

REMEDIAL LAW REVIEW. By Manuel V. Moran\*. Manila: N.G.M. Publishing Co., 1956. Pp. x, 705. ₱25.00, \$12.50.

The fact that this book was written by former Chief Justice Manuel V. Moran causes the book reviewer to open it with praiseful anticipation. It is pleasant to note that Moran's former work, *Comments on the Rules of Court*,<sup>1</sup> published in three volumes has been enthusiastically received by the students of law and the members of the bench and the bar, both as a standard text and guide for practitioners in procedural law. It is needless to emphasize the prominence which this former work of his has gained in the field of Philippine remedial law jurisprudence.<sup>2</sup> This present work makes no less than three hundred and seventeen references to his former cited work. One can readily conclude that this reviewer was based on the author's first work.

A preface is "a preliminary statement by the author or editor of a book, setting forth its purpose and scope, etc."<sup>3</sup> Easily noticed in this book is the absence of such a statement. Notwithstanding such an omission, its purpose and scope is reflected from its very title. We may calmly say, therefore, "*Res ipsa loquitur*."<sup>4</sup>

*The Purpose.* The primary purpose, no doubt, is to help those who are reviewing for the bar examinations in their pre-week bar review. It is a common experience that a bar candidate, after several months of review, finds himself mentally overstrained that to go over the standard textbooks once more would seem futile to him. It is at that time, the pre-week, that a reviewer or quizzer comes in handy to the bar candidate. It must have been for this purpose that this work was executed.

*The Scope.* The book on the whole is a compact volume covering the whole Rules of Court, presented in the traditional reviewer style of questions and answers. The Rules are treated consecutively and the author divided the subject into four main parts, entitled respectively: CIVIL ACTIONS, SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS, CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, and EVIDENCE. The

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<sup>1</sup> Reviewed in 4 ATENEO L.J. 322 (1955).

<sup>2</sup> "Today, as it has been for the past years, Mr. Chief Justice Moran's work stands as the standard authority on Philippine procedural law, a fact attested by the repeated and numerous times it is cited in decisions of the Supreme Court." Book Review, 4 ATENEO L.J. 323 (1955).

<sup>3</sup> THE AMERICAN COLLEGE DICTIONARY 955 (1948 ed.).

<sup>4</sup> "The thing speaks for itself."

author employs approximately one-half of the seven hundred and five pages for CIVIL ACTIONS and one-third for EVIDENCE while the rest of the pages are split between SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS and CRIMINAL PROCEDURE. Philippine Supreme Court decisions applying the rules are cited and in their absence, American authorities are resorted to. A total of two thousand and two-hundred-ten questions and answers are contained in this book. Retrenchment and brevity are the stamp of each and every question and answer. They present no fads nor fancies.

We note, with satisfaction, that recent Supreme Court decisions are often cited by the volume of the Philippine Reports in which they will appear, omitting only the number of the pages, such not having been determined as yet.<sup>5</sup> The readers, however, who will open this book expecting to find the latest Supreme Court decisions will be a little disappointed. Though this book is a 1956 edition, the latest cases cited are only up to 1954.

Typographically, the book is beyond reproach, with clear types and neat lay-outs. The binding and the quality of the paper is dignified.

To the bar reviewees, this book is recommended but not without qualifications. A review of former Chief Justice Moran's *Comments on the Rules of Court* or any reputable standard remedial law textbook should be a prerequisite.

Suggested innovations: A table cases and a topic index.

<sup>5</sup> Example: at page 207, footnote no. 3, the case of Manila Trading Supply Co. v. Manila Trading Laborers' Association is cited thus, 83 Phil. —. At the time of the printing of this reviewer, volume 83 of the Philippine Reports was not yet in print.