

International Law

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International Law. By Julius I. Puente. Burdette J. Smith and Company, Chicago. 1928. Pp. 299.

International Law As Applied to Foreign States, by Julius Puente, LL.M., associate professor of international law at the De Paul University College of Law, is, as stated by the author "an analysis of the juridical status of foreign states in American jurisprudence." It is a companion book to *The Foreign Consul* by the same author, and the set is of great value to a student of the practical aspects of international law—a field which is little known to the average student.

The book makes no attempt at a historical or philosophical analysis of the subject, leaving that to the longer works of the elementary writers, but it is devoted to a clear concise statement of legal principles, supported by copious notes from American and English cases, and from well known text writers. The book is well written in a style which although easy to read, contains brief statements of the law which will repay careful study.

The introductory chapter explains in a general way the sources, bases, and necessity for a law governing the intercourse of nations. A list of the topics treated in the other four chapters—Recognition of Foreign Governments, Suability of Foreign States, Ambassadors and Public Ministers, and Treaties—will suffice to show the practical utility of the book to one desiring a comprehensive view of the field it covers.

The two books of the set have been well treated by the publisher. They are handsomely, although not expensively bound, printed in large plain type, and very well indexed, not only to subject matter, but to words and phrases.

MARGARET E. JORGENSEN

Public Utility Rate-Making. By Taylor E. Groninger. The Bobbs-Merrill Co. 1928. Price: \$7.50 net.

In *Public Utility Rate-Making*, Mr. Groninger does a difficult task and does it well. The author is a member of the Indianapolis bar, a former corporation counsel for the city of Indianapolis and special counsel for the Indiana Public Service Corporation. He writes from the viewpoint of a practical lawyer as well as of a theorist and brings to his work an experience and ability only too frequently absent from those who seek to defend the public against the organized aggression of great corporations. Not one of the least valuable qualities of his book is the fact that he so frequently leads the reader from the pensive citadel of the student into the forum of the advocate.

Furthermore, the book is actually interesting. That is, it is as interesting as anything dealing with so prosaic a subject *can* be. This interest is due largely to the pleasing style of the author, which at times is almost conversational and which is never dull. Perhaps this style would not be suited to a ponderous text which sought to classify and reclassify the innumerable decisions, State and Federal, in point. But the author, as he expressly sets out to do, confines himself, with a very few exceptions, to the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States and thereby avoids the tediousness of excessive minutiae. As he explains in the preface, "not many United States District Court decisions, State Supreme Court decisions or Commission orders are cited as authority, owing to the great contrariety of opinion among them."

The method used by the author is to quote very largely from the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, linking these quotations together with suitable comment and providing convenient summaries of his conclusions