BOOK NOTES


A revolution is precipitated by Jacobs in the organization and approach to the subject of Domestic Relations. One of the first things one will note on opening this book is the departure from conventional organization and titular headings. The three principal divisions illustrate this by their headings—Family Organization, Relations Among the Members of an Organized Family, and Family Disorganization. Text material has been quoted extensively by way of historical introduction and factual foundation.

The treatment of this work shows a great deal of thought and labor spent, not only in the organization but also in the selection of materials. Few of the cases included are dated back of this century and many bear date within the last decade. For example in the first three hundred and fifty pages the division is approximately as follows: Cases dated in the 17th century, 1; cases dated in the 18th century, 3; cases dated in the 19th century, 39; cases dated in the 20th century, 105; and of the latter, 72 bear date between 1917 and 1932. (This list includes abbreviated cases and memoranda of decisions, of which there are a number.)

The law of domestic relations has always lagged behind the development of the customs and social institutions upon which it is based. By quoting from text materials, Jacobs paints the picture of modern family organization, and then by cases presents the law in operation thereon. In every sense this is a modern case book for modern needs.


Of recent years it has been recognized that common law pleading in this country is doomed. More and more, codes are
disposing of antiquated procedure. Colleges have not seen fit, under the circumstances, to make special pleaders of students who would be unable to apply the learning thus acquired. Besides, courses in code pleading are given in many law schools, and common law pleading has lost its value, largely, as a procedural course. It is now of value principally as a background course. From the rearrangement called for there has resulted a course which has acquired the name of Civil Procedure.

It is for this course that this book is intended. Instead of being for advanced students it is intended for first year students. Its three parts on the forms of action, pleading, and trial practice are designed to assist the beginning student with a workable understanding of procedural topics and thereby to help him in his other courses.

The volume is not, and is not intended to be, compendious. Only the high spots are touched. For example, under "The Declaration" and "Negative Pleas in Bar" are given illustrations only in trespass and assumpsit. But the selection of materials is good, and the volume appears quite practical for such a course as that described.

BOOKS RECEIVED