American Law of Charities

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BOOK REVIEWS


The author, Carl Zollmann, of the Marquette University School of Law faculty is especially fitted to write on this subject as he is also the author of American Civil Church Law, a work of 462 pages published in 1917 by Columbia University of New York to which book the present work is a companion volume. He has contributed numerous articles along similar lines to the Marquette Law Review, Columbia, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin and American Law Reviews and to the Yale Law Journal and some of his articles have been discussed by the American Bar Association Journal. He practiced law for a number of years in Merrill, Wis., before he went, in 1915, to the Chicago Law Institute where he spent most of the following five years in producing these two works.

The book, American Law of Charities, consists of nineteen chapters covering 559 standard size pages. The first three chapters are in a large part historical and lay the foundation for an understanding of the subject. The five following chapters deal with the definition of the term "Charity," and with the four classes of charitable trusts. Chapters 9-11 deal with the definiteness necessary in charitable trusts and with the discretion that may be reposed in their trustees. Chapters 12-13 take up the mortmain and perpetuity rules as they apply to charitable trusts. In chapters 14-16 the author discusses the construction, supervision, and termination of such trusts. The last two chapters are given over to a discussion of the exemption from taxation and damage liability which is accorded to charitable institutions.

The style of the author is concise but clear. His statements of the law are amply fortified by citations of authority which are to the point. The author has been very careful in his analysis of the authorities as is best evidenced by his careful statement of the principles of law governing this subject.

The publishers have spared neither expense, time nor effort to make every portion of the book immediately available. Every device known to law book making has been utilized to this end. An analysis of the chapters printed at the beginning of the book lightens the labor of finding a desired point. The paragraphs contain the usual paragraph headings in black type, the cases cited are supplied with duplicate and triplicate citations wherever this is possible, and the year in which each case was decided is noted. The table of cases shows that in addition to some leading English cases about 2,400 American cases have been cited, many of them in six to eight different places. The index is large covering many pages in double column and is not confined to law merely but also specifically to facts. Thus an attorney interested in a Y. M. C. A. will quickly find through the index a table of cases and a large collection of Y. M. C. A. cases. An appendix of many pages contains many practical forms of and suggestions for the drafting of charitable devices and bequests and adds materially to the value of the book.

MAX SCHÖETZ, JR.


Wisconsin has very few local texts on the local law and practice in Wisconsin. The number of law books on Wisconsin law for use of Wisconsin lawyers and judges, when compared with the number of law books in other states, is exceedingly small. However, for over forty years one of the most useful law books in Wisconsin has been Bryant's Wisconsin Justice. It has always been a handy manual covering the substantive civil