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Book Notes

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BOOK NOTES

HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF EVIDENCE. John James McKelvey.  

This new edition of the author's work on Evidence gives an 
opportunity for some changes in treatment of certain subjects 
with the purpose of bringing them into a more proper setting. 
Many new citations have found their place in the revision which 
can be justified as illustrations of the principles which seem 
to the author to lie at the foundation of an intelligent under-
standing of this very important subject. Notice is taken of the 
modern tendency toward a less technical and more popular 
handling of questions which come before the courts for determin-
ation, and the results of departing from old rules whose origin, 
buried in the past, are many times unintelligible to the student. 
As a handy book for quick reference, this book is recommended 
to students.

CASES AND MATERIALS ON THE LAW OF ADMINISTRATION OF 
DEBTORS' ESTATES. Wesley A. Sturges. St. Paul, Minnesota: 

In this book, an attempt is made to present a general outline 
of the typical methods of liquidation of estates in bankruptcy 
proceedings, to present these methods separately or in combina-
tion as may seem advisable in each case, and to consider the 
use of receiverships to supplement or displace bankruptcy pro-
ceedings over other methods of liquidation. Problems concern-
ing the collection of assets, proof of claims, priorities, payment 
and discharge, are arranged for comparative study. While these 
cases are primarily concerned with liquidation of debtors' estates, 
no attempt is made to cover the legal field of reorganization. In 
this particular, the author states that it is his purpose that the 
book shall articulate with Douglass' and Shanks' "Cases on Cor-
porate Reorganization."
No attempt has been made to develop the subject of liquidation of banks, insurance companies, building and loan companies, or brokerage houses, and for a like reason, special problems in the administration of decedents' estates are omitted.

This work is well done and will fill a large gap in the supply of case material.


In the second and concluding volume of his collection of cases on procedural law, Dean Clark has placed special emphasis, in the first part of the book, upon the various forms of specific relief, such as injunctions and bills for specific performance, bills of peace, interpleader, and the action for a declaratory judgment. This is followed by cases dealing with the parties to a suit, joinder of actions and of parties, objections to and correction of pleadings, and summary procedure. The cases seem to be fairly representative. One distinguishing feature is the lessening of the amount of footnote material with a substitution by summary statements and citations in the text, which has its advantage in appearing more prominent to the student.

The editor is not unaware of the fact that this collection of cases is not exactly adapted to the conventional law-school courses on pleading and procedure; it purports to cover common-law, code, and equity pleadings as well as such matters as trial practice. But Dean Clark believes that with only a slight modification of the average curriculum the case book can be adapted to it. In those states where the distinction between law and equity has been abolished, and consequently where common law and equity pleading are taught as a unit, this volume and the preceding one, published in 1930, will furnish a very complete study.

BOOKS RECEIVED