

The manual is designed for law catalogers of different backgrounds. It is designed to serve those who are trained in cataloging but not in law and for those who are trained in law but not in cataloging. Thus, on account of its dual objective one might expect the book to contain sections with which a library-trained person is well familiar. However, Miss Basset has, on the whole, succeeded in reducing to a minimum observations on cataloging and classification in general. She never loses sight of her problem: to delimit, describe, and evaluate law cataloging and law classification. Not only will her manual be helpful to law catalogers, but it will also be of value to library administrators who might find it necessary to establish or change law cataloging policies. It is in every respect so well done that it could easily serve as a pattern for cataloging manuals in other special fields.

FRITZ VEIT*

Law in Medical and Dental Practice. By Jack Neal Lott, Jr., and Robert Hanes Gray. Chicago: Foundation Press, Inc., 1942. Pp. vi, 499. \$4.75.

This book offers a new and helpful approach to the problem of familiarizing medical and dental students with Medical Jurisprudence. It is a textbook designed to replace or to supplement lectures and to supply case records for collateral reading. It was compiled because the authors were dissatisfied with the customary methods of teaching. After several years of experience they concluded that students of medicine and dentistry, usually unfamiliar with legal terminology, tended to acquire from lectures only a hazy understanding of medico-legal problems. Convinced of the educational value of the concrete example, they became aware of the difficulties in finding suitable material for assigned or suggested reading. Medical and dental students do not always have access to a law library, even if they know how to use one. For such reasons the authors chose to present important aspects of Medical Jurisprudence through the use of case abstracts.

The cases included in this book were selected because of their value in clarifying legal principles. Thus, though they do not always represent the majority rule, in order to leave no doubt as to the prevailing opinions and their important exceptions supplementary notes and comments from the law reviews have been added as needed. Legal authorities and relevant cases have been cited; many abstracts contain quotations from testimony, from judicial and court decisions, from dissenting opinions, and from reference texts. In essence this is a legal textbook, but one in which the medical aspects of cases have been stressed, and special pains have been taken to make legal principles clear to the novice.

The authors have stated emphatically that this work was not intended to be encyclopedic. The problems chosen for detailed presentation usually have to do with the more traditional fields of Medical Jurisprudence. To explore the newer and more controversial aspects by means of the case method would be no small task. This is especially true of many problems having to do with social and industrial medicine, with the use of the corporate device in the practice of medicine and dentistry, and with the admissibility as evidence of the results of new technical procedures. Certainly it is beyond the scope of a textbook for beginners to attempt detailed analyses in fields where

* Acting Law Librarian, University of Chicago Law Library.

constitutionality is untested and statutes have not yet been subjected to review and interpretation.

The first and most extensive of the five main subdivisions of this text deals with relationships between patient and doctor. Naturally problems concerned with malpractice are stressed. The second section deals with evidence, with emphasis on expert testimony and privileged communications. Succeeding subdivisions cover medico-legal aspects of contracts and liens, and autopsies. The final section has to do with the regulation of practice and of professional conduct. This section includes interesting historical material and illuminating information on the legal status of medical cultists. The five sections are prefaced by a brief discussion of the law and legal systems. Besides a topical index there is a separate index of the main and supplementary case abstracts.

The availability of a textbook of this character should prove helpful to teachers as well as to students of Medical Jurisprudence. The book lends itself especially well to a discussion group method of instruction. It should prove a useful reference book, moreover, in courses where large numbers of students or other circumstances make the lecture method more feasible. Such might be its chief use in courses where the emphasis is on forensic medicine, with comparatively little time for instruction in legal principles. In any case, this book supplies a real need. Its unavoidable defects of scope can be remedied by referring to specified articles and abstracts in the current legal, medical, and dental journals.

Labelling this volume as a textbook should not limit its usefulness. It should prove of interest and value to practicing physicians and dentists who are interested in the legal problems peculiar to their professions. Within the limitations designated by the authors, it may prove useful to members of the legal profession, and especially to the young student of law. Fulfilling its primary purpose, the use of this text should assist the future physician or dentist to gain insight rather than verbal comprehension in the important fields of activity where law and medicine meet.

DR. ELEANOR M. HUMPHREYS*

A Study of War. 2 vols. By Quincy Wright. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1942. Pp. xxiii, 678; xvii, 874. \$15.00.

Two thick volumes embody Professor Wright's interpretation of the results of the searching examination into the causes, functions, techniques and possible controls of war, which he and his many associates in the University of Chicago have carried on for sixteen years. No one who scans the text, with its scouting detachments of statistical tables and graphs and its flank and rear guards of notes, can fail to acknowledge the scholarship and the technical competence of the writer and his colleagues. Their work, gathered together here, clearly represents the most massive and sustained intellectual attack yet directed against this plague and mystery of the human race.

The scope of the study is infinitely broader than the title would indicate. This is in reality a treatise on international politics and law, in which war often recedes so far into the background as to be almost forgotten. It is a treatise which, for those who will have the time and the patience to read it faithfully, will open horizons hitherto rarely

* Associate Professor of Pathology, University of Chicago.