

BOOK REVIEWS.

THE LAW OF AUTOMOBILES. Xenophon P. Huddy. Fourth edition by Howard C. Joyce. Pp. xxxii-576. Albany, N. Y.: Matthew Bender & Company, Inc., 1916.

The first edition of this work appeared in 1906, when the automobile was still a novelty and its extensive commercial use had hardly been dreamed. The fact that a fourth edition has been demanded by the profession speaks well for the work, which has become a standard one on this subject. The remarkable increase in the number of motor vehicles, both pleasure and commercial, on our highways, has filled court dockets with litigation involving their use and misuse. In the trial of these cases new questions have arisen, many of which had not been decided by the appellate courts when the third edition appeared in 1912. There are still some interesting questions of evidence and negligence to be passed upon by the Supreme Court, as for instance, whether evidence is admissible that the defendant did not have an unpaid-operator's license, or, whether the owner is liable for the negligence of a member of his family for whose use the machine was purchased, and who was operating it for his own pleasure with the express or implied consent of the owner.

It is believed that the author of the present edition has collected all the decisions of the courts of last resort on these mooted points, and they are well classified under the appropriate subjects. On the unsettled points, the citation of more lower court cases would be helpful to the attorney engaged in trying automobile accident cases. A decided merit is the accuracy and judgment shown in the selection of cases to support the text. The book is not open to the criticism so commonly made of text-books, that the citations too often do not support the statements of the law by the author. There is, however, considerable unnecessary repetition of well-established principles. The revisor seems to have addressed his text to the layman as well as the lawyer, which plan results in a waste of time in the use of the book by the practicing attorney.

Chapters on the law of insurance as it affects automobiles, and the status and regulation of "jitneys," have been added to the earlier editions. The rapid development of the law on the general subject assures the new edition a hearty welcome at the hands of the profession.

C. L. M.

PROFIT SHARING BY AMERICAN EMPLOYERS. Pp. 261. New York: Welfare Department, National Civic Federation, 1916.

In the preparation of this volume, the National Civic Federation has assumed the role of statistician and compiler rather than that of author or commentator. Upon turning the last page, the reader feels that the book is a comprehensive exposition of the cold facts of profit sharing, analyzed and set out in the careful impartial manner of the scientific investigator. Opinions of representatives of both capital and labor are quoted but the

book itself is free from original comment or criticism. In fact one feels somewhat disappointed that the work is so impersonal in nature, for the author, compiler or editor, whatever he may be called, in the skilled examination of the vast amount of material involved in the preparation of such a work, must have arrived at quite definite conclusions which would be exceedingly interesting and helpful to those considering the problem. Nevertheless, the expression of partisan ideas by the representative of such an institution as the National Civic Federation must of necessity be inhibited.

Employers of labor, representatives of organized labor, publicists and economists will do well to devote careful study to the volume of modest proportions just issued by the National Civic Federation. It contains interesting histories of various profit-sharing plans, summarized statements of many now in vogue and besides furnishing abundant material, of itself indicates sources from which much additional information may be acquired. The work has been done and the results presented in a practical but scholarly manner.

Whether or not profit sharing is the panacea for all our labor ills, none dare say. Although all such schemes are condemned by labor leaders as an indirect means of paying the laborer only a living wage and breaking the strength of his organization, when one considers that a very large percentage of the profit-sharing schemes have been adopted within the last ten years, there is some justification for the hope that, through the adoption of profit sharing in one form or another, a healthy spirit of co-operation between capital and labor may result and a more equitable distribution of the profits of production may be realized.

C. A. S.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION. By John Maynard Harlan and Lewis W. McCandless of the Chicago Bar. Pp. 183. Chicago: Callaghan & Company, 1916.

This short treatise has for its sole object the explanation of the Trade Law and the Clayton Act, whereby the Federal Government took over the administrative guidance of competition in interstate commerce.

In a concise manner, the authors explain the three great powers of the Federal Trade Commission, the regulative, the advisory and the investigative. No attempt is made to forecast the many problems which will eventually arise from the legislation. The work is confined to an explanation of the two acts themselves and how they are inter-related with each other and the anti-trust legislation.

In the appendix, the authors have printed in full the Trade Law of 1914, the Clayton Act of 1913, the Sherman Act of 1890 and the Wilson Act of 1894, as amended in 1913. Following these acts are the Rules of Practice adopted by the Federal Trade Commission.

The style and arrangement of the book are commendable. It is a book that should be useful to the business man, although of little help to the practitioner.

Douglass D. Storey.