

1928 UNITED STATES AVIATION REPORTS (1928 U. S. Av. R.). Baltimore: United States Aviation Reports, Inc., 1928. Pp. xi, 670.

While this volume purports to be nothing more than a collection of the American decisions and statutes on the law of aviation, it might well be entitled "The History of Aviation in the United States to 1928." It is to be doubted whether the balloonist making an ascension at a state fair over a century ago, and descending rather indiscriminately into the plaintiff's garden (as in the leading case of *Guille v. Swan*, p. 53) realized that he was laying a legal foundation for the rules of liability of an entire industry. It is likewise to be doubted whether the proprietors of such fairs or of similar amusement parks realized that the litigation in which such hazardous undertakings involved them would have any relevance to the law of "airports" in this century. The fact remains that the present volume comprises a survey of all the decisions, both judicial and administrative, which even remotely affect the operation of airplanes today.

It is astonishing to the casual reader to note the amount of litigation which has grown out of this modern development, and the extent to which this litigation impinges upon almost every branch of the law—tort, contract, municipal corporations, patents, and even admiralty rules. For example, the authors have reported fully the patent litigation arising over the Wright patents and the Curtiss patents, furnishing to the novice an interesting discussion of the basic principles of the airplane. It seems that even this infant industry has already been involved in questions arising under the anti-trust acts (see opinion of the Attorney-General, page 268, on *Manufacturers Aircraft Association Cross-License Agreement*). It is noted that the recent decision of the Missouri Supreme Court with reference to validity of the bond issue for the St. Louis Airport is not included in the present work, but there are several very similar cases included in the report.

The usefulness of this volume is enhanced by a full printing of the Air Commerce Act of 1926, the Air Commerce Regulations, Air Port Rating Regulations and all state statutes to date. An additional appendix gives commercial forms, including clauses for insurance policies and forms of contract for passengers, express, etc.

It is to be hoped that the enterprising editors of this volume will continue the series, as it furnishes a convenient reference work for the practitioner who finds new problems and new principles with the advent of every new development of our complex civilization.

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CASES ON SURETYSHIP, by *Stephen I. Langmaid*. St. Paul: West Publishing Company, 1927. Pp. xii, 662.

It is hard to compare casebooks on suretyship on the basis of their relative teachability. Probably no man walks the earth who can compile a casebook on that subject which will prevent its being the driest one in the law school curriculum, although not necessarily the hardest. The high-