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Book Review

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of court opinions, code provisions, administrative orders, announcements, *etc.*

The discussions are casual and often too sketchy to be of much benefit. For example, the much mooted question of production limitation is covered in two paragraphs on page 42. While pages 254 to 266 of the book contain examples of at least three distinct code devices which achieve a measure of production control (machine or plant hour limitation, limitation on the installation of new machinery or the expansion of plant, and allocation of production), the discussion mentions but one. Doubt is thrown on the validity of all such provisions by quoting a phrase from the Act¹ (which, as the reviewer reads it, clearly authorizes some production control), noting the revolutionary character of such provisions,² and offering a highly abstruse question on interstate commerce which the reviewer confesses his inability to understand.

The second half of the book consists principally of 389 pages devoted to a re-print of the full text of some twenty-five codes and the summary of all the others approved in 1933. A few pages on organization and personnel end the volume. The summaries are so brief that from an attorney's viewpoint they could well have been omitted.

Semi-monthly supplements cover only significant developments of general interest and some court decisions. As of December, 1934, the book with its supplements is unfortunately quite inadequate.

Perhaps a year of groping for some guidance in the countless legal questions raised in the N.R.A. has made the reviewer too exacting. But he cannot help but feel that his friend Dr. Mayers, while providing a reference work representing much painstaking preparation and of real value to the interested layman, has not added greatly to the bar's understanding of the N.R.A. legal structure.

GEORGE BRONZ.*

INDIANA LAW—FUTURE INTERESTS, WILLS, DESCENT, by Bernard C. Gavit. Bloomington: The Principia Press, Inc. 1934. Pp. xli, 461. \$7.50.

Dean Gavit has written a compact and valuable handbook upon the general subject matter of Future Interests, Wills and Descent from the standpoint of Indiana cases and decisions. The volume is divided into two fairly equal parts, the first of which deals with Future Interests, the second with Wills and Descent. The second part of the volume justifies the book as a part of the library of the practitioner and student of the law. Descent and Wills permit of reasonably categorical treatment and Dean Gavit's account of them will be valuable to those who are not merely looking for the theories and backgrounds, but who expect to find definite answers to practical questions.

No one having the slightest acquaintance with the complications of the subject expects to find a completely satisfactory and thoroughly exhaustive treatment of the law of Future Interests. The author of this

1. "It is hereby declared to be the policy of Congress . . . to promote the fullest possible utilization of the present productive capacity of industries, to avoid undue restriction of production (except as may be temporarily required) . . ."
73rd Cong. Public No. 67, Section 1.

2. The one there mentioned is similar to the certificate of convenience and necessity, familiar for many years in the public utility field.

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book has done much more for this topic than even the most optimistic reader will expect to find in slightly more than 200 pages—but it is no criticism to say that what the reader finds is not enough. The law of Future Interests is at best “preventative medicine” for the practising lawyer. The practical value of any treatment of the topic consists in plainly marking available detours rather than accurate definition of a thorny path that is at many important places obscure and unexplored. Because of the dearth of adjudicated cases upon many of the most interesting questions in the Future Interest field, there is an apparently uncontrollable tendency on the part of those who write about the subject to father the conclusions they reach with their own wishes and predilections as to what the law ought to be. In this respect Dean Gavitt is less of a sinner than many of his predecessors, but he is not altogether without guilt. A good number of his more important conclusions are undocumented, and many of the distinctions which he describes as *passée* are still observed by careful practitioners.

The book has an introductory chapter upon the general subject of Estates in which pertinent Indiana statutes are included. The New York and Indiana statutes on Future Interests, and a serviceable digest of Indiana cases dealing with the subject of Charitable Trusts are appended.

CLARENCE MANION.*

SOCIAL WORK AND THE COURTS, by Sophonisba P. Breckinridge. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. 1934. Pp. xv, 610. \$3.50.

Social Work and the Courts by Sophonisba P. Breckinridge is a compilation of judicial decisions, excerpts from various state constitutions on the separation of powers and judicial organizations, reports of government commissions, and private organizations and committees on matters such as the organization of courts, costs of court and costs of counsel, juvenile courts, woman's courts, parole, imprisonment and probation and like subjects of general social interest.

The book represents a prodigious amount of effort and is the latest addition to the Social Service Series published by the University of Chicago Press. It supplements two previous publications by the same writer—*Public Welfare Administration* and *The Family and the State*.

The purpose of the study is to focus the attention of the student of social work upon those situations, particularly in the criminal field, in which from the social viewpoint the administration of the law is seriously defective and to indicate methods of remedying these defects; also to suggest methods of co-operation and supplementation between the social service profession and the courts. The long preliminary analysis of the law, with definitions of rights and duties, sources and content, explanation of pleadings and writs, distinctions between courts of record and courts not of record, *etc.*, show a frank attempt to make the student conversant with what law is and its function in the social order.

To the lawyer, however, the book presents a superficial approach to a great number of problems involving many serious legal aspects, each problem important in itself and each entitled to the mature and seasoned study of the specially informed person.

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