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BOOKS RECEIVED

Science and Law: An Essential Alliance. Ed. William A. Thomas. Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press. 1983. Pp. x + 168. Hardbound. $16.50.

This compilation of essays, written by attorneys and scientists, is offered as an attempt to promote the alliance between the professions of science and law. Throughout the book the characteristics of each profession that inhibit their joint efforts are explored with regard to specific current issues. Forensic science, computers, the environment, and the regulation of technological activities are among the eight subjects presented. The concluding chapter, on education in law and science, is more appropriate for the introduction of the book as it succinctly addresses the essence of the book: "the need for tomorrow's professionals to prepare themselves for tomorrow's tasks."[1] That this future has arrived is apparent from the explosion of litigation in the fields of communications, computer science, toxic waste disposal, and bio-engineering. No longer will each profession be able to stand alone. A new breed of attorney-scientist is rapidly becoming a necessity. It is toward this end for which this book was written.

Microcomputers for Legal Professionals. By Christina J. Mc-Clung, John A. Guerrieri, and Kenneth A. McClung, Jr. New York, N.Y.: John Wiley and Sons, Inc. 1984. Pp. xi + 141. Softbound. $14.95.

Although directed toward attorneys, the scope of this book is superficial in its examination of the applications of the microcomputer to the legal profession. It does, however, introduce the reader to the sometimes alien world of ROMs and RAMs in a simplified manner. Attention is given to the jargon associated with computers. Like the language of the legal profession, such terminology is an obstacle to many. This barrier is surmounted by the clear and understandable definitions which the authors provide. Reviews of over fifty hardware systems and twenty-five software programs are also included. These furnish technical specifications, prices,and addresses of manufacturers, but are too short to be more than an abbreviated

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1. *Science and Law: An Essential Alliance* (W. A. Thomas, ed. 1983) 150.

source of consumer information. This book will best serve as an introductory primer.

Computers in Criminal Justice: An Introduction to Small Computers. By Joseph A. Waldron, Carol A. Sutton, and Terry F. Buss. Cincinnati, Ohio: Anderson Publishing Co.. 1983. Pp. 93. Softbound. $8.95.

Unlike the authors of the book in the preceding review, those who wrote *Computers in Criminal Justice* have chosen a specific area on which to focus their efforts. Their discussion includes many basic concerns such as hardware and software selection. It also delves into the specific uses of micro-computers in the field of criminal justice. For example, an entire chapter is devoted to the advantages of computers in clinical testing. In this area the new technology may provide larger data pools for better analyses, more efficient use of time, and more objective evaluations. The authors point out, interestingly enough, that patients are more likely to respond honestly to questions asked by computers than to those asked by their human counterparts.

Also examined are the professional issues that arise from the interfacing of computers and the law enforcement system. Of particular note is the problem of maintaining client confidentiality and how it may be achieved through enhanced security system designs and passwords. Due to the dearth of case law there are few rules or regulations in this area. As an alternative the authors provide common sense guidelines to increase protection. Examples include only storing essential data, purging any that is obsolete, and avoiding cross-linking of files with those of other agencies.

The practical, but substantial problem of how to acquire funding for the purchase of a micro-computer is also mentioned. It is recommended that such requests for funding distinguish the features of the micro-computer from those of the main frame systems which most agencies commonly use. Outside funding is discussed as an alternative source of subsidization.

Nothing that is presented in this book is particularly innovative, but the depth of coverage and specific applications will make the book appreciated by anyone in the field. Bibliographies of related texts and articles are presented after each chapter.

Additional Books Received

Crime and Justice: An Annual Review of Research. Ed. by Michael Tony and Norval Morris. Chicago, Illinois: The University of Chicago Press. 1983. Pp. x + 310. Hardcover. $25.00.

Going Public Handbook. By Harold S. Bloomenthal, Cannon Y. Harvey. Samuel E. Wing. New York, N.Y.: Clark Boardman Company, Ltd.. Pp. ix + 575. Softbound. $45.00.