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Book Notes

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BOOK NOTES

TRIAL BRIEFS—"ACCIDENTS." (Second Edition.) Joseph Howard Hinshaw. Chicago, Illinois: State Law Printing Co., 1939. Pp. 1353.

The second edition of this very helpful volume is justified by the inclusion of some four hundred more pages of material, exclusive of the index. Moreover, the author has been able to bring the citations down to date and to keep step with the legislature in the inclusion of new statutory material.

The volume should be characterized before further discussion, particularly so since the author refers to it as "Trial Briefs." It is rather a digest of Illinois decisions appropriately and alphabetically arranged for convenience, and the headings are those which the practicing attorney more or less habitually uses without the necessity of searching the mind for the proper caption. The topic arrangement might be described as organized according to "common sense" and entirely practical. The emphasis is upon fact rather than theory. Its compilation grew out of the personal notes of the author after wide and considerable experience as a trial attorney. Inasmuch as the book confines itself to Illinois citations, it is limited in appeal, and further limited in that the decisions affect accidents only, or, as the author states, "closely related topics." Nevertheless, it is a most useful manual for the field it purports to cover and, being limited in topic, derives the advantage of brevity. Lawyers interested in personal injury litigation, property damage, insurance, and workmen's compensation will find ready references to the cases, while lawyers trying cases in many other fields will find a valuable compendium of trial problems answered by citations to such headings as Evidence, Instructions, Witnesses, Jury, and general Practice Topics. Special attention to these subjects by no means exhausts the usefulness of the volume in many other fields, but as a ready reference and starting point for a search of the law in the special field it has no equal for Illinois trial attorneys.

