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Cases on Trial Practice

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Cases on Trial Practice. American Case Book Series. By James Patterson Mc Baine. West Publishing Company, 1927. I Volume pp. xvi, 1044.

This addition to the American Casebook series is composed of material that the author hopes will "if learned by the student, familiarize him with the major factors in trial practice which should be part of the equipment of every young lawyer who takes part in the trial of a civil action." The hope of the author is a laudable one, there is no question but what the young law student about to go out into practice knows his torts and contracts—and it is equally certain that the greater percentage are woefully weak in the application of these principles to cases in litigation before the courts. The need for suitable instruction in this field is a great one.

The cases are taken from the various jurisdictions and have been chosen both for their historical and practical value. The major steps in the trial of a lawsuit are presented in chronological order, the first chapter treating of venue and jurisdiction, and the last, rendition, entry, and sufficiency, of judgments. The annotations are complete and show conflicting decisions and variations of the rule.

While the learned author has completed successfully a stupendous task, still one wonders after a thorough perusal of the book whether the cases from states having various codes, from many jurisdictions having conflicting practices, do not serve to confuse and befuddle the law student rather than help him. However it is probable that classroom discussion in the use of this book will iron out these difficulties and help develop the analytical instinct of the student and fulfill the purposes of the author.

R.K.W.

Lawyers' Reading List of New Books

Law in History and Other Essays, by E. P. Cheyney. Alfred Knopf. New York.

Notable British Trials, the Trial of Madeline Smith, by F. Tennyson Jesse. The John Day Company, New York.

Crime in High Life, by Horace Wyndham. Dodd, Mead and Company, New York.

Law and Morals, by Roscoe Pound. University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

United States Immigration, Exclusion and Deportation, by Sidney Kansas. Washington Publishing Company, Washington, D.C.

Up from the City Streets: Al Smith, by Hapgood and Moskowitz. Harcourt, Brace and Company, New York.

The Borderlands of Economics, by Radhakamal Mukerjee. Menton, Balch and Company, New York.

The Nervous Mechanism of Plants, by Sir Jagadis Chunder Bose. Longmans, Green and Company, London and New York.

India's Past, by A. A. MacDonell. Clarendon Press, Oxford.

Chinese Art, by Roger Fry, et al. B. T. Balford, Ltd., London.

The Sacred Tree, by Lady Murasaki. Houghton Mifflin Company, New York.