C. 191	488
Allen, R. v., 18 C.C.C. 1	20, 95, 325
Allen, R. v., 22 C.C.C. 124	592
Allen v. Lee Sew, 102 C.C.C. 264	321
Allen v. Whitehead, [1930] 1 K.B. 211	533
Althouse v. Besana, [1919] 3 W.W.R. 725	103
Altomare, R. v., [1928] 3 W.W.R. 487	184
Altshuler, R. v., 11 Cr. App. Rep. 243	458
Amand v. Home Secretary, [1943] A.C. 147, [1942] 2 All E.R. 381	168
Ambler, R. v., 70 C.C.C. 300	135, 328, 382
American Auto Insurance Co. v. Dickson, [1943] S.C.R. 143	244
Amsden v. Rogers, 26 C.C.C. 389	410

Anderson, R. v., 21 Cr. App. Rep. 178	505, 509
Anderson, R. v., 58 B.C.R. 88	453
Anderson, R. v., 70 C.C.C. 275	141
Anderson, R. v., 64 C.C.C. 205	35, 300, 577
Anderson, R. v., 22 C.C.C. 455	99, 205
Anderson, R. v., 77 C.C.C. 295	266, 343, 449
Andrew, R. v., 27 Cr. App. Rep. 12	244, 391
Andrews v. Director of Public Prosecutions, 26 Cr. App. Rep. 34, [1937] A.C. 576, 106 L.J.K.B. 370, [1937] 2 All E.R. 552	144
Andrews v. Luchin, 26 Cox C.C. 124	529
Angelo, R. v., 22 C.C.C. 304	490
Angelucci, R. v., 4 C.R. 220, [1947] 1 W.W.R. 82, 63 B.C.R. 294, 88 C.C.C. 111, 1947 Can. Abr. 172	12, 37, 269
Annunziello, R. v., 93 C.C.C. 189	128, 137
Anthony, R. v., 80 C.C.C. 391	223, 287
Anthony, R. v., 36 C.C.C. 192	86
Anthony v. Charter, [1933] 1 W.W.R. 310	108
Antoine, R. v., 94 C.C.C. 106	268
Antoniou v. Arnett, [1922] 1 W.W.R. 609	99
Antony, R. v., [1943] O.W.N. 778, 80 C.C.C. 390, [1944] 1 D.L.R. 239, 1943 Can. Abr. 225	414
Antrobus, R. v., 3 C.R. 357	362, 425
Appleby, R. v., 28 Cr. App. Rep. 1	115
Arbuthnot v. Campbell, [1931] 1 W.W.R. 240	338
Arcadi, R. v., 57 C.C.C. 117	569
Archambeault v. Guillemette (1933), 40 R.L.N.S. 228	516
Arlidge v. Local Government Board, [1915] A.C. 120	402
Armstrong, R. v., 59 C.C.C. 172	136
Armstrong, R. v., 80 C.C.C. 263	163, 532
Arneson, R. v., 54 C.C.C. 330	591
Arnold, R. v., 3 C.R. 31, [1947] O.R. 147, 87 C.C.C. 236, [1947] 2 D.L.R. 438	17, 56, 125, 388
Arsenault, R. v., 2 C.R. 445	111
Arsenault, R. v., 86 C.C.C. 43	106
Arsenault v. The King, 3 C.R. 247	11, 264
Arthur, R. v., 1 C.R. 364	304
Ash-Temple Ltd., R. v., 93 C.C.C. 267	105, 128, 290, 376, 461
Ashe, R. v., 39 C.C.C. 193	107, 259
Ashley, R. v. (1944), 17 M.P.R. 453	119, 434
Ashley, R. v., 17 M.P.R. 453, 83 C.C.C. 259, [1944] 4 D.L.R. 634, 1944 Can. Abr. 197	435
Askwith, R. v. (1899), 31 O.R. 150	351, 392
Aspinall, R. v. (1876), 2 Q.B.D. 48, 46 L.J.M.C. 145	214
Asplund, R. v., [1943] 1 W.W.R. 757	152
Asselin, R. v., 8 C.R. 168	236
Atkinson, R. v., 18 C.C.C. 276	130
Atkinson, R. v., 24 Cr. App. Rep. 123	335
Atlas, R. v., 16 C.C.C. 35	138
Atty.-Gen. v. Durnan, [1934] Ir. Rep. 308	383, 593
Atty.-Gen. v. Kelly (1916), 10 W.W.R. 131	510

TABLE OF CASES.

ix

Attorney-General of Canada v. Cain, [1906] A.C. 542, 547, 75 L.J.P.C. 81, 22 Can. Abr. 313	149
Attorney-General of Canada v. City of Prince Albert, 13 C.R. 303	146
Atty.-Gen. of Quebec v. Williams, 82 C.C.C. 166	217, 242
Auger, R. v., [1929] 4 D.L.R. 864	469
Auger, R. v., 65 O.L.R. 448	191, 399, 439
Aull, R. v., 26 O.W.R. 44, 5 O.W.N. 964	165
Austin, R. v., [1943] 1 W.W.R. 149	275
Austin, R. v., 8 Cr. App. Rep. 27	513
Aves, R. v., [1950] 2 All E.R. 330	167, 280
Awad, R. v., 68 C.C.C. 100	103
Azoulay v. The Queen, 15 C.R. 181, [1952] 2 S.C.R. 495	57, 148, 488
Azzopardi, R. v., 103 C.C.C. 396	256

B.

B., Re (a Juvenile), 5 C.R. 459	256
Babcock v. C.P. Rly. (1916), 9 W.W.R. 1484	24
Bachiu, R. v., [1927] 3 D.L.R. 1179	478
Bachrack, R. v. (1913), 28 O.L.R. 32, 21 C.C.C. 257, 11 D.L.R. 522, 10 Can. Abr. 1120	461
Bachynski, R. v., 70 C.C.C. 56	103
Badiuk, R. v., [1930] 2 D.L.R. 318	428
Baggott, R. v., 20 Cr. App. Rep. 92	188
Baguley, R. v., 19 Cr. App. Rep. 54	596
Bailey v. The King, [1938] S.C.R. 427	221
Bain, R. v., 81 C.C.C. 129, 1944 Can. Abr. 200	283
Bainbridge, R. v. (1917), 42 O.L.R. 203, 30 C.C.C. 214, 42 D.L.R. 493 ...7, 569	569
Baird, R. v., 8 W.L.R. 65	184
Baker, Reg. v., 14 C.R. 289	98, 160, 263
Baker, R. v., [1926] S.C.R. 92	582
Baker & Sowash, R. v., [1926] 1 D.L.R. 115	63, 79, 95, 397, 575
Balayka and Harris v. Wilby, [1944] 2 W.W.R. 362	168
Balcombe v. Heseler (1910), 7 E.L.R. 577	296
Baldassare, R. v., 22 Cr. App. Rep. 70	116
Baldry, R. v., 2 Den. C.C. 430	29, 349, 444
Baldwin, R. v., [1944] 3 D.L.R. 762	30, 59, 200
Baldwin, R. v., 82 C.C.C. 15	260, 263
Baldwin, R. v., 18 Cr. App. Rep. 175	59, 181, 391
Baldwin, R. v., 23 Cr. App. Rep. 62	447
Ball, Reg. v., 17 C.R. 244	281
Ball, R. v., [1911] A.C. 47	33, 234
Ballard, R. v., 58 C.C.C. 215	93, 569
Ballentyne, R. v., [1945] 3 W.W.R. 73	100
Bandel, R. v., 47 C.C.C. 266	478
Bangle, R. v., 83 C.C.C. 128	265
Bank of N.S.W. v. Piper, [1897] A.C. 383	69, 204, 529, 532
Bank of Toronto v. Bennett, 57 O.L.R. 326	130
Banks, R. v., [1911] 2 K.B. 1095, 81 L.J.K.B. 120, 6 Cr. App. Rep. 276	52, 506

TABLE OF CASES.

Bannerman, R. v. (1878, 43 U.C.Q.B. 547	478
Bannister, R. v., 66 C.C.C. 38	115, 259
Bannister, R. v., 66 C.C.C. 357	155, 221
Banta Singh, R. v., 78 C.C.C. 266	491
Barbour, R. v., [1938] S.C.R. 465	1, 71, 375, 396
Barclay, R. v., 52 C.C.C. 134	458
Barek, R. v., [1947] O.W.N. 831, 1947 Can. Abr. 159	245
Barilla, R. v., [1944] 3 W.W.R. 305, 60 B.C.R. 11, 82 C.C.C. 228, [1944] 4 D.L.R. 344, 1944 Can. Abr. 241	74, 223
Barker, R. v., 28 Cr. App. Rep. 52	92, 452, 510
Barkers, Ex pte., [1944] 1 All E.R. 747	25
Barnes, R. v., 36 C.C.C. 40	57, 96
Barnes, R. v., 27 Cr. App. Rep. 154	44, 363, 382, 480
Barnes, R. v. (1942), 28 Cr. App. Rep. 141	588
Barnes, R. v., 1 C.R. 263, [1946] O.R. 175, 86 C.C.C. 156, 1946 Can. Abr. 137	143
Barnes, R. v., 36 C.C.C. 40	82
Barraclough, R. v., [1906] 1 K.B. 201	250
Barrilla, R. v., 82 C.C.C. 228	74, 223
Barron, R. v., [1914] 2 K.B. 570	93, 568, 569
Barrs, R. v., [1946] 1 W.W.R. 328, 1 C.R. 301, 86 C.C.C. 9, [1946] 2 D.L.R. 655, 1946 Can. Abr. 277	25, 258, 445
Barry, R. v., 46 C.C.C. 143	100
Barsalou, R. v., 4 C.C.C. 347	94, 231, 422
Bartlett, R. v., 10 C.R. 333	26, 135, 486
Bartley v. Gall, [1925] 2 W.W.R. 669	472
Barton, R. v., 63 O.L.R. 299	287
Baschuck, R. v., 56 C.C.C. 20	44, 122, 447
Baskerville, R. v., 12 Cr. App. Rep. 81	44, 106
Bass, R. v., 37 Cr. App. Rep. 51	563
Bassett, R. v., 10 P.R. (Ont.) 386	321
Bateman, R. v., 19 Cr. App. Rep. 8	244, 245
Bateman, R. v., 31 Cr. App. Rep. 106, 174 L.T. 336	142
Bates, R. v., [1911] 1 K.B. 964, 80 L.J.K.B. 507	173
Batson, R. v., 12 C.C.C. 62	130
Baugh, R. v., 28 C.C.C. 146	132, 147, 491
Baugh, R. v., 38 O.L.R. 559, 28 C.C.C. 146, 33 D.L.R. 191	89
Bawah Singh, R. v., 93 C.C.C. 196	67, 215
Baxter v. The Queen (1953), 15 C.R. 265, 106 C.C.C. 15	360
Bayn, R. v., [1933] 1 D.L.R. 497	567
Bazinet v. Bernard, 89 C.C.C. 201, 1947 Can. Abr. 164	181
Beal, R. v., 22 Sask. L.R. 293	478, 568
Beamon v. Ellis, 4 C. & P. 585	260
Beard v. Director of Public Prosecutions, [1920] A.C. 479, 89 L.J.K.B. 437, 14 Cr. App. Rep. 159	159
Beatty v. The King, [1944] S.C.R. 73, 81 C.C.C. 1, [1944] 1 D.L.R. 689, 1944 Can. Abr. 365	30, 77, 200
Beauchamp, R. v., 16 C.R. 270	157, 243
Beauchesne, R. v., [1933] 1 W.W.R. 216, 60 C.C.C. 25, [1933] 4 D.L.R. 138, 13 Can. Abr. 1463	133 229

TABLE OF CASES.

xi

Beaudet, R. v., 69 C.C.C. 389	86, 165, 515
Beaudooin v. The King, 5 C.R. 88	93, 125
Beaudry, R. v., 13 C.R. 420	143
Beck, R. v., 11 C.R. 351	244
Becker, R. v., 80 C.C.C. 385	532
Beckett, R. v., 8 Cr. App. Rep. 204	540
Beckett, R. v., [1931] 3 D.L.R. 660	169
Beddingfield, R. v., 14 Cox C.C. 341	578
Bedere, R. v. (1891), 21 O.R. 189	83
Bedoies, R. v. (1952), 15 C.R. 87	121, 441
Beechy, R. v., 25 Cox C.C. 217	127
Beland, R. v., 64 C.C.C. 354	302
Belanger, R. v., 93 C.C.C. 215	99
Belanger, R. v. (1902), 12 Que. K.B. 69	1
Belgo Pulp & Paper Co. v. Court of Sessions, 33 C.C.C. 110	242
Bell, R. v., 53 C.C.C. 80	109, 491
Bell, R. v., 53 C.C.C. 44	89
Bella Singh, R. v., 7 W.W.R. 603	455
Bellos, R. v., [1927] S.C.R. 258	81, 122
Belton, R. v., 4 C.R. 399	185
Belyea v. The King, [1932] S.C.R. 279, 57 C.C.C. 318, [1932] 2 D.L.R. 88, 13 Can. Abr. 1493	59
Belyk v. McSherry, 4 C.R. 293, 1947 Can. Abr. 186	289
Benesiewicz v. Dionne, [1945] 3 W.W.R. 297	341
Benjamin, R. v. (1917), 53 Que. S.C. 160	580
Bennett, R. v., 67 C.C.C. 307	218
Bennett, R. v. (1882), 1 O.R. 445	506
Benning, R. v., 4 C.R. 39	267
Benoit and others v. The Queen (1953), 17 C.R. 69	128, 460, 461
Benson, R. v., 50 C.C.C. 4	275
Benson and Stevenson, R. v. (1951), 13 C.R. 1, 100 C.C.C. 247	205
Bercov, R. v., 9 C.R. 50	303
Bercovitch & Sonberg, R. v., 1 C.R. 200	124, 334
Berdino, R. v., 42 C.C.C. 308	410, 478
Berelovitch, R. v. (1926), 58 N.S.R. 531	183
Bergeron, R. v., 56 C.C.C. 62	478
Bergman, Re, [1928] 1 W.W.R. 601	108
Bernadotte, R. v. (1869), 11 Cox C.C. 316	512
Bernard, R. v., 16 C.R. 341	199
Bernard, R. v., 1 Cr. App. Rep. 218	608
Bernard, R. v., [1946] Que. K.B. 322, 1946 Can. Abr. 127	179
Bernherd, R. v., 26 Cr. App. Rep. 137, [1938] 2 K.B. 264, 107 L.J.K.B. 449	54
Bertrand, Reg. v., 15 C.R. 155	223
Besler v. Matthews, 71 C.C.C. 183	203
Betchel, R. v., 19 C.C.C. 423	79, 328, 354, 386
Betteridge, R. v., 28 Cr. App. Rep. 171	232
Betts v. Stevens, [1910] 1 K.B. 1, 79 L.J.K.B. 17	521
Betts & Ridley, R. v., 22 Cr. App. Rep. 148	115, 415
Bias, R. v., 66 C.C.C. 157	218

Bigaouette, R. v., 46 C.C.C. 311	111, 315, 516
Billingsley, R. v., 20 M.P.R. 26, 4 C.R. 89, 87 C.C.C. 376, [1947] 4 D.L.R. 542, 1947 Can. Abr. 213	277
Binder, R. v. (1948), 6 C.R. 83	171, 281
Binet v. The Queen, 17 C.R. 361	195, 358, 370, 387
Binns, R. v., 75 C.C.C. 386	184
Binns, R. v., [1941] 1 W.W.R. 236	227
Bird, Reg. v., 15 C.R. 307	303
Birrell v. Dryer, 9 A.C. 345	110
Bishop, R. v., 11 C.C.C. 30	109, 438
Black, Reg. v., 16 C.R. 9	102, 219
Blackburn, R. v., 12 M.P.R. 126	223
Blackburn, R. v., 68 C.C.C. 307	218
Blackstock, R. v., 10 C.R. 175	267
Blackstock, R. v., 77 C.C.C. 201	208
Blain, R. v., 11 C.R. 195, 99 C.C.C. 152	221
Blain, Ex pte., 11 C.C.C. 193	204
Blais, R. v., 10 C.C.C. 354	351, 363, 384, 389
Blais, R. v., 1 C.R. 190	96, 111
Blake and Tye, R. v. (1844), 6 Q.B. 126	464
Blaquere v. Becker (1859), 8 U.C.C.P. 167	20
Blatherwick, R. v., 6 Cr. App Rep. 281	399, 477
Bleiler, R. v. (1912), 2 W.W.R. 5	97, 99
Bleiler, R. v., 19 C.C.C. 249	175
Bliss, R. v., 67 C.C.C. 1	83, 124, 395
Blondeau, R. v., [1944] 1 W.W.R. 196	147, 183
Bloomstrand, Reg. v., 15 C.R. 249	83, 129
Bloxham, R. v., 29 Cr. App. Rep. 37	312, 415
Bluske, R. v., 5 C.R. 33	372, 409
Blythe, R. v., 11 O.W.N. 406	330, 458
Blythe, R. v., 19 O.L.R. 386	159
Blythe, R. v., 15 C.C.C. 224	249
Board of Education v. Rice, [1911] A.C. 179	402
Board of Trade v. S.S. Glenpark, [1904] 1 K.B. 682	25
Boak, R. v., 44 C.C.C. 225	248
Bodnarchuk, R. v., 8 C.R. 294	223, 267
Bohozuk, R. v., 87 C.C.C. 125, 1947 Can. Abr. 215	104
Bohun, R. v., 60 C.C.C. 114	91, 100, 515
Boivin, R. v., 96 C.C.C. 234	106, 157
Bolton, R. v. (1841), 1 Q.B. 66, 4 P. & D. 679, 10 L.J.M.C. 49, 113 E.R. 1054	66
Bombardier, R. v., 11 C.C.C. 216	569
Bond, R. v., [1906] 2 K.B. 389	21, 33
Bond, R. v., 21 Cox C.C. 252	30, 574
Bonnyman, R. v., 28 Cr. App. Rep. 131	244, 287
Boomer, R. v., 13 C.C.C. 98	242
Boothby, R. v., 24 Cr. App. Rep. 112	32
Boston Belting Co. v. Gabel, 20 N.B.R. 347	193
Boswell, R. v. (1842), Car. & M. 584	444
Bottomley, R. v., 16 Cr. App Rep. 184	11, 27, 345, 418

TABLE OF CASES.

xiii

Bouchard, R. v., 12 C.R. 305	96, 385
Bouchard v. R., 4 C.R. 4, 1947 Can. Abr. 176	267
Boucher v. The King, 11 C.R. 85, [1951] S.C.R. 265, 99 C.C.C. 1, [1951] 2 D.L.R. 369	294
Boudreau v. The King, [1949] S.C.R. 262	107, 441
Boulianne, R. v., [1932] 1 D.L.R. 285	228
Boulianne, R. v., [1931] S.C.R. 621	133, 386
Boulter, R. v., 5 Cox C.C. 543	469
Boulton, R. v. (1871), 12 Cox C.C. 87	466
Bourgeois, R. v., 92 C.C.C. 229	67
Bourque, R. v., 4 C.R. 300, 20 M.P.R. 38, 88 C.C.C. 423, 1947 Can. Abr. 195	289, 365, 487
Boutillier, R. v., 50 C.C.C. 186	184
Bowan, R. v., 72 C.C.C. 61	285
Bower, R. v., 75 C.C.C. 323	243, 420
Bowman, R. v., 2 C.C.C. 89	184
Boycal & Ballan, R. v. (1920), 31 Que. K.B. 391	475
Boyd, R. v., 5 Que. Q.B. 1, 4 C.C.C. 219	399
Boyd, R. v., 105 C.C.C. 146	190
Boyer, R. v., 13 C.R. 184	199
Boyko, R. v., 83 C.C.C. 295	168, 594
Boyle, R. v., 83 C.C.C. 295	339
Boyle, R. v., [1914] 3 K.B. 339	34
Boynton, R. v., [1935] O.W.N. 11, 63 C.C.C. 95, [1935] 1 D.L.R. 687, 18 Can. Abr. 359	298, 573
Bradley v. McIntosh (1844), 5 O.R. 227	270
Bradshaw v. Baptist Foreign Missions (1896), 1 N.B. Eq. 346	352
Bramhill, R. v., 24 Cr. App. Rep. 79	332, 427
Brassard, R. v. (1911), 17 R.L.N.S. 491	579
Breckenridge, R. v. 10 O.L.R. 459, 10 C.C.C. 180, 2 Can. Abr. 76	174
Brennan, R. v., 27 O.R. 659	274, 554
Brent, R. v., [1942] 1 D.L.R. 304	229
Brent, R. v., [1942] 2 D.L.R. 144	229
Brent, R. v., 77 C.C.C. 54	134, 383
Bridgewater, R. v., [1905] 1 K.B. 131	29, 348
Briggs, R. v., 22 Cr. App. Rep. 68	365, 409
Briggs v. McBride (1878), 17 N.B.R. 663	377, 526
Bright, R. v., [1916] 2 K.B. 441, 85 L.J.K.B. 1638	167, 183, 231
Brindamoor, R. v., 11 C.C.C. 315	82
Brinkley, R. v., 12 C.C.C. 454	98
Brinklow, R. v., 16 C.R. 15	158
Brisac, R. v. (1803), 4 East 164	126
Bristol, R. v., 46 C.C.C. 156	107, 397
Britnell, R. v., 26 C.C.C. 136	423
Britnell, R. v., 20 C.C.C. 85	332
Broadhurst, R. v., 13 Cr. App. Rep. 125	425
Brochu, R. v., 10 C.R. 183	311
Brockenshire, R. v., 56 C.C.C. 340	61, 121, 205, 399
Brodie and Barrett, R. v., [1936] S.C.R. 188, 65 C.C.C. 289, [1936] 3 D.L.R. 81, 1936 Can. Abr. 335	7, 126, 256, 420, 463

Brooks, R. v., 18 M.P.R. 64, 81 C.C.C. 240, [1944] 2 D.L.R. 558, 1944 Can Abr. 198	97, 504
Brooks, R. v., 7 C.C.C. 216	184
Brooks, Re, 54 C.C.C. 334	168
Brooks, R. v., 48 C.C.C. 333	248
Brooks, R. v., [1927] S.C.R. 633	20, 169, 409
Brooks, R. v., 81 C.C.C. 240	29
Brooks, R. v., 11 C.C.C. 188	82, 348, 408
Brooks v. Mason, [1902] 2 K.B. 743	529
Brothan, R. v., [1944] 1 W.W.R. 255	287
Brothers (or Stevenson), Rex v., 103 C.C.C. 108	125
Brotman, R. v., 63 C.C.C. 177	218
Broughton, R. v., 100 C.C.C. 157	106, 161
Brown, R. v., 49 C.C.C. 37	359
Brown, R. v., 12 C.R. 388, 99 C.C.C. 305, 27 M.P.R. 315, 1951 Can. Abr. 178	106, 200
Brown, R. v., 13 C.R. 33, 101 C.C.C. 121, [1951] 2 W.W.R. (N.S.) 395	10, 157
Brown, R. v., 14 C.R. 58, 102 C.C.C. 276	323
Brown, R. v. (1888), 16 O.R. 41	147
Brown, R. v., 3 C.R. 412	265, 416
Brown, R. v., [1945] O.R. 869, 85 C.C.C. 91, [1946] 1 D.L.R. 741, 1945 Can. Abr. 209	48, 53, 466
Brown v. Dunn (1893), 6 H. of L. 67	363
Brown v. Foot, 66 L.T. (N.S.) 649	529
Brown v. Taylor, 2 N.B.R. 519	537
Browne, R. v., 29 Cr. App. Rep. 106, 126	52, 290
Browne and Angus, R. v., 11 C.R. 297, 99 C.C.C. 141, 1951 Can. Abr. 320	60, 190
Brownell v. Brownell, 42 S.C.R. 368	139, 545
Brownell v. Black, 31 N.B.R. 594	535
Bruck, R. v., 80 C.C.C. 53	8, 32, 77, 401
Brunet, R. v., 57 S.C.R. 83	23, 34
Brunet, R. v., 30 C.C.C. 16	34
Brunton, R. v., 80 C.C.C. 214	11, 15, 74
Brusch, R. v., 16 C.R. 316	186
Bryant, R. v., 31 Cr. App. Rep. 146	104, 373
Bryne, R. v. (1953), 16 C.R. 133	488
Buck, R. v., 57 C.C.C. 290	256
Buck, R. v., 74 C.C.C. 314	511
Buckingham, R. v., [1946] 1 W.W.R. 425	174
Buckle, R. v., [1946] 3 W.W.R. 810, 3 C.R. 243, 1946 Can. Abr. 146	11, 171
Buckle, R. v., 94 C.C.C. 84, 7 C.R. 485	178
Budnarski, R. v., 68 C.C.C. 171	218
Buell, R. v., 12 M.P.R. 441	78, 491
Bull, R. v., 12 Cox C.C. 31	491
Buller v. Windover, 55 C.C.C. 143	177, 569
Bullock, R. v., 8 C.C.C. 8	232
Bulmer, R. v. (1881), 5 L.N. 92	569
Bunberry v. Fuller, 156 E.R. 47	66

Bunday, R. v., 5 Cr. App. Rep. 270	63
Burbury v. Jackson, [1917] 1 K.B. 16	200
Burkett, R. v., 1 C.R. 339	93
Burns, R. v., 70 C.C.C. 401	382, 386, 481
Burns, R. v., [1951] 2 W.W.R. 141	87
Burns, R. v., 19 M.P.R. 178, 1946 Can. Abr. 138	143
Burr, R. v., 13 O.L.R. 485	478, 479
Burrows, R. v., 9 C.R. 441	163
Bush, R. v., 71 C.C.C. 269	328, 382, 518
Butler, R. v., 93 C.C.C. 74	67
Butterfield, R. v., 18 O.L.R. 34	536, 584
Butterwasser, R. v., [1947] 2 All E.R. 415, 63 T.L.R. 463	94, 109, 422
Byers, R. v., 77 C.C.C. 164	508
Byers, R. v., [1942] 1 W.W.R. 587	122, 316, 446
Byers & Oleschuck, R. v., [1943] 1 W.W.R. 587	352, 391
Byrne, R. v. (1953), 16 C.R. 133	104, 373
Byrnes, R. v. (1953), 17 C.R. 115	167

C.

Cachia, Reg. v., 17 C.R. 367	189
Cain, R. v., 25 Cr. App. Rep. 204	352
Caldwell v. Davys (1900), 7 B.C.R. 156	534
Calhoun, R. v., [1949] O.R. 180	120, 196, 470
Camelleri, R. v., [1922] 2 K.B. 222	435
Cameron, R. v., 50 B.C.R. 179, 64 C.C.C. 224, [1953] 4 D.L.R. 447, 10 Can. Abr. 1055	459
Cameron, R. v., 2 C.C.C. 173	7
Campbell, R. v. (1911), 27 T.L.R. 256	140
Campbell, R. v., [1919] 1 W.W.R. 1076	100, 515, 557
Campbell, R. v., 6 Cr. App. Rep. 131	205, 288
Campbell, R. v., (No. 1), [1946] 3 W.W.R. 569	35, 78
Campbell, R. v., 33 C.C.C. 364	352
Campbell v. Aird, [1941] 2 D.L.R. 807	82
Campbell v. Beamish, 8 U.C.Q.B. 526	534
Campbell v. Woods, [1926] 2 D.L.R. 805	197
Canada Import Co., R. v., 61 C.C.C. 114, 10 Can. Abr. 1121	461
Canadair Ltd. v. The King, 5 C.R. 67	11
C.N. Rly. Case, The, 30 W.L.R. 676	538
C.P. Rly., R. v. (1907), 8 W.L.R. 825	100, 173
C.P. Rly. v. Jackson, 52 S.C.R. 281	234
C.P. Rly. v. Parent, [1917] A.C. 195	80, 506
Canning, R. v., [1937] S.C.R. 421	385
Cansdale, R. v., 12 C.R. 245	123
Capella, R. v., 106 C.C.C. 222	333
Capson v. The Queen, 16 C.R. 1	101, 159
Cardinal, R. v. (1953), 10 W.W.R. (N.S.) 403	207
Carefoot, R. v., 4 C.R. 153	304
Carefoot, R. v. (No. 2), 5 C.R. 215	38, 101, 239, 365, 379
Carey, R. v., [1945] 3 W.W.R. 508	111, 153

Carey & Munroe, R. v., 2 C.R. 371, [1946] 3 W.W.R. 385, 1946 Can. Abr. 144	48
Carey, R. v., 13 C.R. 333, [1952] O.R. 1, 102 C.C.C. 25, 1952 Can. Abr. 216	205
Cargill, R. v., [1913] 2 K.B. 271, 82 L.J.K.B. 655	562
Carlin, R. v., 6 C.C.C. 365	212, 332, 425
Carmichael, R. v., 27 Cr. App. Rep. 183	537
Carmichael, R. v., 26 C.C.C. 443	282
Carr-Briant, R. v., [1943] 2 All E.R. 156	37, 394
Carriere, R. v. (1953), 16 C.R. 18	48
Carswell, R. v., 26 C.C.C. 288	121, 254, 399
Carter Patersons and Pickfords Carriers Ltd. v. Wessel, [1947] K.B. 849, [1947] 2 All E.R. 280	414
Carusetta, R. v., 77 C.C.C. 235	175
Carver, R. v., 29 C.C.C. 122	316
Carver, R. v., [1917] 2 W.W.R. 1170	568
Casey, R. v., 63 T.L.R. 487	206
Cashman, R. v., 13 C.R. 45	12
Cass, R. v. (1784) 1 Leach, 293n	444
Cassandra, R. v., [1929] 1 W.W.R. 866	429
Cassidy, R. v., 56 C.C.C. 101	94
Cassidy, R. v., 7 E.L.R. 216	438
Caswell v. Powell Duffryn Collieries, [1940] A.C. 152	112
Catellier v. The King' 6 C.R. 466	47, 55
Caufield, R. v., 48 C.C.C. 100	490
Cavanagh, R. v., 77 C.C.C. 79	219
Cerniuk, R. v., 5 C.R. 234	214, 240
Chadwick, R. v., 24 Cr. App. Rep. 138	44, 122, 447
Chamandy, R. v., [1934] O.R. 208, 61 C.C.C. 224, [1934] 2 D.L.R. 48, 13 Can. Abr. 1230	64
Chambers, R. v., 4 C.R. 117, [1947] O.R. 443, 89 C.C.C. 156, [1947] 3 D.L.R. 297, 1947 Can. Abr. 160	71, 131, 396, 499
Champagne v. The King, 10 C.R. 1	22, 112
Chandler v. Horné, 2 M. & R. 423	365
Chapdelaine, R. v., [1935] S.C.R. 53	83, 133, 163, 386
Charavanmuttu, R. v., 22 Cr. App. Rep. 1	202, 297, 400, 572
Charlesworth, R. v., 1 B. & S. 507	569
Charlesworth, R. v., 9 Cox C.C. 44	156
Charley King, R. v., 9 C.C.C. 426	59, 131
Charley Sam, R. v., 50 C.C.C. 364	344
Charlier, R. v., 12 Que. K.B. 385, 6 C.C.C. 486	156
Chartered Accountants Society, Re, 93 C.C.C. 345	403
Chase, R. v., 5 C.R. 488	141, 269
Chasson, R. v., 16 N.B.R. 546	24, 574
Childs, R. v., [1939] O.R. 9, 71 C.C.C. 70	199
Chimirri, Reg. v., [1954] 18 C.R. 2	480
Chiovitti, R. v., 9 C.R. 266	128, 240
Chisholm, R. v., 14 O.L.R. 178	225, 529
Chisholm v. Doulton (1889), 22 Q.B.D. 736	6, 204
Chitnita, R. v., 22 C.C.C. 344	184

Chitson, R. v., [1909] 2 K.B. 945, 74 L.J.K.B. 10	576
Chlopek, R. v. (1912), 19 W.L.R. 837	397
Chong Sam Bow, R. v., [1925] 1 W.W.R. 240	156, 350
Chow, R. v., 53 C.C.C. 247	515
Chow Ben, R. v., [1926] 1 W.W.R. 384, 36 B.C.R. 319, 45 C.C.C. 152, 13 Can. Abr. 836	163
Christakos, R. v., 85 C.C.C. 48	130
Christensen, R. v., [1923] 1 W.W.R. 1307	436
Christie, R. v., [1914] A.C. 545	83, 398, 404
Chupiuk, R. v., 8 C.R. 398	207
Cindler, R. v., 98 C.C.C. 303	186
Clark, R. v., 5 C.R. 46	147, 185
Clark, R. v., 35 C.C.C. 261	37, 61
Clark, R. v., 13 C.R. 190	264, 385
Clark, R. v., 101 C.C.C. 166	402
Clark, R. v., 9 C.C.C. 125	2, 568
Clark v. McCrohan, [1948] O.W.N. 172	137
Clark v. Stevenson (1865), 24 U.C.Q.B. 200	25
Clarkson, R. v. (1910), 40 N.B.R. 363	92
Clay, R. v., 13 C.R. 97	167
Clay, R. v., 1 C.R. 327, 1946 Can. Abr. 288	45, 96, 357, 385
Clayton-Wright v. The King, 33 Cr. App. Rep. 22	136
Cleal, R. v., [1942] 1 All E.R. 203, 28 Cr. App. Rep. 95	427, 474
Clifton, R. v., 6 C.R. 9	291
Cloutier v. The King, 73 C.C.C. 1	20, 44, 79, 111, 382, 402, 406
Clowser v. Samuel (1873), 15 N.B.R. 58	296
Cockburn, R. v., 7 Cox C.C. 265	491
Cockcroft, R. v. (1870), 11 Cox C.C. 410	54
Codd & Bentley, R. v., 82 C.C.C. 97	96, 594
Coggins, R. v., 12 Cox C.C. 517	282
Cohen, R. v., [1951] 1 K.B. 505, 34 Cr. App. Rep. 239	558
Cohen, Re (1904), 8 O.L.R. 143	399, 571
Cohen, R. v., [1938] 3 All E.R. 380	422
Cohen & Bateman, R. v., 2 Cr. App. Rep. 197	248
Cole, R. v., 28 Cr. App. Rep. 43	90, 405
Coleman, R. v., 2 C.C.C. 523	516
Coles & Knowles, R. v., 60 O.L.R. 638	534, 536
Collins, R. v., 71 C.C.C. 282	302
Collins, R. v., [1943] 1 W.W.R. 408	176
Collins, R. v., 34 Cr. App. Rep. 146	178
Collison, R. v., [1941] 1 W.W.R. 362	243
Collison v. Kokatt (1915), 8 W.W.R. 561	100
Collyns, R. v. 4 C.C.C. 572	576
Colpits, R. v., 73 C.C.C. 353	227
Colpus, R. v., [1917] 1 K.B. 574	582
Colvin & Gladu, R. v., [1943] 1 D.L.R. 20	265
Comba, R. v., 70 C.C.C. 205	22, 110
Combine Commissioner, Re, 10 C.R. 382	403
Comeau, R. v., 19 C.C.C. 350	479
Comis v. The Queen, 15 C.R. 120	167