

BOOK REVIEW

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A Review of *The Doctor and the Law*

REFERENCE: Emson, H. E., *The Doctor and the Law*, Macmillan of Canada, 1979, 224 pages.

The author does not need to justify the writing of this eminently practical handbook. There is a definite need for such a publication in Canada in that to my knowledge no similar collection of information is available in any other book or monograph.

This is not a book for the forensic pathologist. It will, however, appeal to those physicians not versed in the interaction of law and medicine. Undergraduate medical students, students in law-oriented programs at the community college level, and possibly pre-law students will gain insight into legal medicine by reading this publication.

The subject matter is broadly based, the forensic medical aspects generally sound, and the legal aspects relevant to Canadian law. This is not a source book, but every vulnerable physician should have a copy on his bedside table in preparation for the inevitable 2 a.m. phone call.

Not only is the book useful, it is also a delight to read, and the chapter quotations are particularly cogent. It accurately reflects the literary agility and philosophy of the author.

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