

CANADIAN YEARBOOK OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, VOL. XVII, 1979. Edited by C.B. Bourne & A.D. Pharand, University of British Columbia Press, pp. 462, \$28.00.

The 1979 edition of the Yearbook contains a varied collection of articles, notes, comments and digests of Canadian state practice and cases which will be of interest both to lawyers and those interested in international affairs.

The Yearbook presents an opportunity for leading authorities and specialists to present the results of current research in their areas of interest.

Donat Pharand, well known for his work on Canada's claims to the Arctic Islands and waters, presents a thoughtful and timely paper on the status of the Northwest Passage in International Law. The author reaches the interesting conclusion that while the Passage is *de facto* a strait, it is not an international strait because not enough international maritime traffic use it as a navigable channel. Professor Pharand then addresses himself to other relevant issues such as the right of innocent passage, the future potential status of the Northwest Passage as an international strait, and the need for continued Canadian control over pollution in the area. Professor Pharand's article will provide much food for thought, if the exploitation of oil and gas reserves in the Arctic necessitates the Passage's constant use.

Leslie Green in this volume adds to his numerous works on the laws of armed conflict and humanitarian law. His paper on war law and the medical profession sweeps across almost every facet of the subject including a historical and multicultural analysis. Professor Green's paper provides a treasure house of information in this area for the diligent reader.

Joost Blom continues his exposition on choice of law methods in the private international law of contract in this edition of the Yearbook. Professor Blom analyses American law concerning choice of law methods relating to the substantial or essential validity of contracts. His central thesis seems to be that, in the United States, there is a tendency on the part of the courts to apply governmental interests that could defeat the legitimate expectations of the parties to the contract. The author very painstakingly threads his way through the effect of the First and Second Restatements of the Conflict of Laws in this area. The quality of this paper must enhance the standing of the Yearbook as a leading international law journal.

Two other articles concerning current and controversial issues are also included in this edition. Michel Frederick competently examines the legal issues concerning the delimitation of the Continental Shelf between Canada and the United States in the Beaufort Sea. The presence of oil and gas reserves in this area underlies the importance of this paper.

Francis Florio analyses the issues concerning water pollution and the related principles in international law. The author examines how international agreements have attempted to combat the ever present problem of water pollution.

The remaining article is Shabatai Rossenne's appraisal of Judge Read, the first Commonwealth judge to sit on the bench of the International

Court of Justice. Readers should not expect an in-depth discussion on how Judge Read helped shape the development of International Law in the early days of the International Court of Justice. The author concentrates on providing an interesting sketch of a man dedicated to the objective of shaping a World Court which would have a viable role to play in international affairs.

The Yearbook then adds notes and comments on more specific issues, and on general issues treated in less depth. Professor McRae provides a brief summary of the status of the current dispute between the United States and Canada before the International Court of Justice concerning the delimitation of boundaries in the Gulf of Maine.

Finally, the Yearbook provides a digest of most recent events concerning Canadian state practice in international affairs and a digest of Canadian cases concerning public and private international law issues. There is also a commentary on recent treaties signed by Canada. As well, the volume contains several book reviews. This last section of the Yearbook, as usual, provides an invaluable research tool for those working in the area.

In conclusion, this edition reinforces the valuable contribution that the Yearbook continues to make to the ongoing literature of international law.

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