

nature may be made. It is necessarily difficult when a book is written by more than one author to achieve complete homogeneity of style, and one would not expect it, but the contrasts in style between different parts of this book are sometimes more striking than one might have thought inevitable. As an instance a comparison between chapter 2, on police powers, and, say, chapters 6, 7, 14 and 15, on radio, television, theatre, cinema and the freedom to work and freedom of property, tempts this reviewer to the criticism that chapter 2 is written too loosely and with a tendency to imprecise colloquialism. Stylistically the difference is largely that whereas the latter chapters are written in short simple sentences, the earlier chapter is written in long involved sentences. It is hard to resist the inference that some parts of the books have been subjected to more precise intellectual discipline than others.

This criticism is a very minor one in relation to the inherent worth of the book as a whole. The authors have done a good job and one well worth doing. They are to be congratulated.

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International Law in Australia, edited by D. P. O'CONNELL (The Law Book Company Limited, 1966), pp. i-xliii, 1-603. Price \$11.00.

Compilations of this sort are notoriously difficult to review adequately, for few reviewers have expert knowledge of all the fields in which the numerous contributors write. In the present case, indeed, the reviewer had, until reading the book, no detailed knowledge at all of some of the topics selected by the authors. This particular deficiency, thanks to this book, no longer exists. There are twenty-one essays in the book and they cover many of the fields in which the modern State comes into contact with the rules of International Law. Not surprisingly, in view of their increasing importance, International Organizations are discussed in many of the contributions. There are not lacking, however, discussions of Australia's position in the setting of the rules of 'classical' International Law.

Some of the authors are public servants, writing about the work they do or have done in the course of their employment. The majority are academic lawyers, though not, it is believed, in all cases primarily *International* Lawyers. This is revealed by an occasional crudity or oversimplification in statements of what the International Law on a particular topic may be. But, as the title indicates, this is not really a book about International Law as such: it is rather a book about Australia's attitude towards those rules of International Law which makes an impact on her, a book of Australian Constitutional Law in its external setting. For this reason, and because there is no other theme or unity in the book, it cannot be recommended as a sufficient students' text-book of International Law, though students of International Law will be well-advised to read many of the individual articles. They will also, it must be said, (for such a collection as this is necessarily uneven in quality), be well advised to look elsewhere if they want authoritative statements on some topics. The standard of one or two of the contributions is very low—but so low that no warning against them should be necessary.

One of the chief values of the book lies in the statements of Australian State practice which it contains. Naturally enough, these are mainly, though by no means entirely, found in the contributions of the non-academic lawyers who are concerned with such matters. Rather factual essays dealing only with State practice are not readily available in the

'learned' periodicals and it is the more valuable to have them here. In a class of its own is Sir Kenneth Bailey's elegant and interesting account of the issues discussed at the 1958 Conference on the Law of the Sea and of the likely effect upon Australia of the draft Conventions which it produced. Here we have an eye-witness account of the creation of rules of International Law, often by compromise in the midst of a mass of conflicting interests, with the implication that it is only when States feel that a law will not affect their own vital interests that International Law can be created, or when created, enforced.

It would be invidious for the reviewer to select only some of the contributions for individual criticism, praise or blame. He can say, however, that in nearly all cases the authors make their points clearly and seem to have succeeded in doing what they set out to do. As a collection of individual statements, some of very high quality, of Australia's attitude towards International Law, or the effect upon Australia's own Constitutional Law of the demands or rules of International Law, the book should be on the shelves of every library, and should be frequently referred to.

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Real Estate Agency in Victoria, by HADDON STOREY, LL.M. (Butterworth & Co. (Australia) Ltd, 1967), pp. 1-404 (inclusive of Preface, Table of Contents, Statutes and Cases and Index). Price \$12.50.

What do lawyers in active practice look for in a text-book? Many would answer that it should provide statements of principles which are as definitive as they reasonably can be. Others might say that it is important that areas of uncertainty should be discussed, and doubtful aspects and matters of controversy should be pointed out and weighed. Still again, it could be suggested that what is needed is a comprehensive collection of authorities; such a collection being, of course, organized systematically. Yet another practitioner will demand that all the original legislation and relevant regulations on the subject be collected, together with 'plenty of forms'.

Because requirements such as these present aspects which are frequently inharmonious, if not actually contradictory, it is rare to find a text-book combining successfully various functions such as those enumerated. While Mr Haddon Storey has not achieved a perfect result, he appears to have furnished the legal profession in Victoria with a text-book which provides excellently for many of the needs of those concerned with the law relating to particular aspects of the business of a real estate agent.

The form of this work is uncommon in that it consists of a text of some 180 pages together with an annotation of the Estate Agents Act 1958 and the Estate Agents Committee Rules 1964. In addition, the Estate Agents Licensing and General Regulations 1963 (as amended) are set out. Extracts from the Sale of Land Act 1962; the Local Government Act 1958; the Crimes Act 1958 and the Commonwealth Secret Commissions Act 1905 have been included in appendices.

On the whole the experiment with the book's arrangement seems to have been successful. Of course, with a practice book such as this the proper gauge of how well the difficulties have been surmounted is not to be found in any single reading, albeit for review purposes. A true appraisal