

There should be no difficulty, having regard to the resources of government, in having copies of the regulations available at the notified place or places at the time of notification in the gazette or at any subsequent date on which they are to become operative.

I regard the availability of the terms of the law to the citizen of paramount importance. No inconvenience in government administration can, in my opinion, be allowed to displace adherence to the principle that a citizen should not be bound by a law the terms of which he has no means of knowing. Thus, in my opinion, if it is proved that copies of the regulations were not available for purchase at the place specified, the regulations would not have commenced to operate”.

[For the full opinion, see *Watson & Anor. v. Lee & Anor.*, October 23, 1979. Citation not available at the time of this writing.]

PRIVACY LAW IN AUSTRALIA

In conjunction with its inquiry into the law of defamation, the Law Reform Commission of Australia has also examined infringements of privacy by what it terms “Unfair Publication”, e.g., appropriation of a person’s name, identity or likeness for the sole advantage of the publisher. The Commission has touched upon a novel concept of law in which it has attempted to balance the competing interests of individual honor, reputation and dignity with the public rights of freedom of expression and access to information.

Findings of the Commission appear in its report No. 11 entitled “*Unfair Publication: Defamation and Privacy*”. The report is about 290 pages long. Published by the Australian Government Publishing Service, it is priced at A\$6.85. Its catalog number is 7874713.

PERIODICALS SURVEY

The Winter 1980 issue of the *Computer/Law Journal* (Vol. II, No. 1) is entirely devoted to a survey of electronic fund transfers in banking and other financial operations. Centering on the recent United States Electronic Fund Transfer Act, the collection of articles nevertheless reaches out beyond mere interpretative considerations of this statute. Several articles describe clearly, and yet in great detail, how electronic fund transfers operate, what are the advantages of electronic giro payments (which, without the aid of electronics, have been widely used in many European countries for a long time), and what are some of the practical implications of changing from a conventional check (cheque) payment