

ciples". Thus Dean Francisco introduces the second edition of his work on the Revised Penal Code.

Every article of the code is systematically discussed and developed. Reference to topics is greatly facilitated by the use of a topic-index at the beginning of each article, properly numbered and corresponding to a number in the body of the text. This method renders reference to any desired subject convenient, saving both time and effort.

It may well be said of this work that it is to date the most comprehensive and exhaustive treatment of the Revised Penal Code. It is made so particularly by multitudinous references to American authorities.

A distinctive feature is the inclusion of a question and answer summary at the end of every article, giving clarity to the presentation of a particular aspect or point at issue (and this is convenient for bar review purposes). All answers are based on actual cases.

There is one sad thing about this work though: there are frequent typographical errors.

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HOW TO PROVE A *Prima Facie* DEFENSE. By Howard Hilton Spellman. Prentice-Hall, Inc. 602 pages. P21.00.

It is a well known principle of the legal profession that preparation is the foundation upon which success in trial is built. Most cases are won in their preparation rather than in any other aspect. It is precisely on this score that this work of Mr. Spellman may well be appreciated by members of the Bar.

This book aims to assist the lawyer from the very first moment when he interviews his client, up to the last question on direct examination during trial.

From the title, one becomes aware that this book aims to furnish the lawyer with certain fixed elements which are invariably present in certain common defenses. To that end he has set forth in alphabetical form different kinds of defenses and added thereto a citation of leading cases.

Preoccupied with the exigencies of a good defense, this book presents a series of questions and answers requiring a scant minimum of evidence but nonetheless able to establish a sufficient defense. In the last analysis, the means through which defense material is brought to the attention of the triers of fact is through the medium of questions and answers. However carefully original facts are measured against their legal consequences and however meticulously the resulting legal equation is expressed in terms of pleadings, the ultimate success of a defendant's case depends entirely upon his counsel's ability to frame questions in such wise that the answers thereto will establish the basic elements of a good defense. It is therefore no surprise that Mr. Spellman has painstakingly gathered all pertinent cases regarding every kind of defense and scrutinized accepted sets of questions and answers adequate enough to prove one's defense. In addition, pitfalls inherent in a particular set of facts are clearly indicated with regard to each defense so as to put the lawyer on his guard for any possible counter argument by adverse counsel.

Mr. Spellman has indeed succeeded, and quite effectively, to prove a *prima facie* defense of the theories which he ably advances in this interesting volume.

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