
Volume 55
Issue 2 *Dickinson Law Review - Volume 55,*
1950-1951

1-1-1951

Book Reviews

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Recommended Citation

Book Reviews, 55 DICK. L. REV. 185 (1951).

Available at: <https://ideas.dickinsonlaw.psu.edu/dlra/vol55/iss2/13>

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BOOK REVIEWS

SUPREME COURT PRACTICE. Robert L. Stern and Eugene Gressman, The Bureau of National Affairs, Inc., 1231 24th St., NW, Washington, D. C., 1950. 553 pages. \$7.50.

The object of *Supreme Court Practice*, declare the authors, is "to tell lawyers what they will need to know in order to handle a case in the United States Supreme Court." The book is not, as the authors admit, "a treatise which exhausts all the cases on Supreme Court jurisdiction and procedure"; it is, rather, an attempt to provide a guide for lawyers who wish to practice before the Supreme Court and are interested in finding out how to go about it.

The book is written from a very practical viewpoint. It takes the lawyer by the hand, so to speak, and guides him through the proceedings before the supreme tribunal, pointing out along the way not only the legal technicalities with which he will have to deal but also such intensely practical matters as where to go to secure briefs and records (Room 106, Clerk's Office, Supreme Court Building) and how to address members of the Court ("Mr. Chief Justice", "Mr. Justice", or "Your Honor"—never "Judge").

After a brief description of the composition of the Court and the physical plant in which it functions, *Supreme Court Practice* discusses the jurisdiction of the Court in chapters on "Jurisdiction to Review Decisions of Federal Courts" and "Jurisdiction to Review Decisions of State Courts". Chapter IV describes "How the Certiorari Jurisdiction is Exercised"; this is followed by "Procedure in Connection with Petitions for Certiorari" and "Procedure on Appeals". Less common operations of the Court are discussed in chapters on "Certified Questions", "Original Cases", and "Extraordinary Writs". There follow chapters on "The Briefs" and "Oral Argument", the latter of which is especially interesting and might be read with profit by those appearing before other appellate courts. And the picture is rounded out with chapters on "Petitions for Rehearing", "Motions", "Loss of Jurisdiction by Mootness or Abatement", and "Application for Admission to the Bar". Eighty-six pages are devoted to the most commonly needed "Forms". The rules and statutes governing Supreme Court procedure are given in full, the Supreme Court Rules accompanied by their own index. There is also a comprehensive general index and a table of cases.

This reviewer lacks the experience in practice which would be needed to pass upon the extent to which the authors have fallen short, if at all, of providing "a sufficiently detailed statement . . . to keep most lawyers out of trouble", but he is sure that if he were called upon to venture into the Supreme Court, he would feel far more confident of his ability to find his way armed with *Supreme Court Practice* than he would without it.

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PRENTICE-HALL LABOR COURSE. Published by Prentice-Hall, Inc., N. Y. (1951).

The new 1951 edition of the Prentice-Hall Labor Course is substantially the same, both in format and material, as the previous editions of the *Labor Course* published by Prentice-Hall, except, of course, to the extent that the current work has been brought up to date to include the Labor-Management Relations Act, 1947 (Taft-Hartley Act), and the changes wrought in the Fair Labor Standards Act (Wage & Hour Act) by the Congressional amendments of 1949.

This work has a comparatively complete index and table of cases. It contains a glossary of labor terms which, while helpful to the novice, might have been made more complete for the less novice, yet not wholly-conversant, reader. The statutes which form the basis for the text, the Railway Labor Act, the National Labor Relations Act, the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947, the Federal Anti-Injunction Act (Norris-LaGuardia Act), the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, the relevant portions of the Clayton Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, together with the "Portal-To-Portal" amendments of 1947 and the 1949 amendments of the Fair Labor Standards Act are rendered collectively in a separate portion of the book. A short but unusual and worth-while section is devoted to "Research Organizations and Publications". This section should prove of inestimable value to the serious student of labor relations who seeks to pursue the study beyond the necessarily limited scope of the *Labor Course*.

This work is primarily an editorial production of Prentice-Hall, the publishers, although, reportedly, this work was produced under the guidance and technical editorship of a well-known professor of labor law whose qualifications and competence are beyond question.

The book, in its scope, is comprehensive; but, alas, therein resides its principal weakness. Although the text of the work is well written and capably presented, it unquestionably endeavors to encompass too much territory and too many subjects within too few pages, with the improvident result that no subject receives adequate treatment. For example, the whole of the complex National Labor Relations Act and the even more ramified Labor Management Relations Act, 1947, including not only the substantive aspects of those statutes but the procedural, enforcement and appellate phases of those laws, is rendered within the brief space of 175 pages. Needless to say, the treatment of such broad and intricate subjects within so sparse a space must, of necessity, leave large gaps and inadequacies. Similarly, anyone having even a perfunctory acquaintance with the subject must surely agree that the complexities of the Federal Anti-Injunction Act cannot be treated within the suffocating confines of 23 pages. The same objection, unfortunately, must be made to the remainder of the book's seven principal and broadly diversified headings or "tabs". In consequence of the unavoidably superficial presentation which derives less from the expertness

of the writers than from the space limitations imposed upon them in the effort to present the whole gamut of labor relations within a too-thin volume, the *Labor Course* has improvidently been reduced to a "primer" instead of the adequate product which the facilities and experienced staff of Prentice-Hall gives one the right to expect.

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