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ence, in form at least, to a few outworn rules, which can only be
made to serve the needs of a changing society by an ever-increasing
distortion, with a resultant uncertainty, in advance of each deci-
sion, as to whether the rule will or will not be stretched and strained
just a mite further. This complaint of the uncertainty of French
law comes as a revealing glimpse behind the scenes. We, of the
common law, have been told so much and so often of the blessings
of a code, with its nickel-in-the-slot answer to every question, and
it has been so hard to believe that absolutely all possible situations
have been provided for by opposite rules, that is a relief to have
our doubts confirmed. Even a European code sometime needs ‘inter-
pretation’ and that interpretation is not always wholly obvious. In
such an event the difference between our precedent-following and a
genuine system of precedent-disregarding would seem to be the dif-
fERENCE BETWEEN SOME MEASURE OF PREDICTABILITY AND NONE AT ALL.

University of Chicago Law School.

E. W. PUTTKAMMER.

THE NEW ANNOTATED FEDERAL JUDICIAL CODE. By James Love
Company, 1925: pp. 375.

THE NEW FEDERAL EQUITY RULES ANNOTATED. By James Love
Company, 1925: pp. 335.

The first edition of the Judicial Code by Mr. Hopkins appeared
in 1911. The changes made in that statute by the Act of Congress
of February 13, 1925, give occasion for the second edition.

The introduction contains a brief outline of the history of the
federal courts and an account of their jurisdiction, in simple form.
The main body of the book consists of the sections of the code in
order, followed by brief references to the sources from which the
sections are drawn and brief notes concerning the construction placed
upon the sections or their predecessors by the courts. There is an
index and table of cases.

The first edition of Mr. Hopkins's Equity Rules appeared in
1912. This latest edition contains the most recent changes in the
rules and the decisions construing them, down to July 1, 1925.

The introduction contains some useful historical material, not-
ably a report on the condition of equity pleading in England in
1912, the questions put to Lord Chancellor Loreburn in 1912 by Mr.
Justice Lurton and the former's answers thereto concerning the
rules in force in England, and a summary of the effect of the 1912
revision in the United States. Thereafter follow the rules of 1822,
the rules in force from 1866 to 1911 with notes regarding sources
and construction, and the rules of 1912 with source and construction
references. There are also forms for use in drafting bills, answers,
motions, master's reports, and decrees. The book ends with a table
of cases and an index.

These little books constitute a collection of material doubtless
of much convenience to practitioners in the federal courts.

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