# LAW OF FEDERAL COURTS

Charles Alan Wright

Hornbook Series



# HANDBOOK ON THE LAW OF FEDERAL COURTS

By

# CHARLES ALAN WRIGHT

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THIRD EDITION

HORNBOOK SERIES

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VIII

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Bernhardt's Real Property in a Nutshell, 2nd Ed., approx. 440 pages, 1981 (Text)

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Jeans' Handbook on Trial Advocacy, Student Ed., 473 pages, 1975 (Text) McElhaney's Effective Litigation, 457

McElhaney's Effective Litigation, 45 pages, 1974 (Casebook)

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# CHARLES ALAN WRIGHT

Professor of Law University of Texas

# PREFACE TO THIRD EDITION

In the Second Edition of this book, published in 1970, provision was made for a Pocket Part, and indeed a Pocket Part was published in 1972, primarily because of the decision in Younger v. Harris, 91 S.Ct. 746, and its companion cases. In the fall of 1975 I began work on a new Pocket Part, but after I had done a part of that it seemed clear to me that so much of significance had occurred in this field that a Pocket Part would have been voluminous and that it would be far more convenient for users of the book if I were to prepare a new edition, in which the discussion of the recent developments could be integrated with what had occurred earlier.

As in the past, this book makes frequent references to the multi-volume Treatise on Federal Practice and Procedure, which I have been writing in collaboration with Professors Arthur R. Miller and Edward H. Cooper. Those who wish more detail on matters discussed here will find it by going to the cited portions of the Treatise. In addition, so many references are made in this book to the American Law Institute Study of Division of Jurisdiction between State and Federal Courts (Official Draft, 1969), that a short form of reference, "ALI Study," has been used.

The manuscript of this Third Edition went to the publisher in April, 1976, and in general the book covers only those decisions and other materials that were available to me prior to that date. It has been possible, however, to incorporate decisions of the Supreme Court through the end of its term in July, 1976, and a few other later developments of great importance, including the Act of August 12, 1976, which substantially abolishes three-judge courts.

One of my students, Stephen Greenberg, read a large part of the manuscript for this edition, and pointed out many places where revision was needed if the book were to be understandable to law students. I am very grateful to him for that assistance.

In the Preface to the First Edition I suggested that the needs of law students are far different from those of lawyers and judges and said that this work was intended for students. It was and is. But I underestimated the extent to which all of us in the legal profession remain students throughout our lives, and it has been highly gratifying to see the extent to which courts and lawyers have found the earlier editions of the book useful.

The Preface to the First Edition is not retained in this edition simply as a monument to my own failure to appreciate the needs of lawyers and judges. A more important reason is to preserve what I said then about my dear friends and mentors, Charles E. Clark and Charles T. McCormick.

## PREFACE TO THIRD EDITION

The First Edition of this book was published in September, 1963. Before the end of that year both Judge Clark and Dean McCormick were dead. I miss them very much.

CHARLES ALAN WRIGHT

Austin, Texas August, 1976

XIV