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BOOK REVIEWS


This book is volume I of a series to be compiled by and published for the Graduate School of Business Administration, George F. Baker Foundation, Harvard University. The aim of the editors seems to be that of selecting and presenting a large number of business experiences from which general principles of business administration may be formulated. The hope is that eventually the Schools of Business Administration may be able to approach business problems in much the same manner as Law Schools now study the Common Law.

Harvard has developed a rather elaborate and effective system for conducting business research. This series of publications serves as a method of presenting the results of these investigations to the business world, and to the colleges of business administration where they may be used for instructional purposes. This volume contains 149 cases selected from approximately 3,500. Subsequent volumes are to present cases which exemplify points not covered in volume I and are to give supplementary illustrations of points treated in the present book.

In so far as business men may profit by the experiences of others and to the extent that the Graduate School succeeds in selecting information that presents fundamental principles, rather than mere episodes in the every day activities of some particular business, the plan will prove beneficial. At any rate, the venture holds great possibilities. Future volumes will no doubt show improvements such as a selection of cases which omit the commonplace and irrelevant and report the essential and fundamental. The present volume would probably be of more value to the student if it presented fewer cases and had more editorial comment and explanation. The student and many business men are not well enough informed to adequately judge the advisability of the solutions finally arrived at by some of the companies.

J. F. Pyle


We have just received a very handsome volume of over eighteen hundred pages bearing the above title. It is from the pen of Edward W. Spencer of Milwaukee, former Associate Dean of Marquette Law School, and constitutes a statement of the business or commercial law of this country in all its most essential features and details, and was written primarily to meet the needs of bankers, business men and students of affairs. The book is thoroughly up to date, and is written with special reference to the uniform codes or statutes so generally adopted of late years and now covering many of the most important business and commercial subjects, and shows the law as confirmed or modified by them. This is notably true of the Uniform Negotiable Instruments Law, now in force in all our jurisdictions except Georgia and Porto Rico, and the uniform acts as to sales, warehousing, stock transfers, bills of lading and partnership. All of these acts have been adopted in Wisconsin.