

sary contest between counsel.<sup>10</sup> But despite these matters I do not wish to quarrel with the authors' fundamental position too much; it is liberal without being strident, and if there is no fire in their belly at least there is not much ice.

Apart from these general comments, there are a few minor inaccuracies. The discussion of publication of libel on page 160, for example, would be more accurate if *Theaker v. Richardson*<sup>11</sup> had been cited. Again, it is too simple to state that 'it is probable that the Commonwealth Parliament has no power to legislate for compulsory unionism,<sup>12</sup> citing *R. v. Wallis*<sup>13</sup> as authority; but perhaps the simplification here, and in many other places, is deliberate and springs from the nature of the book, which is evidently intended as much for the layman as the lawyer. There are always difficulties in aiming at such a dual audience.

One complaint about production. The proof-reading is of a consistently messy standard, the pièce de résistance occurring on page 291 where footnotes 32-36 of Chapter 14 occur at the end of the footnotes relating to Chapter 15. For a book that costs seven dollars, this is not good enough.

R.W.H.

AN INTRODUCTION TO LAW. By D. P. Derham, F. K. H. Maher and P. L. Waller. The Law Book Co. Ltd. 1966. Pp. viii, 226. \$6.30 (hard cover), \$4.00 (soft cover).

This book is written primarily for the benefit of the student who is about to begin a University law degree course, though also for the layman interested in finding out something about the legal system which frames his life. The problems of writing such a book are tremendous; no jargon, the essential short-cut mechanism of all subjects involving expertise, can be assumed to be known to the reader; qualifications to propositions must, for the most part, be cut out, for they will only confuse the reader who is trying to grasp for the first time what proposition it is that is being qualified, and this must be done without leaving the main idea expressed in a misleading or

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<sup>10</sup> Id. at 66.

<sup>11</sup> [1962] 1 All E.R. 229.

<sup>12</sup> CAMPBELL & WHITMORE 230.

<sup>13</sup> (1949) 78 C.L.R. 529.

a dogmatic way. Faced with these difficulties, the authors have been outstandingly successful. The only book of comparable quality written with the same sort of aim that I can think of is 'Learning the Law', by Dr. Glanville Williams. 'An Introduction to Law' goes a little further than the latter book, however; for instance, the chapters on the Divisions of Law, apart from dealing somewhat inadequately with Equity, are much fuller, and there is an exceptionally useful chapter on The Reasoning of Lawyers.

The authors say, in the preface, that this book was mulled over, in one way or another, for fourteen years. It was time well spent.

R.W.H.

POLITICAL PARTIES IN NEW ZEALAND. By R. S. Milne. Oxford, at the Clarendon Press. 1966. Pp. viii, 313. \$7.80.

The short synopsis of contents on the dust-cover claims that 'this is the first book to give a comprehensive account of New Zealand political parties', a statement which, though true, is too laconic to do justice to a really excellent survey and analysis of the political scene in New Zealand since 1890. Perhaps at this point the reviewer should disclose his own interest as a New Zealander, and an observer and very occasional participant in the political scene from 1933 to 1958. Looking at the book from this standpoint he finds it thorough, fair-minded, penetrating and perceptive. It may be that readers not so familiar with the background and the persons and events discussed will find some parts of the book rather too allusive for easy reading; but even those with but a nodding acquaintance with New Zealand and its history will find much to interest them, and the book should be of very considerable value to serious students of politics. Professor Milne writes from a first-hand acquaintance with the country itself gained when he was Professor of Political Science at what is now the Victorian University of Wellington, from 1956 to 1959, and in a two-month return visit in 1964. The book is brought up to December 1965 by a brief note, on p. vi of the Preface, recording the break with previous tradition in connexion with the election for Leadership of the Parliamentary Labour Party; for the first time the incumbent was opposed in the ballot, and his opponent defeated him.

Professor Milne begins with a short chapter on the social and political setting, which includes a section on the quality of politicians