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## Review of “The Law:—Business or Profession,” By Julius Henry Cohen

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a mastery of such tricks of the trade is the mark of a successful member of the bar.

Such addresses as "Address at Michigan Law University, Ann Arbor, March, 1873," and "From Judge C. J. Walker's Ann Arbor University Address, 1869," are reminiscent of the early inaccurate designation of the University of Michigan Law School. The American Bar looks forward to the time, and it is at hand, when the types of forensic appeal, perpetuated in this collection, will all be reminiscences only.

CHARLES E. CULLEN.

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THE LAW:—BUSINESS OR PROFESSION. By Julius Henry Cohen of the New York Bar. New York. G. H. Jennings Co., Inc. 1924.

Mr. Cohen's book "The Law:—Business or Profession" has as its main topic legal ethics and as its main theme the failure of some lawyers to come up to the ethical standards of their profession. As an introduction to this main thesis the author gives an interesting and enlightening survey of the varied position of the lawyer in countries throughout the world. This position varies from that in China, where (until the last few years) to practice law, in one sense of the word, was considered a criminal interference between the aggrieved citizen and the courts,—to that in European countries where the lawyer is considered an officer of the court bound by oath to aid that court in arriving at a just decision.

Since in our country also a lawyer is an officer of the court, high standards are necessary. Mr. Cohen points out that business is daily becoming more like a profession, that the old methods under which "railroad presidents . . . had no law of either state or nation to bother them, and could be both the law and profits unto themselves" are passing, and that the business man is building up an ethical code. Well then, should not the lawyer also strain to build up and then uphold professional standards? Certainly yes, is the author's answer. He does not attempt to conceal the faults of the profession. They are many, blatant, and this is no time for concealment, but rather for revelation and correction. However is he not despondent. According to Mr. Cohen, American lawyers have seen the stain upon their professional honor and are doing much through their Bar Associations to remove that stain. The American Bar Association through the local organizations, and through committees are doing much to clarify ethics

for unwittingly unethical lawyers and to hinder and disbar members who knowingly violate the professional code.

Mr. Cohen's chapters on "Business Enterprise in the Law" and on "A Commercial Invasion" are almost enough to dash the courage of an ethical lawyer. Examples are given of large and prosperous business concerns which have as their sole means of prosperity the "touting" of business for the less prosperous members of our noble profession. Discouraging facts are set forth in abundance but we are not left in the Slough of Despond but, like Christian, are brought to firmer ground in the next chapters. In these we are shown that standards are being slowly elevated and are shown the inspiring example set by some of America's best lawyers who are devoting valuable time and service to the cleansing of their profession.

In the final chapters Mr. Cohen advocates the teaching of legal ethics in all law schools as one means of reaching the desired end. This plus watchfulness on the part of the ethical lawyer and unflinching courage in weeding out unethical members will succeed in putting the lawyer in a respected position. The Appendices are devoted to the Code of Ethics adopted by the American Bar Association and to questions presented to the Committee on Professional Ethics of New York County and the answers given. LUCILLE STOCKE, '26.

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LAW REFORM. PAPERS AND ADDRESSES BY A PRACTICING LAWYER, HENRY W. TAFT. New York. The Macmillan Company. 1926.

Mr. Taft has published in book form an instructive collection of his papers and addresses. The fact that it is a collection of papers and addresses assures the reader that the book is entertaining as well as informing. The various subjects treated deal with law reform in different phases and with varying degrees of particularity; for example, the title essay on "Law Reform," deals with this subject in a manner which should prove interesting to both the lawyer and the layman. The subjects of "Justice and the Poor," "The Press and the Courts," and "The World Court," should all be extremely interesting to the layman. Those in the profession will find his treatment of "Will Contests in New York," "Uniformity of Procedure in the Federal Courts," and "Freedom of Speech and the Espionage Acts," highly instructive.

Since the title essay deals generally with the subject of law reform and gives Mr. Taft's views on the subject, a review of that essay