Recent Publications

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Recent Publications


As the flow of commercial activity between Canada and the United States continues to grow, American businessmen are becoming increasingly aware that labor relations disputes could involve Canadian labor law. To aid American attorneys in advising their business clients, the International Labor Law Committee has prepared a fairly comprehensive volume on Canadian labor law. In addition to explaining the important features of Canadian labor law, the authors have diligently attempted to compare and contrast these features with United States labor law. This approach adds to the utility of the volume by helping to put matters into a proper perspective for the United States attorney.

The gamut of Canadian labor relations problems are covered in this volume. Jurisdictional conflicts between the national government and the provinces are discussed first. It is pointed out that in Canada the provinces are primarily responsible for settling labor disputes, unlike the United States where labor relations are federally controlled.

The law of collective bargaining is discussed with emphasis on bargaining units, the obligation to bargain, and the imposition and duration of collective agreements. Grievances and the law of arbitration are also given an in-depth analysis. Other areas analyzed are the scope of labor relations in Canada, union security, economic sanctions, judicial review, and intra-union disciplinary proceedings.

An indispensable part of this volume is its treatment of the law of unfair practices. The focus is primarily upon unfair labor practices at the initial organizational level of a union, in the union’s effort to get employer recognition, and in the negotiating process. Since this is an area where substantial litigation
occurs, United States attorneys should find this material particularly useful.

The one shortcoming of the volume is its inadequate illustration of the principles enunciated in the landmark Canadian labor law cases. However, this single shortcoming does not detract from the overall value of the volume, which is significant. It serves as an important reference source for the United States attorney unfamiliar with Canadian labor law.

C. M.
AFL-CIO Executive Council meetings) to the current sensitivity towards the working woman (a report on the first meeting held by the National Executive Board of the Coalition of Labor Union Women). The role the federal government plays on labor relations is examined with reference to the National Labor Relations Board and the area within the scope of its regulatory authority. Finally, the yearbook offers a selected analysis of significant decisions handed down by the NLRB and the courts during 1976.

The book is an excellent tool in preparation for the negotiation process and is to be recommended to the practitioner on that account.

F.J.D.