Book Reviews: Cases on Air Law, by Carl Zollmann

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BOOK REVIEWS


Volume 1 contains 1,027 pages in addition to the preface, table of contents, table of statutes and table of cases. The binding is blue fabrikoid and the type, including the fine print of the footnotes, is excellent.

The author has departed from the conventional purely casebook presentation in favor of a liberal interpolation of text materials and leading law review articles. The cases are extremely well edited so that the usual redundant chaff is eliminated making available the greatest amount of useful material in the minimum space. This overcomes the criticism of the older type of casebook in which the student was vaguely suspicious that he was required to struggle through many unnecessary pages to discover the desired kernel of legal learning. In line with this time saving there has been given sufficient of the facts and the results in the cases in the footnotes to be useful without a reference to the originals.

The plan underlying this volume and the one to follow has as its aim the unification of the courses usually given under the titles of Wills, Trusts, and Future Interests, and the consequent cutting down of the time necessary for their presentation as well as a better understanding by the student of their content. There is no doubt no clear cleavage between these courses at certain points and this selection of cases furnishes a convenient basis for an experiment upon presenting them together. There of course must exist a divergence of opinion upon the advisability of omission of material upon certain subjects usually considered in the traditional subjects herein combined, but it seems that the cases defining a trust and distinguishing it from certain other legal concepts are almost indispensable.

From the standpoint of the choice of a professor to present these courses in this new form, some difficulty may be encountered due to the fact that no less than four hours per week throughout the year would be adequate, and some schedule inconvenience may arise but these are matters that can be met in the individual schools if the innovation is found by experience to be sufficiently valuable to warrant the necessary adjustments.

W. E. LANG*

Cases on Air Law. By Carl Zollmann, Professor of Law, Marquette University. Published by West Publishing Co., St. Paul, Minn. (1932). (612 pages.)

Professor Carl Zollmann, one of America's pioneer authors on aviation law and an authority on aeronautical legislation, has made another worthwhile contribution to the somewhat barren field of air law. His most recent book, Cases on Air Law, second edition, published in 1932, by West Publishing Company, covers, and comprehensively so, both aviation and radio. It fills a need that can only be supplied by one who, like Professor Zollmann, has had experience in

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law book writing and in the enactment of legislation affecting these two embryonic but nevertheless important industries.

Aviation's advancement and the equally rapid progress of radio have resulted in the presentation to our courts of many strange, intricate, and confusing legal problems. To the courts will the world look for an early interpretation of the rights, duties, and liabilities of persons and corporations operating in these fields of endeavor. While it is true that much of the haze confronting aviation and radio activity, from a legal standpoint, has been cleared away through the agency of legislative enactment by our congress and the several state legislatures, there still remain questions that must be determined, and can be answered only by court decision. Cases on Air Law will aid courts materially in arriving at their conclusions, for it has collected under one cover all of the leading cases on aviation and radio law. They are reported in a pleasant, interesting and concise manner. The author has been successful in giving to the bench, the bar, and the law student, through the medium of his book, a comprehensive and accurate understanding of the principles of law to be applied to aviation and radio.

Cases on Air Law is divided into two parts, one of which is devoted to aviation and the other to radio. In addition, it contains for reference purposes, the Air Commerce Act of 1926, Uniform State Law of Aeronautics, and the Radio Act of 1927. Elaborate footnotes are to be found with each case reported, and the reader is greatly aided in his search for the principles of law by a digest of other cases touching on the same or similar propositions. Approximately half of the volume is dedicated to aviation, the balance being concerned with radio. Some of the subjects covered are, Statutory Construction, Interstate Commerce, Torts, Contracts, Licenses, and Public Utilities.

The case of Swetland v. Curtiss Airports Corporation, which, in the realm of aeronautical law, defined the rights of an owner of a commercial airport as against those of one living nearby is included in a chapter called Air Space Rights.

Without question Cases on Air Law will be found exceptionally enlightening and useful by those engaged in a practice of law, bringing them in contact with legal problems affecting aviation and radio. It should also be of unusual benefit and interest to everyone anxious to keep pace, legally speaking, with these two fascinating and rapidly moving industries.

Harry G. Slater.*


Professor Gault is particularly well fitted to write such a work as this. His distinguished work as Editor of The Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology has marked him as an authority and the social point of view taken by The Journal demonstrates his interest in the delinquent as an individual. As Professor of Psychology at Northwestern, Dr. Gault has been close to the development in Scientific crime detection and some of these methods are treated.

The book introduces the criminal as an individual. This is, of course, the standard view today and has been such with increasing influence ever since

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