

likely to be a slower infiltration of the rules by the occasional adoption of a provision here and there. In addition, there is likely to be a gradual acceptance of the philosophy of these rules by state courts which can be adopted under existing provisions. This slower but more permanent modification of state procedures will more effectively take place when courts and attorneys can get a picture of the operation of the rules as they are first being received by the Federal Courts. This book by Mr. Holtzoff is a valuable contribution to the ever-increasing record of judicial experience under this new system.

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THE STRANGEST CASES ON RECORD. *John Allison Duncan.*
Chicago: Reilly & Lee, 1940. Pp. 272. \$3.00.

More truly descriptive of the contents of this book is its subtitle, "A Rare Collection of Legal Oddities." Mr. Duncan deals with many oddities found both in and out of court records. For example, we learn with amazement that in the State of Illinois it has been illegal since 1923 to speak English. The official language of that state is American.

The stated purpose of the author has been to entertain the reader. Many of the incidents to which he refers certainly accomplish that result. But he has done more. His compact two hundred and seventy-two page book contains items that are purely informative, many of which cast interesting sidelights on famous historical personalities.

From Roman Law, Canon Law and Common Law, the author derives his illustrations, based upon original and secondary sources ranging from the Code of Hammurabi to the issues of Case and Comment. It was very gratifying to find a notation showing the source of each of the "queeriosities" set forth. This little book is profuse with drawings sketched by the versatile Cleveland lawyer-author illustrating numerous incidents mentioned.

On the entertaining side we find the poetic petition filed in the Cleveland Municipal Court for damages for the loss of a privy; the *nunc pro tunc* marriage license authorizing John and Poly to "do as old folks does anywhere inside Coopers precinct—and when my commission comes, I am to marry 'em good—and date 'em back to kiver accidents"; and the name of a New York law firm *Ketchum and Cheatham* who, in order to avoid undesirable publicity, changed the name to *I. Ketchum and U. Cheatham*.

This book is not the kind to be read at one sitting. Being by very nature a compilation of widely divergent fact-patterns, consecutive reading may become a bit tiresome. One can dip into it to fill the spare moments that unfortunately have become so prevalent in the lives of practicing lawyers.

The careful preparation and research which the author has obviously applied, expressed in popular style, has resulted in a compilation which will grace the book shelves of laymen and lawyers alike.

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BOOKS RECEIVED

- A JUDGE COMES OF AGE. By John C. Knox. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. \$3.00.
- *BOTTLENECKS OF INDUSTRY. By Thurman Arnold. New York: Reynals, Hitchcock & Company. \$2.50.
- COAL INDUSTRY, THE. By Glen Lawhon Parker. Washington: American Council on Public Affairs. \$2.50.
- FEDERAL COURT RULES, ANNOTATED. By William H. Mason. St. Paul: Mason Publishing Co. \$5.00.
- GIFT TAXATION IN THE UNITED STATES. By C. Lowell Harris. Washington: American Council on Public Affairs. \$2.50.
- INTERNATIONAL LAW AND AMERICAN TREATMENT OF ALIEN ENEMY PROPERTY. By James A. Gathings. Washington: American Council on Public Affairs. \$2.50.
- JURISPRUDENCE. By Edgar Bodenheimer. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company. \$3.50.
- LAW AS LOGIC AND EXPERIENCE. By Max Radin. New Haven: Yale University Press. \$2.00.
- LAW OF THE ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF COOPERATIVES, THE. By Israel Packel. Albany: Mathew Bender & Co. \$5.00.
- LEGAL EFFECTS OF MILITARY SERVICE. By Ganson J. Baldwin. Published by the author. \$1.00.
- ORGANIZATION OF COURTS. By Roscoe Pound. Boston: Little, Brown & Company. \$5.00.
- REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S COMMITTEE ON BANKRUPTCY ADMINISTRATION. U.S. Government Printing Office.
- THIRD COPYRIGHT LAW SYMPOSIUM. New York: American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. On request.

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* Reviewed in this issue.