

1959

## Book Review

Jack F. Smith

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strong public appeal for community support, looking towards the adoption of a proper system for making counsel available for indigent defendants. Three means by which this purpose may be accomplished are clearly and fairly analyzed and the experience of many communities in attempting to provide competent counsel is set out in a clear and understandable fashion. Past experience is fairly documented. The means set out are (1) "assignment of counsel by the court", (2) "voluntary defender" and (3) "public defender" systems. The conclusions as to usability and effectiveness of these systems are a most valuable contribution to legal literature.

Communities should understand the need for a competent defender system for indigent defendants in criminal cases. This is an important part of the procedure in criminal cases, without which justice may not be afforded to all alike.

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*Reviewed by Jack F. Smith\**

COURTROOM KNOW-HOW, by Joe H. Cerny. Published by W. H. Anderson Company; Cincinnati, Ohio; 312 pp.; 1958.

The author, Joe H. Cerny, has been an official court reporter in Oklahoma since 1921. As such, he was in an extremely advantageous position to observe the faults and virtues of trial lawyers.

When this reviewer first saw "Courtroom Know-How", he thought from the title that here was a book that should be well worth reading. In part, it was.

The table of contents promised an educational experience in reading: "Careless Word Habits", "Preparation for Trial", "Preparing Witnesses for Trial", "Pointers on Juries", "Cross Examination", and so forth. All the chapter headings seemed to promise something of value for the neophyte or experienced trial counsel.

A goodly number of constructive points are presented by the author in a more or less haphazard fashion, interspersed

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with stories that may have been amusing the first or second time around. The author follows too well his own advice not to be serious all the time. Informative pointers may be culled if the reader does not lose sight of the purpose of the book in the maze of reminiscences and humorous anecdotes.

The concluding portion of the book is devoted to psychological meanderings to be followed as a guide to self-improvement. While this may have some connection with the author's observance of courtroom tactics, it is not what this reviewer expected to find in a book with this title.

All in all, "Courtroom Know-How" is worth reading as light entertainment. The book is not completely disappointing but it is far from being satisfying. The author had a good idea and was in a good position to capitalize upon that idea but, in transferring the idea into words, he lost sight of it.

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*Reviewed by Leonard Lane\**

BLUE SKY LAW, by Louis Loss and Edward M. Cowett. Published by Little, Brown & Co., Boston. XXI and 503 pages (1958).

Coming on the heels of the excellent *Securities Regulation* by Louis Loss, Professor of Law at Harvard Law School and formerly Associate General Counsel of the Securities & Exchange Commission, the equally scholarly book, *Blue Sky Law*, provides information to interest not only the securities specialist, but also the general practitioner who has occasion in one way or another to deal with securities of corporations under the Blue Sky Laws of the respective states. As usual, in a publication in which Mr. Loss has any part, interesting and informative historical data are included which enable the reader to reach a better understanding of the growth and development of securities regulations.

The authors have gone to great lengths to visit and to communicate with the heads of the security divisions of all of the states

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