

BOOK REVIEW

M. F. Joseff,¹ J.D., Ph.D.

A Review of "Investigation and Preparation of Criminal Cases, Federal and State"

REFERENCE: Bailey, F. L. and Rothblatt, H. B., *Investigation and Preparation of Criminal Cases, Federal and State*, Bancroft-Whitney Co., San Francisco, 1970, 552 pages, price not listed.

This book was published in 1970. Since then annual pocket parts have provided supplemental material.

This is an exceptionally practical handbook for the practice of criminal law. It is not merely another casebook nor one of those treatises on legal principles. This book is a remarkable compendium of what to do, when to do it, where to do it, how to do it, why you do it, with whom you do it *after* you have an education in criminal law and criminal procedure, and above all, the law of evidence.

Messrs. Bailey and Rothblatt are masters at the art of getting the raw facts; distilling those raw facts into evidentiary facts; getting those evidentiary facts admitted into trial evidence; having admitted them to trial evidence, then teaching that evidence to the trier of fact; and, like all great teachers, leaving it to the student to draw the conclusions from the evidence that they, the teachers, want them to draw without mentioning it.

(Good Reader, Kind Sir: read the preceding paragraph again. When Henry laid its wisdom onto the reviewer, and when Lee pounded it home, it took a little while to register. This reviewer is grateful to have been one of their students.)

If you want what Mr. Bailey and Mr. Rothblatt have as skilled, competent, and successful trial lawyers, and if you are willing to go to great length to get it, *then* you are ready to take certain steps, which are suggested as a program for criminal trial practice success:

1. **READ THE BOOK.**
2. **THEN DO WHAT IT SAYS.**

But if you do not want their skills, or even if you do, but are unwilling to go to any length to get it or want someone else to do your work, then you will just have to keep the skills you've got.

¹ 2215 Fortuna Dr., Newport Beach, Calif. 92660.