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The Reasonableness of the Law

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giving the various provisions of the Covenant of the League, is mostly devoted to arguments in favor of the adoption, and subsequent trial, of this "means of preventing unnecessary war and the promotion of international social and economic co-operation." The arguments presenting the viewpoint of the writer are quite cogent as far as the theoretical aspect thereof is concerned. The remedy suggested as to a recalcitrant nation belonging to the league and violating its covenants, is found in Article 16 of the Covenant which provides for what amounts to a boycott of the offending nation by all the other nations, members of the league, and the author reaches the satisfactory, to him, conclusion that "severence of all trade and financial relations and all intercourse with the offender must be for most modern states as deadly as defeat in the field and this excommunication, be it noted, is possible without firing a gun or mobilizing a soldier." In other words, boycotting is to take the place of war as an instrument of enforcing the provisions of International Law. Possibly this is a sufficient "power" to make the provisions of the Law of Nations enforcible and effective. This may be true in case the offending nation is a small one because a boycott would be, in such case, fatal to its existence but it is more than doubtful if it would be effective in case the offending nation was a large and powerful one, which could very successfully resist and overcome any boycott other nations might inaugurate against it.

In the course of his argument the reviser makes the following statement: "The gravest objection to it is that it is a League of many Nations, but not of all Nations, and it is particularly unfortunate that the United States did not become a member. Political and constitutional reasons make its absence intelligible, but none the less regrettable."

The text also contains a quite detailed description of the establishment of the "Permanent Court of International Justice" established in 1921. This description contains the manner of the creation of the court, its various officials and the procedure to be followed.

The student or reader of this book must exercise some care to distinguish the text that was written by Dr. Lawrence and that which was written by the reviser. An attempt is made to make the exercise of this care easier by the fact that the new matter written by Dr. Winfield is enclosed in brackets, but as these bracketed paragraphs occur almost anywhere in the text, it is very easy to overlook them. While this is not a matter of very great importance yet, generally, students and readers would like to know whether they are reading the original author or the reviser.

On the whole, this latest exposition of International Law is a very excellent work, especially as a history and accurate recital of diplomatic correspondences that have been crystallized into principles of the Law of Nations. It is well written, logically arranged, easily understandable and exceedingly interesting to the novice in International Law as well as to the expert in that subject.

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The Reasonableness of the Law. By C. W. BACON and F. S. MORSE with an Introduction by J. A. Woodburn. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1924. pp. xii, 400.

This book is unique. Its main purpose is to show that the law is consistent in its principles, but that its application varies with the needs of society as they vary with conditions. It is also referred to in the introduction as a text-book for law students. Its scope is wide, including constitutional, common, and statute

law, and equity, and international law, but confined to law running in the United States. Its method is to give in each instance an historical introduction, showing the successive changes in condition, and then an analysis of the law, with definition, and selections from decisions and opinions.

It is obvious that the compression of such a subject into four hundred pages is an appalling task, and plainly specialists in each branch will criticize. The historian will complain that the historical introductions are incomplete; for instance, causes of settlement in the United States are mentioned, but none of those resulting from dissatisfaction at home, which actually led to many immediate modifications of law (pp. 3-4). Lawyers will wonder at the absence of the word "pleas," and at the description of an "Execution" as a remedy (p. 174). More important is the omission of all mention of the process by which change comes about. It is true that the description of such conflicts would involve the use of a disproportionate amount of space, but a recognition that the demand for change generally precedes the adaptation, and some discussion of the time element in adjustment, are almost called for. A mention of such movements as that of the American Bar Association, to study the question of modernization, would have tellingly supported the thesis of the book. A criticism still more important, because indicating a certain looseness in thought, is involved in the inclusion of the Monroe Doctrine as law.

With these qualifications, the book can be highly praised. The desirability of presenting its central theme to the lay mind is very great. One can imagine the book read with great profit in the vocational schools. It is clearly presented, is sound, and is particularly strong in the selection of cases. One may say that considering the space, most vitally important cases in the several fields are mentioned, and that the quotations are made not only from those of importance, but among them, from those best written and most easily understandable. If one could hope that this much legal knowledge was generally possessed, there would be little cause to fear for the overthrow of our institutions, or from their undue survival. In this respect the book tends to be conservative rather than radical.

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The Law: Business or Profession? By JULIUS HENRY COHEN. Revised Edition. New York: G. A. Jennings Co., Inc. 1924. pp. xviii, 513.

Never, perhaps, was there more need than at the present time, of putting strongly and interestingly before the minds of all, lawyers and laymen alike, the high ideals and the lofty aims which should animate the members of the "Ancient and honorable profession" of the Law.

For this reason, if for no other, the revised edition of *The Law—Business or Profession?* by Julius Henry Cohen, should be welcomed. It is a book for all. Lawyers old as well as young need it to instill or to arouse enthusiasm for the true spirit of their profession. Laymen need it even more, in order that they may have correct ideas of the very meaning of the profession.

The closer interrelation of business and law, which now obtains, has not always extended an uplifting influence. Business has been encroaching on the domain of law, attempting, to the detriment of both, to do the work which properly belongs to the law, and business men often wonder why lawyers can not do certain things, employ certain means, only too common in business, at least in certain quarters, and on the other hand, not a few of those admitted to