
Volume 53
Issue 2 *Dickinson Law Review - Volume 53,*
1948-1949

1-1-1949

Book Review

Follow this and additional works at: <https://ideas.dickinsonlaw.psu.edu/dlra>

Recommended Citation

Book Review, 53 DICK. L. REV. 158 (1949).

Available at: <https://ideas.dickinsonlaw.psu.edu/dlra/vol53/iss2/11>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Law Reviews at Dickinson Law IDEAS. It has been accepted for inclusion in Dickinson Law Review by an authorized editor of Dickinson Law IDEAS. For more information, please contact lja10@psu.edu.

BOOK REVIEW

EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Pittsburgh, Carnegie Press, 1948

An "Inter Professions Conference on Education for Professional Responsibility" was held at Buck Hill Falls, Pennsylvania, in April 1948, for the interchange of experience and ideas by teachers in schools of divinity, medicine, law, engineering and business.

The proceedings of the Conference were thought by the conferees to be so stimulating in indicating the problems of professional education and such a contribution to the means of solving these problems that it was resolved to publish, as a unit, the papers which constituted the formal part of the Conference. This book is, directly, the result of this resolution and indirectly the result of the conference. Whether or not the Conference was productive of any other results does not appear.

The teachers of each of the professions were so few in number as to be a mere sampling and the law teachers in attendance were so unique in their characteristics that they were by no means representative of law school teachers as a class.

The Conference had three sessions which dealt respectively with the objectives of professional education, the content and methods of professional instruction, and humanistic and social education as preparation for professional responsibility and citizenship, and the book is divided into three corresponding parts.

The objects of the conference seemed to be to redefine the objectives of professional education, to discover the extent to which the "case" and similar methods of education should be supplemented or replaced, and to ascertain what part professional education should play in preparing for the manifold and ever increasing responsibilities of citizenship.

The book contains four papers read at the Conference by law teachers. *What the Law School Can Contribute to the Making of Lawyers*, by Lon L. Fuller; *The Current Crises in Legal Education*, by Karl N. Llewellyn; *Opening Remarks*, by Arthur T. Vanderbilt; and *Human Nature and Training for Law Practice*, by Wilbur G. Kutz.

The reviewer confesses that he essayed the reading of each of these papers with some misgivings. As to Mr. Vanderbilt's remarks, this apprehension was due to the reviewer's recollection of Mr. Vanderbilt's book, *The Study of Law*, which he prepared primarily for those beginning or about to begin the study of law. As to Mr. Llewellyn's paper the misgivings were due to the first sentence of the paper which

read, "It is not easy to talk about the current situation in legal education without being misunderstood". (Mr. Llewellyn was right.) As to Mr. Fuller's paper the misgivings were due to the fact that he seemed to state that one of the objects of true education in law consists in exposing the students to "great minds". As to Mr. Kutz's paper the misgivings were due to the presence of words and phrases like "humanistic problems", "the process of value judgment", "dogmatic relativist", and "moral relativism".

But the reviewer read and enjoyed reading all of them, although he continues to believe that there is nothing mysterious about the study or teaching of law and that law teachers should not be, or pretend to be, or believe themselves to be "Medicine Men".

Walter H. Hitchler*

*B. L., University of Virginia Law School, 1905; D. C. L., Dickinson College, 1932; LL.D., Saint Francis College, 1932; LL. D., Muhlenberg College, 1939; LL. D., Albright College, 1943; Professor, Dickinson School of Law, 1906 —; Dean, Dickinson School of Law, 1930 —; Chairman, Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, 1939-1940; Editor, Statutory Law of Pennsylvania, 1919-1922; Chairman, Alien Enemy Hearing Board, U. S. Department of Justice, 1941 —; Member American and Pennsylvania Bar Association; Author, HITCHLER ON CRIMES.