

Book Review: Cases on Business Law: American Casebook Series Size, By Ralph Stanley Bauer and Essel Ray Dillavon

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subjects the gospel narrative of the trial to legal tests and demonstrates its entire trustworthiness. Chapter IV. is a very excellent outline of the then existing Jewish jurisprudence and sets forth the various courts in existence, their relationship to each other and to the nation as a whole, their jurisdiction, personnel and the rules of evidence in vogue. This chapter concludes with a list of the names of some of the seventy who sat in judgment on Jesus including such New Testament characters as Gamaliel and Joseph of Aramathea, both of whom naturally dissented. After a short chapter dealing with the arrest of Jesus, the author in Chapter VI deals with the trial before the Sanhedrin and shows that all the evidence introduced was unable to meet the rigid tests imposed by the Jewish law and that the conviction finally was had on Jesus' frank statement that he was indeed the son of God, a statement which to his judges was identical with a plea of guilty. In Chapter VII the author deals with the Roman dominion over Palestine and the compromise which had been arrived at where the Jewish and the Roman law conflicted. Chapter VIII is concerned with the trial before Pilate and takes up step by step the various questions asked of Jesus, the answers given by Him as related in the four gospels, and shows the legal significance of each. This chapter is perhaps the most valuable in the book. In the next two chapters the author deals with the apochryphal acts of Pilate and the arguments pro and con concerning the legality of the trial. The book concludes with a chapter in which the author sums up his own conclusions.

The writer of this review has but a very superficial acquaintanceship with some of the other works dealing with this trial. A bibliography contained on pages 331 to 333 contains besides general works on the life of Jesus a reference to four distinct books dealing specifically with the trial—those of Chandler, Innes, Richards-Aigar, and Rosadi. A comparison of these works with that now under review would be interesting but time and other considerations make this impossible. The writer, however, has read by far the greater portion of Mr. Bisek's book and is of the confident opinion that his effort is a real and lasting contribution to the literature on this subject.

CARL ZOLLMANN

Cases on Business Law. American Casebook Series Size. By RALPH STANLEY BAUER and ESSEL RAY DILLAVON. St. Paul: West Publishing Co., 1925. pp. 1040.

This is a collection of cases on the subjects of bailments and carriers, liens, conditional sales, mortgages, suretyship, interests in real and personal property, conveyancing, insurance, banks and banking, bankruptcy, crimes (frequently confronting the business man) and contracts, combinations, and practices in restraint of trade, and intended for use as a basis for an advanced course for students in the commerce course. There are presented here some of the illustrative and a few of the leading cases found in casebooks on these subjects which are in use in law schools, and in addition some few very recent cases. The cases are well edited. The matter not material to the subject head under which the case is placed has been cut, thus showing a great deal of careful work and a desire to reduce the size of the volume.

The writer has always believed that law can only be adequately taught in a law school after sufficient preliminary preparation, and that the subjects upon which these cases bear can only be understood by a student possessing a thorough grounding in the elementary legal subjects such as torts and contracts. How-

ever, if the purpose of a course of this kind in a school of commerce is to "give many students a fair understanding of a few of the many legal pitfalls to be found in various dealings . . . that they may better understand the need of submitting difficulties to lawyers," this book should be well received, for it contains plenty of situations that would give any business man pause. As cases are more difficult than a text for a person untrained in legal thought to understand, this method of presentation to students in commercial department should be eminently successful in this respect. What is said here is not in disparagement of the book but in protest against the system whereby it is sought to give many a smattering of law without the legal insight necessary to guide their affairs.

WILLIS E. LANG