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BOOKS RECEIVED

California Damages, Law and Proof. By Leland Johns. Los Angeles: Parker & Son Publications, Inc. 1977. Pp. iii + 459. Hardbound. \$44.00.

This second, revised edition of *California Damages, Law and Proof* incorporates recent changes in California law, notably the apportionment of damages under *Li v. Yellow Cab*. There is new material, including chapters on punitive damages, attorney malpractice, and insurers' breach of good faith and fair dealing. Other areas have been expanded such as the section on property damage, which now includes new developments in products liability law. Mr. Johns' writing is clear and straightforward. His book is well-organized, readable, and informative, and should be very useful to any practitioner in successfully proving damages and maximizing recovery for a client.

The Law of Defamation. By Laurence H. Eldredge. Charlottesville, Virginia: Bobbs-Merrill Co. 1978. Pp. vi + 711. Hardbound. \$36.00.

Written basically in a hornbook format, *The Law of Defamation* is an exhaustive treatise by an expert who holds, and freely expresses, definite opinions on how the law should be interpreted and/or changed. The historical development of the common and statutory law of defamation and the two Restatements of Torts are fully detailed. The author's descriptions of the working meetings of the American Law Institute during the drafting of the Second Restatement of Torts are most interesting, as is his discussion of his own dispute with Dean Prosser over the status of the rule of *libel per quod*. Because of the wealth of detail and the presentation of numerous unresolved controversies, this volume is recommended to students and practitioners interested in legal philosophy and development rather than to those seeking a basic overview of the law.

The High Citadel: The Influence of Harvard Law School. By Joel Seligman, Introduction by Ralph Nader. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1978. Pp. v + 262. Hardbound. \$10.95.

According to this critique, Harvard Law School, the origin of the Socratic method and the model for law schools across the country, uses traditional first year pressure to engineer vulner-

able students into "corridor thinking and largely non-normative evaluation," with the purpose of producing recruits for the nation's corporate law firms. Thus, lawyers emerge from law school strongly inhibited from questioning, much less challenging the institutions of our society. Ralph Nader, in his introduction, maintains that law schools have failed to teach students to analyze "shoulds" and "oughts," to look for ways to provide effective legal representation, and to criticize the profession itself in its role of social responsibility. Mr. Seligman probes deeply into Harvard's teaching methods, student and faculty selection, curriculum, and the roles of the Law Review, of grades and of the placement system. He proposes a new model for legal education that would provide a legal profession more responsive to social and political needs. This book is recommended reading for law students, faculty, and lawyers who may not realize the extent to which law school can direct their thinking.

Sweaty Palms: The Neglected Art of Being Interviewed. By H. Anthony Medley. Belmont, California: Lifetime Learning Publications. 1978. Pp. vii + 190. Paperback. \$4.95.

Numerous books explain how to write resumes and seek job counseling for the purpose of getting a job interview, but few deal with techniques to make the interview itself a success. Medley successfully and concisely fills this "how to" gap by providing answers to such basic considerations as how to handle salary discussions, how to dress, where to look, how to relax, and more. The author, a practicing lawyer and owner of a recruitment service, was prompted to write the book by the frequency with which job seekers voiced such concerns. One interesting and informative chapter treats the problem of discrimination by listing unlawful questions and advising the interviewee how to respond to them. Helpful appendices provide the legal applicant with questions frequently asked and evaluation factors often used by interviewers.

The Legal Guide to Mother Goose. "Translated" by Don Sandburg. Los Angeles: Price, Stern, & Sloan. 1978. Pp. v + 63. Paperback. \$2.50.

Lawyers seem to have a tendency to take themselves so seriously that wit is a rare phenomenon in legal literature. Truly humorous legal writing is so uncommon as to be practically nonexistent; this is a situation somewhat alleviated by

this amusing little book satirizing legal jargon and obfuscation. The author has translated Mother Goose so that lawyers may recite these rhymes to their children "in their own strange tongue." In one of the converted classics, Jack and Jill "ascended or caused to be ascended an elevation of undetermined height and degree of slope," only to have Jack suffer "fractures and contusions of his cranial regions." The book provides us a brief moment to chuckle at ourselves.

