

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

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contrary they are present in every action no matter what the subject or right involved may be, and the solution of the two questions involved in each case is as diversified as the rights which may be the basis of recovery or the excuses which may be the legal reason for denying recovery in any particular case.

WILLIS E. LANG

Cases on Criminal Law. BY WILLIAM E. MIKELL. West Publishing Co. St. Paul. 1925. pp. 800.

A new member of the American Casebook Series, this book is really the outgrowth, development, and revision of two former casebooks of the same author. The reviewer is immediately impressed with the orderly and systematic arrangement of the subject matter, a point which reflects very highly in the book's favor, both from the standpoint of the professor and the student. To the professor, it suggests a logical and effective order of procedure in the conduct of his course; while for the student, it lends itself admirably to a system of outlining and cataloging, by means of which system, many of the less retentive memories are assisted in preserving the gist of the great mass of matter covered in the cases. With its notes, and the exhaustive index and table of contents, the work very nearly approximates what might be termed a text book of cases, and thus, while retaining its inherent character as casebook, performs a double function.

Good as the work is, however, the reviewer is forced to question the book's adaptability to use in all schools. The very changeability and arbitrary nature of the field of criminal law makes one doubt the relative values of a course using this book, and one using a standard text augmented by a wealth of local cases, and the local statutes.

Suffice to say that, in schools where the former system is found to be the most desirable, the work could be profitably used, as it is unquestionably an excellent selection of cases, which are collectively presented in a most pleasing form.

B. C.