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Books Received

BOOKS RECEIVED

THE CASE FOR COMPULSORY BIRTH CONTROL. Edgar R. Chasteen. New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, 1971. Pp. 213. \$5.95. Edgar Chasteen dramatically protests the "rape of our country" by those who define progress in terms of consumer buying power and gross national product. The book describes man's hopelessly destructive nature and inability to safeguard his environment, predicting that unchecked breeding and increasing numbers of people will soon lead to environmental crisis. The author's tone is almost frantic as he warns of the depletion of our natural resources, of the impossibility of feeding our masses, and of the physical overcrowding which must result unless we stabilize our population.

Chasteen deals with this current issue by tracing the concept of population control from Confucius to Margaret Sanger. Concluding that family planning is an anachronism and that the preventive medicine of birth control is inadequate, the author dismisses legislation offering tax incentives for small families, and advocates statutory restrictions on family size as the only viable means of solving this problem. Although it is recognized that the acceptance of such a law would not be automatic, *The Case for Compulsory Birth Control* does not consider whether the system is repugnant to our way of life or violative of provisions of the Bill of Rights. Moreover, it ignores the problem of policing the system. In spite of these weaknesses, Chasteen's empirical evidence and historical approach make his call for an end to the "birthquake" valuable and interesting reading for socially-concerned people.

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE LEASES - 3d. Milton R. Friedman. New York: Practising Law Institute, 1971. Pp. 464 (paperbound). Milton Friedman, a widely known New York real estate lawyer and scholar, has selected an extremely practical group of articles which discuss in some detail the intricacies of office, store, and shopping center leases. Of particular value for quick reference are the sample lease forms and standard lease clauses which Friedman has included. In short, this well-edited text provides the practitioner with an excellent introductory source for dealing with commercial real estate leases.

FROM NOW TO ZERO. Leslie Aldridge Westoff and Charles F. Westoff. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1971. Pp. 358.

\$7.95. In 1965, Charles F. Westoff released the National Fertility Study, a report based on personal interviews with 5,600 married women located throughout the country. *From Now to Zero* is a popularization of the findings of that study, which constitutes an analysis of contraceptive and reproductive habits in America and their impact on population growth. Included in the author's coverage is an investigation of the factual aspects of reproduction and contraception; the attitude of the Roman Catholic Church and its effect on the reproductive behavior of Catholics; the fertility of the Black population, viewed against the history of the Negro family and today's social and economic environment; governmental population policy in the U.S.; and previous and present efforts toward family planning. The authors observe, as have many economists, that population *per se* is not the villain that high production and consumption are. This book provides an excellent background for the understanding of reproduction and contraception and American attitudes toward both. Each chapter concludes with an extensive bibliography to expedite a more detailed study in the field. Although it fails to resolve major policy issues in the matter of population control, *From Now to Zero* represents an excellent source of basic population data.

HOW TO AVOID LAWYERS. Edward Siegel. Greenwich, Connecticut: Fawcett, 1971. Pp. 350 \$0.95 (paperbound). *How to Avoid Lawyers* identifies several situations in which the layman can attempt "do-it-yourself" techniques, and a large portion of the book consequently deals with the "probate racket." Siegel parades anecdotes of everyday legal dilemmas in the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Upper Middle Class, and although he disclaims an attempt to "teach the reader to be a lawyer," each chapter of his "how-to-do-it" manual ends with copies of appropriate legal forms intended to be adapted for use in the home.

The trouble with this book is not that it is professionally deficient or that it presents a distorted picture of the mechanics of a legal dispute, but that it is offered as a tempting panacea to the problem of the high cost of legal services while serving only to fuel the problem by encouraging laymen toward further blunders and confusion. The legal profession is no doubt susceptible to criticism for failure to reduce the cost of legal services to the middle class. But this book is worthy of equally strong criticism for deceiving the layman into believing that he can successfully avoid the costs of a lawyer by drafting his own will, contract of sale, or partnership agreement. Confusion

and mistake breed complexity. Complex lawsuits are expensive. Avoid Edward Siegel.

HOW TO BE A SURVIVOR. Dr. Paul R. Ehrlich and Richard L. Harriman. New York: Ballantine Books, 1971. Pp. 207. \$5.95. This readable book is intended as a step toward a comprehensive "survival manual for Spaceship Earth." Ehrlich and Harriman apparently felt little trepidation in tackling and resolving every conceivable economic, social, ecological, and political problem the world faces. The authors outline and discuss a four-step conversion from our present situation to a more idealized existence, including programs for population control, de-development of overdeveloped countries, semi-development of underdeveloped countries and, finally, continuous regulation. Their broad discussion makes for a stimulating and hyphenated view of the future, and includes a bibliography of related works for those readers who can't stop with one.

INTERNATIONAL LAW. Charles S. Rhyne. Washington: CLB Publishers, Inc., 1971. Pp. xxix, 656. \$22.50. This book is a comprehensive overview of the present status of international law, covering its history, sources, and basic concepts. Rapidly developing areas such as human rights, outer space, and disarmament are extensively treated, as are the more traditional areas of international law such as warfare and arbitration. The author's careful analysis of the origins, functions, and procedures of international institutions and agencies should be of particular value to the practicing attorney who might have occasion to work with or through any of these organizations. Also included is a section devoted to legal education and its impact in shaping the growth of international law. Of particular interest is the author's lengthy discussion of the relationship between law and international economic development. *International Law* is not confined to consideration of the past and present, but also includes prospects and specific proposals by the author and other authorities for the future of the international legal order. Comprehensive references to secondary sources facilitate any additional research the reader may wish to do in a particular area of international law.

REGULATING THE POOR: THE FUNCTION OF PUBLIC WELFARE. Frances Fox Piven and Richard A. Cloward. New York: Pantheon Books, 1971. Pp. xiii, 389. \$10.00. *Regulating the Poor* rejects the view that governmental social policies are becoming progressively more responsible and humane, and contends in-

stead that present welfare policies are politically motivated. The authors' thesis is that "[E]xpansive relief policies are designed to mute civil disorder, and restrictive ones to reinforce work norms." In other words, in times of stress the government increases welfare benefits in order to quiet the public, but once quiet is achieved the government returns benefits to lower levels. Welfare policies, therefore, vary cyclically in relation to the amount of social turmoil. In support of their thesis, the authors discuss the welfare explosions of the 1930's and 1960's, arguing that in both instances welfare benefits were increased to assuage public discontent. During the interim, they point out, welfare rolls were cut back. The analysis is radical, but done in a scholarly manner. The commentary on American government is both interesting and worthwhile reading.

THE REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON CAMPUS UNREST. New York: Arno Press, 1970. Pp. x, 537. \$5.95. The book that evoked the charge of "pabulum for permissiveness" by Vice President Spiro Agnew in September of 1970 is something far less radical than might be inferred from that statement. The report is an enlightened analysis of the definition and causes of, as well as remedies for, "campus unrest." Recognizing that "campus unrest" has come to include "not only the intellectual ferment which should exist in the University, but also all forms of protest, both peaceful and otherwise," the Commission emphasizes that society should concern itself only with activities on campus which are in fact both disruptive and violent. The report cites the changing values of American youth as the ultimate cause of increasing student dissatisfaction. The restoration of moral leadership in American society, the Commission submits, would go far to alleviate the problems of the American college campus. In short, the crisis of the campus is a lack of moral leadership with which a young generation can identify. The substantive issues which gave rise to previous unrest on college campuses continue to exist and, although campuses are presently quiet, tensions lie closely beneath the surface. The analysis and recommendations of this report definitely deserve reading.

UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION. Ruth Mulvey Harmer. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1971. Pp. 374. \$6.95. The author of *The High Cost of Dying* has written a well-documented book to expose what she characterizes as the neglect of the scientific, industrial, educational, and governmental establishments in the regulation of pesticides and the subse-

quent effect of this neglect on human health and welfare. Demonstrating how ineffective the regulatory agencies have been in controlling the use of insecticides, she points out the need for effectively enforced, consistent national standards for the use of pesticides. Miss Harmer attacks in particular what she terms the "insect mentality" or "pest hallucinations" that have been created by insecticide advertising—resulting in a "bugs or people" feeling that often clouds the real issue. Identified as one of the problems is the reluctance of many people in positions of authority to search for new ways of controlling and eliminating insects.

After documenting the dangers of the DDT and organic phosphate families of poisons and present policies for their use, the author recognizes that chemical pesticides are here to stay. She urges, however, that their nonselective uses be banned and that their selective uses be carefully regulated. Many workable alternatives to present methods are offered: new farming methods, living pesticides (harmless insects that are natural enemies of the harmful ones), selective poisons (those that kill only one species), and the use of light and sound to attract insects.

WAR CRIMES AND THE AMERICAN CONSCIENCE. Erwin Knoll and Judith Niles McFadden, Eds. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1970. Pp. xiv, 208. \$5.95. *War Crimes* presents selected portions of testimony and discussion recorded at the 1970 *Congressional Conference on War and National Responsibility*. Gathering at the invitation of a number of congressmen, a group of noted American scholars, jurists, and public figures discuss U. S. involvement in Southeast Asia. Among the numerous participants were Senator George McGovern, political scientist Hans Morgenthau, and Richard Falk, noted author in the field of international law. Falk presented extensive analogies between those violent acts punished after World War II and the programs of civilian harassment and extermination which are apparently an element of present U.S. policy in Indochina. Avoiding emotional extremes and focusing on reasonable justification for U.S. withdrawal, *War Crimes* represents a comprehensive collection of anti-war sentiment in America today.