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Book Review: Cases on Criminal Law, By William E. Mikell

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sive casebook on procedure for first year students there should be some material on what is popularly called "equity jurisdiction."

The following is a very personal suggestion: If this reviewer had three or even two hours a week all during the first year for a course on procedure he would use his time in this way: First he would lecture on the common law actions. When he had finished with that, finished, that is, in giving a more or less understandable outline, he would spend a part of each week for the rest of the year on common law pleading and the other part of the week on the fundamentals of procedure. No doubt Professor McBaine does with the materials in this book and in his own classes what this reviewer would like to accomplish if he should give such a course. The point is that anyone who has experimented with first year courses in procedure will have his own ideas as to the content of the course. It is not to be expected that another man's materials will altogether please him.

VERNON X. MILLER.*

Cases on Criminal Law, By William E. Mikell, Professor of Law, University of Pennsylvania. 1933. One Volume. West Publishing Company, St. Paul, Minn.

Rearrangement of the material presented in former editions of this work is the outstanding feature of this new criminal law casebook. Professor Mikell advances some excellent and logical reasons for this departure from the conventional form of the usual criminal law casebook. The idea that a student will get a more orderly arrangement of the subject by studying the elements that make up the particular crime before attacking the possible defenses seems a logical approach.

Another good feature is the elimination of a consideration of negligence under the general subject of "mens rea." The transfer of this topic to that part of the book dealing with the only two crimes in which it is involved, namely, manslaughter and assault, will prevent the student from getting an unconnected idea of negligence in criminal law.

Most of the major crimes are covered by separate chapters but a separate treatment of the presently important crime of kidnapping seems to be missing.

No attempt is made to cover lightly the field of criminal procedure which is so ineffectively treated by some casebooks supposedly written to cover both the substantive law of crime and criminal procedure. And this omission is proper. In most schools too little stress is put on criminal procedure as a separate field from that of criminal substantive law. A separate work should cover this field.

Generally surveyed, this new book is up to the usual fine standard of all the prior editions of the criminal law books written by Professor Mikell.

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