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Review of “Lectures on Legal Topics, 1921-1922”

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analytical index which enables the investigator to refer to specific problems easily.

The book should be of great value to the legal profession, as it is a very successful attempt to give to the young lawyer a book which will explain to him the nature of professional conduct and thereby enable him to take part in the struggle to maintain the highest professional ideals. To the student the book should be of inestimable value, as it is short enough to be readable, and yet so well condensed that it gives the student a substantial survey of the field of professional conduct.

MAURICE L. STEWART, '27.


This volume consists of a series of lectures delivered before the Bar Association of New York City during the court year of 1921-1922. Mere mention of the names of the lecturers would be sufficient to show that the volume is the work of many distinguished legal scholars and jurists.


Two very interesting, progressive and forward-looking lectures are those of Judge Benjamin N. Cardozo, of the New York Court of Appeals, on “Progress in the Law: A Ministry of Justice” (also printed in Harvard Law Review, Vol. XXXV), and “Can We Improve Our Sources of the Law?” by Justice Francis J. Swayze of the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

There are two lectures on constitutional questions. One entitled “Canadian Constitutional Law,” by Rt. Hon. Charles J. Doherty of Montreal: the other by Augustus N. Hand United States District Judge, called “A Sketch of Constitutional Law in America.”

There is an interesting article on “James Kent,” in which the author, Mr. Hampton L. Carson, of the Philadelphia bar, draws many comparisons between this great American commentator and Blackstone.

Unfortunately for the average reader, over one-third of the book contains lectures of peculiar interest and value to the New York prac-
titioner, but of little more than passing interest to the average lawyer. I refer to the series of five lectures on the "New Civil Practice Act and Rules," by Dean Carlos C. Alden of the Law School of the University of Buffalo, "Taxation of Corporate and Personal Incomes in New York" by Henry M. Powell of the New York bar, and "The Court of Appeals and Its Predecessors" by former Judge Willard Bartlett of the New York Court of Appeals. All of these lectures are scholarly and well written and are undoubtedly among the best in the book, but because of their local application they will have a more limited appeal than they deserve.

Three other lectures round out the book. "The Review of Criminal Causes in the Courts of the United States," by United States Circuit Judge Charles M. Hough; "The Deficiencies of Trials to Reach the Heart of the Matter" by Judge Learned Hand; and "The Literature of the Law" by Sir John W. Salmond (now deceased), former Judge of the Supreme Court of New Zealand.

The volume lacks uniformity in one respect, namely, that in some of the lectures the citations appear in the body of the text while in others they are properly collected together as footnotes. It might have been better for publication purposes had all the lectures been revised so as to incorporate all citations into footnotes.

On the whole we feel that the lectures are excellent, and the Bar Association of New York City is to be thanked for putting into permanent form these contributions to legal literature.

HAROLD C. ACKERT, '27.