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Book Reviews

F. T. Ready

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BOOK REVIEWS

BRANNAN'S NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS LAW: Annotated; Fourth Edition; by Zechariah Chaffee, Jr. The W. H. Anderson Company, Cincinnati, Ohio. 1926.

In this thoughtfully written, admirably bound volume, law students and practicing attorneys are furnished a quick reference to the law of negotiable instruments as it exists under the Uniform Negotiable Instruments law, which has been adopted by all of the states of the United States. It is to be noted that several of the states have, in adopting the Act, made a few variations and additions thereto. These the author has indicated by a table conveniently placed at the beginning of the book, as well as in the discussion of each section in the text.

As will be seen from the title of the book, it is not the first work of its nature which has been published on the subject. It constitutes an elaboration and modernization of the previous editions by Professor Brannon, all of which are widely used by practitioners and students throughout the nation. The author's arrangement of material follows that adopted by Professor Brannon, namely the listing of the sections of the Act with the text of that section, and the changes, if any, made in it, in the various states adopting the law, and a discussion of the decisions which have arisen in the various states under each respective section. The author, however, makes three important changes from previous editions. First, marginal notations have been introduced to indicate the various topics under discussion. This feature it will not be difficult to observe, will prove invaluable in aiding the reader to quickly find the material for which he is in search. Secondly, many more references to law review articles and notes have been included. Thus readers are furnished references to a more extensive discussion, and fuller collection of authorities than could conveniently be furnished in a single volume. Thirdly, certain articles on negotiable instruments law by eminent authorities have been omitted, in order to make room for recent decisions to be incorporated. Nothing, however, is thereby detracted from the value of the work because the substance of these articles is retained in the summaries under each

section of the respective views of these writers (Ames, Brewster, and McKeehan), as in previous editions.

A notable Teature of the work is that English, Scotch, and Irish cases construing the English Bill of Exchange Act are given under the corresponding sections of our Act. This is of importance because sections of our Act are frequently construed in the light of corresponding interpretations of the English Act, as shown by English cases.

The work is especially well indexed—an invaluable feature. The general index covers both the sections of the Act and the cases, showing the source of all cases cited, and the pages on which they are cited, and a table of corresponding sections of the law in the various states and territories.

-F. T. Ready