

BOOK REVIEW

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A Review of "American Jurisprudence Trials, Vol. 19"

REFERENCE: Parnell, C. S., *American Jurisprudence Trials, Vol. 19*, Lawyer's Cooperative Publishing Co., Rochester, N. Y. 14603.

If you've got one of the cases falling into the class discussed in Volume 19 of "model trials," you'd do well to read this volume whether a beginner or a seasoned courtroom veteran, the latter to see that nothing has been overlooked.

Seven subjects are discussed, namely, actions by or against a decedant's estate, driving while intoxicated, architectural malpractice, hospital and doctor litigation, defamation, rear-enders, and the preparation and trial of an arson case.

I've tried at least one case in each of these categories, and I didn't find any of the discussions either superficial or stinting.

Having done a similar work, (*Modern Trials*), I can appreciate a contemporary book on current trial tactics. Today's books are all the better. They are practical, they *show* how, rather than *tell* how.

I suppose no one will emulate my *Modern Trials* with all of the pictures I put therein, but at the time, I thought (and I still think) it was a good teaching vehicle. There are some pictures in Volume 19, but I could have wished for more. I could also have wished for a more complete index, but this is pandemic as far as law books go. However, the footnotes are excellent.

There are forms, suggested interrogatories, complaints, and the actual working tools of the particular subject as well as essay and authority. The medical malpractice and rear-end chapters are particularly good, but by this, I don't mean the other chapters should suffer by negative recommendation.

I'm afraid that the chapter on defamation is only of historical and academic interest to us now: Brave is the plaintiff's lawyer who takes on a defamation case in the face of *Sullivan v. Times*; but if one is about to, he should at least check this chapter.

In all, I find the book extremely well done, without the usual semantic superfluities attendant upon a "trial guide." If the other American Jurisprudence volumes on other specialized cases come up to the standard of Volume 19, I can say without fear of rebuttal that the set is essential reference and reading in one's library.

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