

My overall assessment is that this is a first rate case-book, which, I feel confident, will establish itself — if it has not yet done so — as the pre-eminent work for common law students on the subject of debtor-creditor law.

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DICTIONARY OF CURRENT AMERICAN LEGAL CITATIONS: ABRIDGED EDITION WITH EXAMPLES. By Doris M. Bieber. William S. Hein & Co. 1981. Pp. iii, 233. (\$6.50)

An imposing list of examples given in the abridged edition of the *Dictionary of Current American Legal Citations* is sufficient in itself to guarantee to the reader an abundant and trustworthy source of information.

While the first edition of *A Uniform System of Citation*¹ was published some fifty-five years ago, and has since been substantially revised in subsequent editions, the citation rules adopted by the different editions of the *Bluebook* are neither as clear, nor as easy to apply, as they should be. The idea of setting out a dictionary of citations in a systematic form similar to the elements of citations introduced in the twelfth edition of the *Bluebook*² is one that both lawyers and law students instinctively view with appreciation. To them the question of proper citation method is often governed by conflicting conventions, although if asked to cite any particular type of legal publication, they would probably apply citation rules, not in the form of comparison, but in some practice similar in form to that found in the *Bluebook*.

The *Dictionary* aims to provide "abbreviations for the legal publications of all United States jurisdictions. . . and. . . examples of the more commonly cited authorities",³ but at the same time, as the editor states in the Preface, the work "is designed as a companion to the *Bluebook*, not a replacement".⁴ I have used the *Dictionary* on various occasions, and every time I turn to it I have been amazed at the manner in which it has been possible to include far more abbreviations and examples of different citations than those offered in the twelfth edition of the *Bluebook*. This

Other errors I detected related to the indenting of certain paragraphs, at pp. 353-54; and to the brief summary of *Downing v. Downing*, 29 O.R. (2d) 119 (Prov. Ct. 1980), at p. 393.

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¹ Hereafter referred to as the BLUEBOOK.

² The BLUEBOOK is now in its thirteenth edition which was published almost concurrently with the DICTIONARY OF CURRENT AMERICAN LEGAL CITATIONS [hereafter referred to as the DICTIONARY].

³ P. iii.

⁴ *Id.*

applies to various categories of publications, such as statute annotations,⁵ regulations,⁶ and loose-leaf services.⁷ However, the user cannot expect the citations illustrated in the *Dictionary* to be in full accord with those listed in the twelfth edition of the *Bluebook*. For example, the *Massachusetts General Laws Annotated* is cited in the *Bluebook* as "Mass. Gen. Laws, Ann. ch.x, §x (West)",⁸ whereas in the *Dictionary* it is cited as "Mass. Gen. Laws Ann. ch., § (year)".⁹

In a work of this nature I could, of course, pick out certain isolated instances of deficiency. For example, the mere inclusion of the *Law Reports Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Division*¹⁰ reveals little information dealing with the English law reports and does not seem to be consistent with its emphasis on abbreviations of *American* legal citations.¹¹ Throughout the booklet, there are also typographical errors,¹² which the editor may wish to consider for correction in an eventual second edition. In spite of these shortcomings, the reader will find the illustrations given in the *Dictionary* extremely useful.

I would recommend this booklet to the reader: it is a useful handbook setting out appropriate examples of how to apply the rules of the *Bluebook*. The arrangement is one that the reader can use as a means of collating into an alphabetical scheme the citation rules which he may confuse when using the *Bluebook*. Provided he uses it as a companion to the *Bluebook*, the reader cannot, in my opinion, find a more convenient compilation of illustrations elsewhere.

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⁵ E.g., the following items are missing from the twelfth edition of the BLUEBOOK: the Code of Laws of South Carolina Annotated; the Code of Virginia Annotated; the Colorado Revised Statutes Annotated; the District of Columbia Code Annotated; and the Wyoming Statutes Annotated.

⁶ E.g., the twelfth edition of the BLUEBOOK fails to include the following items: the Code of Maryland Regulations; the Code of Massachusetts Regulations; the Delaware Register of Regulations; the Hawaii Rules and Regulations; the Illinois Register; the Kansas Administrative Regulations; the Kentucky Administrative Regulations Service; the Louisiana Administrative Code; the Official Compilation of the Rules and Regulations of the State of Georgia; and the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies. It is interesting to note that most of these items are now included in the thirteenth edition of the BLUEBOOK.

⁷ E.g., the Consumer Product Safety Guide (CCH), the Corporate Laws (P-H), the Corporation-Management Edition (P-H), the Corporate Practice Series (BNA), and the Professional Corporation Guide (P-H).

⁸ BLUEBOOK 118 (12th ed. 1976).

⁹ P. 102. There are other examples. E.g., West's Annotated California Code is cited in the twelfth edition of the BLUEBOOK, at 106, as "CAL. [subject] CODE § x (West)", and in the DICTIONARY, at 226, as "CAL. subject CODE § (West year)".

¹⁰ P. 89.

¹¹ P. iii.

¹² E.g., in the citation of Louisiana Revised Statutes Annotated, "Louisiana" was abbreviated as "Law." (at 96); the word "Purdon" in the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes Annotated was printed on several occasions as "Purden" (at 147 and 150); and the closing date of the Alabama Appellate Court Reports was printed as "1974", not "1976" (at 4).

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