

What emerges then is essentially a practitioners' reference book (this is not a student text) whose utilitarian value is greatly reduced unless constant reference is made to the supplement—neither the existence of which, nor the necessity for making such reference to ensure the accuracy of a proposition in the text is explained anywhere in the reprint itself. Nevertheless, provided this is appreciated, for the practising lawyer or libraries who failed to acquire the fourth edition when it first appeared this reprint of Joske together with the supplement, now provides the opportunity to acquire a book which represents the most comprehensive treatment of Australian law in the field of marriage and divorce.

IAN MCCALL

PAKISTAN. By Alan Gledhill. British Commonwealth Series, Volume 8. 2nd ed. Stevens & Sons Ltd. London. 1967.

In 1957 Professor Gledhill published the first edition of this book which was the eighth volume in the British Commonwealth series. A year later, in October 1958, President Iskander Mirza issued a proclamation abrogating the Constitution of 1956, dismissing the federal and provincial governments and legislatures, and placing the country under martial law with General Ayub Khan as Chief Administrator. Within a few days Iskander Mirza resigned and Ayub Khan assumed the Presidency.

Gledhill's second edition, published in 1967, takes account of these events and of the political events which precipitated them, as well as of subsequent developments in Pakistani public and private law. A period of martial law followed the abrogation of the 1956 constitution, and in 1962 a new constitution was promulgated. It is presidential in the American sense; the Westminster model is repudiated and the President is not answerable to the legislative. Both the President and the Legislature are indirectly elected; the notion of successive electoral tiers, the "Basic Democracies", gives expression to Ayub Khan's notion of the appropriate measure of direct popular involvement in governmental processes. Direct representation occurs only at the base, and Gledhill expresses some sympathy with this notion. As he puts it:

There is much to be said for the view that local government boards provide the best training grounds for national politicians. It could be argued that constitutional progress in the sub-continent has introduced democratic government at the higher levels

too fast to avoid the strains resulting from the slower progress at lower levels; democracy at provincial headquarters fits ill with autocracy in the villages.

Whatever the merits of the basic democracies as a retraining of the Pakistani people in political processes, the powers vested in the President are certainly formidable. He has wide authority to legislate by ordinance when the National Assembly is not in session and his emergency powers are immense. Gledhill's account of the exercise of emergency powers by Ayub Khan in 1965 (pp. 140-141) shows just how extensive, far reaching and destructive of elementary notions of constitutional government they are.

The chief interest of this second edition lies in the account of constitutional and administrative problems and developments since 1958. Since the abrogation of the 1956 Constitution there has been a considerable volume of legislation, often reflecting welfare state notions. Much of it was brought into operation by ordinance. This is noted in the appropriate chapters dealing with the public and private law of Pakistan.

Professor Gledhill is very well equipped to write this volume. Inevitably the pressures of space have compelled him to compress, and the results is a detailed text tightly and economically written. It is a very useful contribution to this worthwhile series, and in less than four hundred pages affords a conspectus of constitutional and legal developments in Pakistan.

ZELMAN COWEN

ISAAC ISAACS. By Zelman Cowen. Oxford University Press, Melbourne. 1967. Pp. 272 (including frontispiece, eight other plates and index) \$6.00.

Biographical studies of Australian judges have hitherto formed a small and undistinguished part of the legal literature of this country. Until the publication of the present work there were no substantial biographies of the local judiciary which even attempted a detailed and sophisticated appraisal of their subjects' contributions to the law. Below the High Court level only two essays in judicial biography have appeared. These have dealt with Chief Justice Higinbotham¹

¹ MORRIS, GEORGE HIGGINBOTHAM (1895).