Books Noted

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BOOKS NOTED

Admiralty Law of the Supreme Court. By Herbert R. Baer. Charlottesville, Virginia: The Michie Co. 1968. Pp. xiv, 653. $25.00. Herbert R. Baer has written a concise, current, and detailed summation of admiralty law in the United States. Not only will this work serve the practitioner as a good refresher, but it will also serve as an excellent source of present-day changes in the law. The book's subject matter covers a broad range of topics from the rights of ill or injured seamen, to actions for wrongful death, to salvage. The unique aspect of this exhaustive study is that the author not only provides the reader with the general law in the field, but also relates actual controversies, and the Court's subsequent use of applicable admiralty law. This text is must reading for every practitioner and student having an interest in admiralty law.

Briefing and Arguing Federal Appeals. By Frederick Bernays Wiener. Washington, D.C.: Bureau of National Affairs, Inc. 1968. Pp. xvi, 527. $13.25. Originally published in 1950, this text has become the bible of every attorney who argues before a court of law as well as every law student who aspires to do so. The 1968 edition is conveniently divided into several sections, each covering a particular facet of appellate practice. For example, the first section develops the basic ideas of appellate procedure, including all factors that condition the appeal. The following portions discuss such topics as briefing the appeal, arguing the appeal, and there is even a section on "picking up the pieces" after defeat at the appellate level. The author, although concentrating within the federal framework, also provides useful comments on the state appellate process. In short, Mr. Wiener's book is an excellent and incisive analysis of the problems and frustrations inherent in appealing or defending a lower court's decision.

Real Estate Law. By Robert Kratouil. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice Hall, Inc. 1969. Pp. viii, 391. $14.00. Aiming at every person who could conceivably have contact with real estate transactions, the author in Real Estate Law has attempted to fully inform everyone, from the practitioner, to the builder, to the escrow agent, to the zoning administrator, of his rights and liabilities in the area of real estate transactions. Mr. Kratouil is successful in his endeavor. Not only is the black letter law explicitly presented, but useful examples are provided to clear up any remaining questions a reader may have. The text goes beyond a concentration on the legalities involved in the transfer by including discussions of such timely topics as whether a landlord has a right to evict a tenant who has married a Negro, the procedure to be followed in creating a planned unit development, the problems inherent in the cooperative and condominium projects, and FHA loan insurance. The author has presented a capable and in-depth analysis of real estate problems, and his findings are well worth reading.
AMERICAN CONFLICTS LAW. By Robert A. Leflar. New York: The Bobbs-Merrill Co. 1968. Pp. ixvi, 677. $19.50. This work is a revision of The Law of Conflicts of Laws by the same author published in 1959. It represents an attempt to bring the judicial process into the open by identifying the considerations which motivate courts in choosing the law of one jurisdiction over another. The traditional mechanical tests of conflicts are presented and criticized in light of the new flexible formulas employed by a growing number of courts when confronted with a choice of law problem. Because of its extensive references to both primary and secondary sources, this treatise provides a valuable research tool as well as a critical analysis of the developments in American conflicts law during the last decade.

TAX PROBLEMS OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS Edited by George D. Webster. New York, New York: The Journal of Taxation, Inc. 1968. Pp. vi, 265. This text is compiled from papers presented at the Fourth Annual American University Conference on Federal Tax Problems of Nonprofit Organizations, held in Washington, D.C. in February of 1968. These papers were expanded and updated by the authors. Interestingly, one paper was lost for only 13 papers are printed in the text. The first article covers current developments and the following 12 articles are concerned with a variety of legal problems relating to nonprofit corporations. The topics range from the general, How can we legislate tax reform for our charities? by Harry K. Mansfield, to the specific, The non-profit landlord: problems with business leases, by John S. Pennell. One article deals with accounting but the remainder focus on legal problems common to those representing nonprofit corporations. The articles are in general well written and can be usefully read by anyone concerned with the tax problems of nonprofit voluntary organizations.