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Book Reviews

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BOOK REVIEWS

CIVILIAN DEFENSE MANUAL ON LEGAL ASPECTS OF CIVILIAN PROTECTION.

Prepared by the American Bar Association for the United States Office of Civilian Defense. Washington, D. C.: United States Government Printing Office, 1943. Pp. ix, 242 (Paper).

No lawyer connected with the tremendous effort put forth since 1940 in the interest of civilian defense can have escaped the query as to just what legal rights and liabilities, if any, attach to those who have volunteered their services in that effort. Thanks to the services of the Special Civilian Defense Committee of the American Bar Association and those who collaborated in this work, there is now made available a comprehensive yet compact manual covering the legal basis for the civilian defense organization, its relation to the military authority, the general problems of liability, and the various executive orders, proclamations, regulations and the like which underlie the whole structure. Also provided, is an analysis of the pertinent English cases of recent date dealing with varied aspects of defense activities. It adequately supplies the need.

HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF REAL PROPERTY. William E. Burby. St. Paul, Minnesota: West Publishing Company, 1943. Pp. xxvi, 658.

This book was designed with the idea of "streamlining" the law of real property. In that respect the author was quite successful, for, acting on the basis that the subjects of real estate mortgages and trusts are generally covered by the student in other courses, he has omitted those two topics. While he has included so much of the history of the subject as is necessary to give a sufficient background, he has kept his point of view in the direction of newer problems and their solution as found in recent decisions. To avoid leading the student away from the general rule, he has kept reference to contrary or qualifying decisions to a minimum. He has also avoided footnoting a redundancy of supporting opinions, choosing instead to refer to law review articles which cover the specific subject. Perusal of the latter would, possibly, overcome the reviewer's objection to what sometimes appears to be the handling of certain of the topics far too briefly, but in the main the author has achieved his objective. A commendable feature is to be found in the grouping of the texts of various old English laws dealing with real property in an appendix for convenient reference. Knowledge of the subject without some familiarity with such statutes is an impossibility. The student should, then, find that this work will provide both instructive and pleasant collateral reading on the subject.

G. H. KLOEK