

## Bluebook Review

**A UNIFORM SYSTEM OF CITATION (14th edition).** By the *Columbia Law Review*, the *Harvard Law Review Association*, the *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*, and the *Yale Law Journal* (Harvard Law Review Association, Gannett House, Cambridge, Massachusetts). 1986. PP. XII, 255. Index.

There once was a book of creation  
Called *A Uniform System of Citation*;  
With general rules for all of the schools,  
It quickly caught on in the nation.<sup>1</sup>

It's now in its Fourteenth Edition;  
The Thirteenth completed its mission;  
The more that we seek to review tongue-in-cheek,  
The clearer it has come to fruition!

To law it is not quite endemic,  
Although one might think I'm polemic  
It's clearly a flaw to think of just law,  
For it serves other fields academic.<sup>2</sup>

Note carefully the changes it made,  
Especially the price that you paid;<sup>3</sup>  
Its roots come alive when you view roman five,<sup>4</sup>  
Giving reason for this accolade:

Cross-references now appear last,  
With hereinafter "cited as" passed;  
And sound clarification of bankruptcy citation,  
Accounting standards now are amassed.

The Government is easier to cite,  
House and Senate no longer a plight;  
Administrative adjudication, court arbitration,  
And taxation revised without fight.

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1. Slomanson, Book Review, 68 A.B.A.J. 735 (1982) (reviewing A UNIFORM SYSTEM OF CITATION (13th ed. 1981)) [hereinafter Bluebook].

2. The leading nonlegal style book for university publications is the so-called "Chicago Manual". It provides that "[n]otes in a predominantly legal work may follow [the Bluebook]. . . ." See UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS, THE CHICAGO MANUAL OF STYLE, § 17.76, at 504 (13th rev. ed. 1982).

3. The 13th edition was \$3.75. The 14th is \$8.95.

4. Although the 14th "retains the basic approach . . . established by its predecessors, it contains important revisions and additions [that are] particularly noteworthy. . . ." Bluebook, *supra* note 1, 14th ed., at v.

New rules for a film or broadcast,  
Plus SEC "no-actions" at last;  
Also covering the old, vintage books are on hold,<sup>5</sup>  
Ancient roman's brought back from the past.<sup>6</sup>

The 14th is waxed and revised,  
So readers would be well advised  
To note that "abroad" has received quite a nod,  
While the U. S. was also apprized.

But certainly one must concede  
That when you can find time to read,  
It's not your first choice, but yet I can voice  
That we grumble but still pay it heed.

*William R. Slomanson\**

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5. Books published prior to 1870 should be cited to a modern scholarly edition, if available. Bluebook, *supra* note 1, 14th ed., at v.

6. Newspapers and services are now all cited in roman.

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