

esting material from the neglected field of court organization history. This is illustrated by the following subjects of the eight chapters:

The English Model.

Colonial Courts in the Seventeenth Century.

Colonial Courts in the Eighteenth Century.

Federal and State Courts in the Formative Era.

Development of Judicial Organization in the Newer States after the Civil War.

Progress in Judicial Organization from the Civil War to 1900.

Defects of the Nineteenth Century Organization and Changes in the Present Century.

Principles and Outline of a Modern Organization.

As evidence of the obvious opportunity and need for the elimination of unnecessary confusion in our judicial structure, it is pointed out that there is great diversity in even the names of our tribunals. There are states in which the Supreme Court is not the highest. In some the Court of Appeals is the highest; in many the Court of Appeals is an intermediate one; in some states there are circuits composed of districts; in others there are districts composed of circuits; in some states the Court of Common Pleas is the court of general jurisdiction of first instance; and in others it is an inferior court. It is shown that this is not a surface phenomenon. In an interesting manner the author compares the various court systems and shows the elements of strength and weakness in each.

In concluding this necessarily brief review attention is called especially to Dean Pound's final chapter in which he recommends a general plan of court organization. His conclusions should be interesting to lawyer and layman alike, in view of the universal desire for a simplified judicial structure and procedure that will best serve to expedite and improve the quality of our judicial process.

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FEDERAL COURT RULES, ANNOTATED. *William H. Mason.*  
*Mason Publishing Co., St. Paul, Minn. 1940.*

A new volume of Mason's United States Code Annotated has recently been offered the bench and bar. This volume is unique in the completeness of its coverage of the rules of Federal Courts.

The new Rules of Civil Procedure of the Federal District Courts are, of course, of prime interest. The Legislature of Ohio, as well as many others, has considered the adaptation of these Rules to the civil procedure of the State. The liberal rules of joinder, both as to persons and causes, the simplification of pleading, and the use of medical examinations have sometimes irritated, sometimes overjoyed and always interested the lawyers.

Each rule is annotated by the observations of the Advisory Committee that drew up these rules, and is further annotated by references to the now considerable number of cases arising under each rule. The annotations to decisions are split up into subdivisions for easier reference. The index is detailed and a substantial bibliography of articles interpreting the rules is included.

The old Equity Rules with annotations pertaining to the construction of the new rules make up another section.

In addition, this volume contains the rules of the Supreme Court of the United States, all of the various Circuit Court of Appeals, the Admiralty and Maritime rules, both general and those of New York, the rules and forms for appeal in criminal matters, a great number of annotations to the rules of various District Courts, and rules of the Court of Claims, the Court of Customs and Patent Appeals and the Customs Court. There are also the Copyright rules, and Declaratory Judgment Act. In short, the volume contains practically all of the Federal procedure that might be used by the ordinary practitioner whose Federal Court practice does not justify the purchase of a complete Federal code. The only major item missing is the law and the forms for the removal and remanding of cases. In line with the general policy of the Mason Company, the volume is prepared for the insertion of pocket parts, which are annually issued as the cumulation of quarterly pamphlets.

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LAW OFFICE MANAGEMENT. *Dwight G. McCarty. Prentice Hall, Inc., New York, 1940.*

It is seldom that one comes upon a book which he feels should be in the library of every lawyer and on the desk of every law student. However, such a book is that of Mr. McCarty on *Law Office Management*.

The writer feels a keen regret that he did not have the benefit of this book when he entered the practice, and his contacts with lawyers