

eigners. Thus there began in 1936 the transition period which gave way to the complete disappearance from Egypt of any trace of special judicial rights for aliens, culminating in the closure of the Mixed Courts in 1949.

The lesson that Judge Brinton draws from his historical survey of *The Mixed Courts in Egypt* is that foreign judges must regard themselves, as did this bench, as servants of the local sovereign; they must receive full cooperation from the local authorities; they must receive an adequate salary; they must be guaranteed full security and dignity—Judge Brinton served for 27 years; and they must not expect to, nor in fact receive, preferential rights compared with their local colleagues. In his view, “. . . it seems fair to conclude that the example of the Mixed Courts may still give encouragement to those who are seeking to strengthen and extend the Rule of Law among the nations of the world.”

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LAW IN A CHANGING AMERICA, An American Assembly Book, Edited by Geoffrey C. Hazard, Jr., Englewood, N. J.: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1968. Pp. xiii and 207.

The American Assembly is a national, non-partisan educational institution, which holds meetings of national leaders and publishes books with the avowed objective of illuminating issues of United States policy. The Trustees are prominent Americans (some, but not all, lawyers) and the subjects of studies of the Assemblies have varied widely from American agriculture to Outer Space. In 1968, one of the subjects of study was law in a changing America and this book consists of twelve papers prepared for advance background reading for participants at the meeting of the Assembly held on March 14, 1968, at Chicago.

Considering the nature of the study and the purposes for which the papers were prepared, it is not surprising that this book does not fit into the usual category of legal text book. The reader is not likely to find statements of law to cite in legal argument; however, he will find some thought provoking criticisms concerning the inadequacies of the services rendered to society by the profession and some rather startling suggestions for the improvement of such services. The book attempts to measure the role of the lawyer in American society, to outline the problems facing the legal profession in the next few years, and to advocate changes in the profession which will enable it to meet the increasingly complex demands of contemporary life.

It is not possible, of course, to deal in this review with each of the papers produced in the book, although some of the papers which the reviewer especially enjoyed and considers to be of particular interest to the Canadian bar are later discussed. As a generalization, however, it is safe to say that the authors of the papers tend to emphasize the role of lawyers as social engineers to an extent much greater than the everyday practitioner is likely to assume his practice entails. Moreover, as one may perhaps expect in a book dealing with American

society, the omnipresent constitutional limitations unique to that country and the peculiar role of the American judiciary in relation thereto meet with considerable discussion which is unlikely to be of more than slight interest to the Canadian reader.

In his paper, "Changing Patterns of Legal Services," Murray L. Schwartz, Associate Dean and Professor of Law at the University of California, Los Angeles, considers the changes within the legal profession within the last fifty years—the concentration of law firms in financial districts of the cities for the convenience and service of corporate organizers as well as the development of large firms offering specialized departmental services.

He asks:

Are the existing patterns for providing legal services adequate to: (1) enable the average person to be aware that a problem confronting him has consequences for which the services of a lawyer would be helpful; (2) enable the average person to make an informed decision whether the cost of those legal services is worth paying in the light of the probable benefits of the services; (3) provide him, in appropriate cases, with financial resources to pay those costs; (4) bring him together with a lawyer in whom he has confidence and who has the competence to provide the appropriate assistance.

Dean Louis H. Pollock of the Yale Law School in a paper entitled "To Secure the Individual Rights of the Many," examines the role of the judiciary in protecting the privacy of the individual. While recognizing the unavoidable encroachments of modern society upon the right of spatial isolation, he advocates a vigorous supervision of the judiciary over "the right to be let alone" as well as calling on those who administer the law "to exercise the liberating, as well as the regulating, powers of the charters they work under."

In a thought stimulating paper entitled "Regulating Professional Qualification", Richard W. Nahstall, an Oregon attorney, considers the effects of social change in the bar itself. In pointing out that the practice of law requires increasing specialized knowledge and skill, he raises the question whether there should not be change in professional qualification, which has remained essentially unchanged since the turn of the century. He attacks the "myth of omnicompetence" that with the general license comes the right to practice law indiscriminately. Amongst numerous suggestions are a period of probationary licensing for attorneys commencing in their practice (perhaps not wholly unlike the Canadian practice of articling), an involuntary retirement procedure applicable to the mentally ill, alcoholic and senile practitioners which would remove such persons from active practice before, and not after, they have misserved clients, and a system of recognizing and certifying special competence and proficiency in a particular field of law.

This book probably is of greater interest to the educator and scholar than to the everyday practitioner. For the Canadian reader, certain of the papers will hold little interest as they treat almost exclusively with peculiar American statutes and cases. Nevertheless, for the practising lawyer, who will take himself away for a short time from his text books and cases, the book will offer many stimulating and provoking thoughts on his role in contemporary society.

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