BOOK NOTES

THE RIGHTS OF EMPLOYERS IN THE INVENTIONS OF EMPLOYEES.


This booklet, intended particularly for laymen, outlines in terse statements the law as it has been developed through a series of decisions of the United States Supreme and inferior courts. The writer is a member of the Chicago Bar, and has for twenty-five years specialized in the law of patents.

In the introduction, Mr. Murray points out first, that patents, and inventions when patented, are property exactly as real estate, wheat, or stocks and bonds are property; and second, that there can be no relation between employer and employee in the matter of inventions, except such as arise out of a contract, either express or implied.

The writer particularly emphasizes the necessity that a contract between employer and employee relating to inventions be absolutely fair and procured without a suspicion of duress. He discusses fully the unfair contracts made regarding such subject. In general, he points out, there should be no mystery or difficulty about this particular branch of jurisprudence, inasmuch as it is in every case determined by the simple principles of contract law.

The pamphlet clarifies the perplexing problems that arise between employer and employee as to the ownership of inventions, and is readily understandable by the layman.