

'97.—Benjamin I. Spock has removed his law office from 153 Church Street, to the Law Chambers, 179 Church Street, New Haven.

'98.—Samuel Peterson has been advanced from Instructor to Assistant Professor of Political and Social Science in the University of North Dakota.

'99.—Clarence A. Alexander has been appointed Private Secretary to Alfred G. Vanderbilt of New York.

'99.—In the recent New Haven City election, Samuel Hoyt was elected a Selectman on the Republican ticket.

'99.—George W. Skinner, Jr., has taken a half interest in the John S. Worthington Co., iron and steel merchants, 1528 Wayne street, Denver, Col.

BOOK REVIEWS.

American Bar Association. Transactions of the Twenty-Fourth Annual Meeting. Dando Printing and Publishing Co., Philadelphia.

Besides the minutes of the meeting and a list of the officers and members, there is an appendix, which contains a most able address by the President of the Bar Association, Edmund Wetmore, Esq. In this address he touches upon some of the most important legal questions of the day and discusses the more noteworthy changes in statutory law. Following this is an address by Charles E. Littlefield, Esq., on the "Insular Cases." He discusses his subject in a scholarly and comprehensive manner. In addition to these are addresses by prominent lawyers from different parts of the country. The reports of the several committees are also included.

O. A. D.

American Electrical Cases. Ed. by William W. Morrill. Vol. VII. 1897-1901. Albany: Matthew Bender, 1902. pp. 940.

The value of any book must be measured in some degree, at least, by the importance and the interest of the subject with which it deals. The cases here collected deal with an agent of essentially modern times. It was only some fifty years ago that the electro-magnetic telegraph was put in successful operation, while the age of the telephone, the electric light and the electric railroad is scarcely half that. And yet in this comparatively short time, these and other practical uses of electricity have become a subject of the greatest possible importance and interest not only to the world of business and of commerce but to the legal profession as well. Especially is this true of the United States. The capital invested to-day in the United States in telegraphy is over \$250,000,000, in telephony \$300,000,000, in electric lighting \$1,200,000,000, in electric railroads \$1,800,000,000, the grand total of all such investments reaching the enormous sum of \$3,975,000,000. As compared to Europe in 1900, the total electrical capacity available for all purposes in the United States was 2,000,000 kilowatts, while that of the former was 550,000. The significance of these figures is more apparent when it is remembered that our population is only about 70,000,000 while that of Europe is 350,000,000. Such figures as these are a fair indication of the tremendous importance of the subject here dealt with. And great as these industries have

become, the development of various electrical enterprises is but in its infancy. From 1891 to 1900 the electric railroads increased from 2,000 to 18,000 miles, which is only symbolic of what may be fairly expected in the future of electrical development in general.

Along with the development of this new agent, a great deal of litigation has necessarily arisen, the legal questions in many cases being novel and intricate. This volume brings the compilation of those cases down to date. Including as it does all the important decisions on these various subjects in the United States, it is a valuable book for convenient reference, especially as the index is complete and accurate. In this seventh volume are to be found the latest decisions on such live questions as the municipal control of street user by electrical companies, including the power to exact compensation for such user, while the non-commercial but very practical use of electricity in electrocution is also treated in one of the cases. G. H. B.

Annotated Negotiable Instruments Law. Second edition. By John J. Crawford. Sixth volume, 149 pp. Buckram. Baker, Voorhis & Co., New York.

At the time the first edition appeared, but four states had incorporated the Negotiable Instruments Act in their laws. Since then it has been accepted by twelve more states and the District of Columbia. While following the original draft in the main, the various acts, as passed, differ in some minor points which are noted in this edition, in a manner which will be of much assistance in distinguishing the applicability of the decisions of one state, to questions rising in another. The change effected in the earlier law of the states is pointed out. To the excellent selection of cases appearing in the first edition, the few cases which have arisen under the act are added. The numerous valuable features of this work make it a desirable volume wherever the act has been adopted. L. P. F.

Attachments, Garnishments, and Executions. By John R. Rood. Geo. Wahr, Ann Arbor, Mich. Cloth, 549 pp.

As the author explains in the preface, the present work is not intended to be exhaustive, but is sufficiently complete to give the careful student a good general knowledge of the subject.

The book is divided into two parts, the text, and a collection of cases bearing on the subject. This is the same arrangement as in the well known work on Insurance by Mr. Richards.

Owing to the nature of the book, the author has abstained from giving too many citations, except on important points. But in all cases reference is made to some more exhaustive work where a full exposition may be had. The various sub-divisions are in large type, a feature which is of great advantage to the practicing lawyer.

The index is more than usually complete and on the whole the book is a decided acquisition to the literature on this subject. O. A. D.

Bailments and Carriers. By Philip T. Van Zile, LL.D. Callaghan & Company, Chicago, 1902. pp. 785.

Probably no legal subject has been more affected by the great increase in the volume of business of recent years than that of bailments. The devel-

opment of the law on this subject by the application of legal principles to the novel questions which are being constantly presented to the courts is very interestingly discussed in this work.

The liability of common carriers receives its due share of attention. From an insurer at common law the extraordinary liability of carriers has been modified, until now decisions are to be found upholding contracts, made upon a valuable consideration, which excuse carriers from liability even when the damage is caused by their own negligence.

As to whether carriers of passengers may limit their liability for damages resulting from their own negligence, there are three distinct classes of cases. The first class holds that such contracts are not to be permitted, while the second maintains the exact opposite. The third class holds that carriers may so limit their liability, provided the negligence does not amount to gross negligence. Admitting there is much difficulty in deciding, nevertheless, the author thinks the weight of authority to be that carriers of passengers can not limit their liability, by special contract or otherwise, when the damage results from their own negligence.

The book is divided into seven parts. The subject of Part I is Ordinary Bailments. Part II is devoted to Pledge or Pawn. The pledging of negotiable, non-negotiable and quasi-negotiable paper is here discussed at length. Part III has to do with Innkeepers and Boardinghouse keepers, and contains a very careful examination of the liability of these persons. Part IV is a short section on the liability of the Post Office Department. Parts V and VI apply to Carriers. A very valuable chapter on actions against carriers concludes the book—a discussion of pleadings, evidence and damages.

The volume is very valuable for its comprehensive definitions. Recognizing the practical nature of the subject, the author deals with it in a direct and practical manner, so that the work promises to be,—as the writer hopes it will be,—“instrumental in aiding the student of law in his researches.” The book contains a table of cases cited, and concludes with a complete index.

J. A. T.

Bishop's Directions and Forms. Practical Directions and Forms for the grand jury room, trial court and court of appeal in criminal causes, with full citations of precedents from the reports and other books. By Joel Prentiss Bishop, LL.D., Honorary *Doctor Juris Utriusque* of the University of Berne. Second Edition by Winslow Evans, Ph.D., of the Peoria, Illinois, Bar. Chicago: T. H. Flood & Co. 1901. 1 vol. pp. 675.

The first edition of this work was published in 1885. It completes the author's criminal law series, a task which took him thirty-two years to accomplish, and contains full and ample “directions” for the various steps in every sort of criminal cause, within the range of the reported cases. Its breadth of scope and logical arrangement has made it almost indispensable to the practicing lawyer. In revising the work the editor has not changed the text or forms, and has removed the only ground of criticism of the original edition by adding forms of bills of exceptions.

M. H. N.

Law of Guaranty Insurance. By Thomas Gold Frost, Ph.D. Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1902. 547 pages.

For several years past the constantly increasing importance of guaranty insurance has impressed upon lawyers generally the need of a text-book

on the subject. Owing, however, to its very recent development, and hence the absence of fundamental rules and principles, together with the obvious difficulties in the way of writing any "pioneer treatise," the profession has up to the present time been deprived of such a work. Mr. Frost, aided by his long association with this important branch of the law, has surmounted these difficulties in a commendable manner, and has presented a work of undoubted excellence and practical worth. The plan of the book, as explained by the author in the preface, has been to present, not what he thinks the law on the subject ought to be, but what it really is as established by approved cases and decisions. The contract, together with the parties thereto, is first taken up and fully explained and discussed. After a short consideration of its attachment, duration, and scope, the author proceeds to a very complete and comprehensive survey of the discharge of the liability. Then follows a concise presentation of the mutual rights and obligations existing between the insurer and the "risk." The volume closes with a number of valuable suggestions relative to practice and pleading, and an appendix containing brief extracts from the latest decisions bearing on the general subject.

E. T. C.

Slavonic Law, Lectures On. By Feoder Sigel. Henry Frowde, London, 1902. 1 vol. 152 pp.

Of the two forms of law, customary and statute, which predominate in the legal history of the Slavonic countries. We would likely consider, for example, the codified form of Russian law from the *ueozhenie* to the *Code of Laws of the Russian Empire* and the early and continued prevalence of local codes in Poland and Bohemia and say it was statute, not customary. Yet in Russia to-day where the whole law is codified three-quarters of the population live according to traditional custom and usages handed down through the centuries. Russia is rich in legal literature on customary law. Slavonic law, in this respect, more nearly resembles English and American than continental law. Roman law, so indelibly impressed on the constitutional law in Europe, left but a slight imprint on the legal rules of the Slavs. The Slavonic States never acknowledged the power of the Roman Catholic Church, nor did the far-reaching influence of feudalism affect their development in any substantial sense, therefore it is not strange that their legal, as well as their political development, has been of an independent character.

These lectures, which now appear in book form, were given in 1900 at the University of Oxford under the auspices of the Ilchester Trust. The book may be characterized as thoroughly scholarly and the lectures appear at no disadvantage when compared with those of Kovalesky and Vinogradoff. The bibliography is complete and of great value. An index might have improved the usefulness of the book.

G. R. J.

University of Pennsylvania—Proceedings at the Dedication of the New Building of the Department of Law. Compiled by George Erasmus Nitzsche, at the request of the Faculty. The International Printing Co., Philadelphia.

This edition is limited to five hundred and fifty copies, and the price of each book is three dollars. The workmanship is of the highest order and the volume contains numerous speeches. Prof. James B. Ames, Dean of the

Harvard Law School, spoke on "The Vocation of the Law Professor." He traced the development of the methods of teaching law, from the Inns of Court down to the present time, and suggested that we have in substance adopted the continental method of instruction. Another notable address was by His Excellency Wu Ting Fang, who took as his subject, "The Proper Relations of the United States to the Orient." Mr. Justice Harlan, and other noted men spoke, including representatives from the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The book contains a letter written by Lord Mansfield, in acknowledgement of the receipt of the first volume of Dallas' reports. In one respect this work differs from most books of its kind, and that is that it will be found to be interesting reading from cover to cover. O. A. D.

Void Judicial Sales. By the Hon. A. C. Freeman, author of treatises on Executions, Judgments, etc., and editor of the American Decisions. Fourth edition. Leather. One volume. 341 pages with index. St. Louis: Central Law Journal Company, 1902.

No author of any treatise or work on Sales of Personal Property or Real Property has ever thought it expedient to elaborate to any extent the extremely important and constantly recurring topic of Void Judicial Sales. What is a judicial sale, and when is such a sale void, are matters which every lawyer often is obliged to ascertain. No better aid for such purpose can be found than in the book in question. According to the author, a judicial sale is a sale ordered by the court, conducted by an officer appointed by, or subject to, the control of the court, and requiring the approval of the court before it can be said to be final. Waiving the decision of what sales are judicial, the author assumes, for the purposes of this treatise, that judicial sales embrace three classes: (1) Those made in chancery; (2) Those made by executors, administrators, etc., when acting by virtue of judicial authority; and (3) all those cases where property is sold under an order of court authorizing such sale. Void sales are divided into two classes: (1) Those void because the court had no authority to order the sale; and (2) Those void because of some subsequent vice or defect, though based on a valid judicial decree of sale. The legal and equitable rights of purchasers at void sales are ably handled, as well as the subject of the constitutionality of curative statutes. The book is well known to the profession as the fact that it is on its fourth edition clearly demonstrates. In its new edition, amplified by recent decisions and complete appendix and index, it should continue to be, as it has been, a valuable aid to bench and bar. E. W.

