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Book Review

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Book Review

DIVORCE IN PENNSYLVANIA

By George J. Edwards, Jr., New York, Clark Boardman Company, Ltd., 1930, pp. 237, xviii.

The author states in his preface that the preparation of this book was induced by the enactment of "The Divorce Law", which became effective September 1, 1929, and codified and revised the laws of Pennsylvania relating to divorce and the annulment of certain marriages. (See Act of May 2, 1929, P. L. 1237). Whatever may have induced Mr. Edwards to write the book, he may be assured that his labors have produced an admirable and valuable publication, which should find its way to the shelves or desk of every attorney in the Commonwealth.

The author first gives a brief, but highly interesting, history of the development of divorce in Pennsylvania, which will certainly be instructive to most of his readers. Then he proceeds to state the law of divorce and to outline the procedure and practice in divorce and annulment proceedings in a clear, simple, concise and yet wholly adequate manner. Every phase of the divorce procedure is touched upon; e. g., such unexpected topics as "Preparation for Trial by Jury", "Motion for Nonsuit", "Motion for New Trial and Judgment N. O. V."

The book is not a digest but a highly useful text-book and rare indeed would be the problem in divorce practice which its pages do not cover. Of course the author in such a work cannot, and has not, treated exhaustively the substantive law of divorce although even this is done satisfactorily enough to meet the needs of most practitioners.

The value and usefulness of the book are materially enhanced by the citation in foot notes of supporting decisions and statutes and no effort has been spared to make this feature of the book complete. The book has a most satisfactory index and table of contents, as well as tables of statutes and cases cited. There is also a table of statutes repealed by the Divorce Law of 1929.

In an appendix is given the full text of the Divorce Law of 1929 and much of the value of the book lies in the fact that it has been written since this Act was passed, and the changes effected thereby are carefully noted.

This thoroughly satisfactory book should be rewarded by a large circulation among students and members of the bar.

Fred S. Reese