

lems involved. The international institutions which govern research, distribution of ore and fuel and security are subjected to a thorough analysis. Canada is a member of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency and so is taking an important role in the attempt to divert nuclear energy into peaceful channels.

Chapter Five is a fascinating chapter devoted to the liability of those who use radioactive material for industrial and medical purposes. Much of the law controlling the circulation of these substances is statutory, and therefore is peculiar to the United Kingdom. The authors do discuss the problems of liability under the general law, however, and their comments will be most useful in all the common law countries. The examples used demonstrate the ubiquity of the chance of harm in a modern society.

This is a most interesting work which not only explains all the law relevant to the production of nuclear energy, but also explains carefully what it is that produces the risk of injury. Some of the book necessarily deals with the English statutes and the European international agreements but the sections dealing with the common law and with the conflicts and public international facets of legal liability should be most rewarding to the reader.

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SOME MAKERS OF ENGLISH LAW. (The Tagore Lectures, 1937-38). By Sir William Holdsworth, K.C., D.C.L., LL.D., F.B.A. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 1966. Pp. xi and 308. (\$2.25).

Counsellor Pleydell in Sir Walter Scott's novel, *Guy Mannering*, stated:

"A lawyer without history or literature is a mechanic, a mere working mason; if he possesses some knowledge of these he may venture to call himself an architect."

Sir William Holdsworth might well have added that one cannot appreciate fully legal history by studying only the facts and events of history. History is not made by events alone but also by men who shape or are shaped by the happenings of their day. The rivalries between such men as Coke (Chief Justice of King's Bench) and Bacon (Attorney-General) cannot be ignored when discussing the fact and the implications of the Earl of Oxford's case. It is possible that Equity would not have triumphed at that time if the two key figures had not been bitter rivals in a personal sense as well as in a professional sense. This does not mean that one should ignore the undoubted ability and leadership of Lord Ellesmere who was Chancellor for twenty-one years (1596-1617), and it is probable that the respect felt for him was no small factor in reconciling the professional opinion of the common lawyers to the King's decision in favour of the court of Chancery.

The Tagore Lectures were established through the testamentary generosity of Prasanna Kumar Tagore C.S.I., who died in August, 1868. In his bequest to the University of Calcutta he directed the Senate of the University to appoint a professor who should deliver one complete course

of law lectures without charge to the students and others who should attend them. It was inevitable that a professor of the eminence of Sir William Holdsworth should be chosen to lecture on some historical subject relevant to the birth and development of the common law system which India had inherited.

The English legal system owes a great debt to its great lawyers, as counsel as well as judges, in our courts of justice. Throughout our legal history there runs a sense of the practical character of English law. Hale pointed out that as law is designed to settle the infinitely various affairs of men, something more was needed to make a good lawyer than sound general principles and a capacity to reason correctly. Experience and training were far more important qualities than the untried fancies of philosophers. English law was built up by the slow accumulation of day by day decisions pronounced on the actual disputes of everyday life. Our system of law and order, more than any other system, has been influenced in its growth by the judiciary. It is most important therefore that an easily accessible study be made of the characteristic contributions of our greatest judges. From such a study one can see how these men were able to mould the law to fit the changing conditions of social life whilst preserving its traditional continuity which protected it from the dangers of arbitrariness. Legal history, like any other subject, can be presented in a dull and boring manner, but Professor Holdsworth, by linking the history of legal doctrine with the careers and achievements of famous jurists, has been able to endow the evolution of the law with a living and a dramatic interest and incidentally to make it more easily remembered. From Glanvil to Sir Frederick Pollock is a long period of time, some 750 years, and in tracing the progress of the common law and of equity through all this period, Professor Holdsworth was required to maintain a high sense of proportion and a gift of discrimination.

The production of these lectures in a paper back edition will make them very easily accessible to all students. This is a book which all who seek to learn the law, or who in any way hold dear our legal heritage, must read at regular intervals throughout their lives. One can best conclude this review by quoting the opening sentences of the last chapter of the book:

All these Makers of English Law, by their decisions or books or opinions, have helped to construct a system of law, the rules of which can be studied as a science, because they are dependent on leading principles logically developed. They have done for English law what the great Roman jurists, whose writings are preserved in the Digest, did for Roman law.

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OPEN OCCUPANCY VS. FORCED HOUSING UNDER THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT. General editor, Alfred Avins. New York: Bookmailer. 1963. Pp. 316. (\$6.00).

This symposium on anti-discrimination legislation as it affects housing in the United States purports to be a calm presentation of "the many and varied understandings" on the subject.¹ It is true, the reader is