

a solicitor on behalf of his client. On the balance sheet the English solicitor puts liabilities on the left side and assets on the right side—in Canada we reverse these positions.

Being highly adaptable in nature, accounting teaches us a great deal about the institution or organization for which the accounts are prepared. Accordingly, we learn that the English solicitor often acts as a collection or management agent for insurance companies, building societies, estates, conveyancers and land proprietors. Perhaps the reason for this practice among English solicitors is the absence of trust companies in the form known to the Canadian business community. In spite of its shortcomings, this book is informative in the manner in which it discusses the solicitor's involvement with client's money and trust money.

In conclusion this book is a practitioners' handbook for English solicitors and, therefore, it is not surprising that this book should not be of practical assistance to the Canadian legal practitioner.

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LEGAL AID HANDBOOK. By Raymond D. Schachter. Toronto: Carswell Co. Ltd. 1975. Pp. 214. \$16.75.

This book represents the first publication in Ontario and, in fact, Canada, with reference to a practical guide to the operation and procedures of the Legal Aid Plan.

The book itself deals only with the Ontario Legal Aid Plan and starts by reviewing the history and origin of the Plan and the various committees which led to the inception of the Ontario Legal Aid Plan in 1967.

This is a practical book in the sense that it has been prepared and written for the practising lawyer to assist him in dealing with the day-to-day problems which a solicitor, acting as Duty Counsel, may have in representing a client under the provisions of the Ontario Legal Aid Act.

The problem with a number of practice books, such as this one, is that it does not take long before the book is out-of-date because of changes in procedure and regulations.

A book, such as the *Legal Aid Handbook*, is useful to any practitioner who is carrying on a practice comprised mainly of Legal Aid work. Much of the information which is available in the book is also available to students-at-law at the Bar Admission Course. However, the book deals with the subject matter in more depth in that it provides examples and suggestions as to how to deal with the various procedures under the Legal Aid Plan.

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As usual, in books of this type, a great deal of space is devoted to regulations and precedents for accounts. In this particular book, there are 109 pages of theory and 97 pages of forms, regulations and precedents.

In the main part of the book, the author goes on to explain the solicitor's function operating under the Legal Aid Plan, how to apply for Legal Aid and the procedures which the Legal Aid Office adopts in dealing with applications. The book also deals with what a solicitor must do once he receives the Legal Aid Certificate and takes the matter right through until the completion of the trial, settlements, judgments and appeals.

There is one chapter which deals entirely with criminal matters and the rest of the book deals with the solicitor's accounts and how to process them in the best and most effective way.

This is a good, practical book for handling Legal Aid matters, but would probably be of more use and assistance to a lawyer practising in Metropolitan Toronto as it is geared more towards the procedure in that area. However, for any solicitor who does a great deal of Legal Aid work, the book would be of assistance, especially in processing accounts and corresponding with the Provincial Office.

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