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## Book Reviews

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## BOOK REVIEWS

**PATENT TACTICS AND LAW.** Roger Sherman Hoar, M.A., LL.B. 8vo, pp. vii+315 (1939). The Ronald Press Co., New York, N. Y. \$4.50.

In his preface, Mr. Hoar writes "There are plenty of good treatises available on patent law. But the present book is intended, rather, to be a treatise on patent tactics, plus a translation into plain English of so much of the patent law as will enable an industrial executive or engineer to understand the company's attorney when dealing with a patent problem and to cooperate fully with him". Mr. Hoar is distressingly modest: the plain fact is that this book is the book to be consulted by the general practitioner of law whenever he wants an informing answer to any one of the hundred and one common questions that arise in connection with patents. Herein will you find the best discussion available in print of Anticipation and Domination—the two topics perhaps the most vexatious to those unfamiliar with patent law. Herein will you find an excellent brief exposition of taxation pertaining to patents, and adequate treatments of all of the usual topics of patent law. The entire work reads as entertainingly as a novel and demonstrates that a legal treatise need not be a mere exercise in taxonomy. This thoroughgoing revision of an earlier book is decidedly more valuable than its predecessor by virtue of the inclusion of appropriate footnotes comprising citations, happily not too numerous, to pertinent recent decisions illuminating the topics treated in the text: the lucidity of the text itself is accounted for by the genesis of the work and its growth over a period of years, the interesting story of which is told in its preface.

CHARLES E. RUBY