

Louisiana Law Review

Volume 23
Number 2 *The Work of the Louisiana Appellate
Courts for the 1961-1962 Term: A Symposium*
February 1963

Article 29

2-1-1963

Rapports Généraux au Ve Congrès international de droit comparé, published by the Inter-University Center for Comparative Law, under the editorship of Prof. Jean Limpens. Bruxelles: Etablissements Emile Bruylant, 1960. Two volumes. Pp. XII, 948, 1,250 Belg. francs; bound: 1,650 Belg. francs.

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Repository Citation

W. J. Wagner, *Rapports Généraux au Ve Congrès international de droit comparé, published by the Inter-University Center for Comparative Law, under the editorship of Prof. Jean Limpens. Bruxelles: Etablissements Emile Bruylant, 1960. Two volumes. Pp. XII, 948, 1,250 Belg. francs; bound: 1,650 Belg. francs.*, 23 La. L. Rev. (1963)

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ion was badly received, but apparently it has survived the storm of abuse heaped on it and appears, withal, none the worse for wear.

Professor McWhinney's obvious admiration for the Federal Constitutional Court colors his conclusions to an extent. There would seem to be, for example, only an insubstantial basis for his confidence in the new Judicial Review to prevent a recurrence of the events that produced the downfall of the Weimar Republic. Still, and while written with no apparent distinction of style, this book is an important and very thoughtful contribution.

*Edward L. Pinney**

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Besides introductory materials, the two volumes recently published in Belgium contain general reports prepared for the Fifth International Congress of Comparative Law, which was held in Brussels in 1958. A few resolutions adopted by the Congress are also included.

The general reports were based more or less closely on special reports, submitted by legal scholars of 40 various countries, and numbering about 400. Some Americans were the authors of general reports: Professor Brendan F. Brown reported on "The Ordinary and Extraordinary Forms of Marriage in the Various Canon Laws"; Professor Max Rheinstein on "Judicial Administrative Control of the Liquidation of Decedents' Estates"; Thomas L. Coleman, Esq., on "Transfer of a Company's Principal Office"; Professor Karl Löwenstein on "The Legal Institutionalization of Political Parties"; Professor Oliver Schroeder on "New Procedures of Scientific Investigation and the Protection of the Accused's Rights." However, the great majority of reports (31) are in French; only 12 are in English.

Jurists specializing in any field of law will find some interesting reading in these two volumes. It must be admitted, how-

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ever, that besides topics of real significance there are some which are trivial. Many general reports offer a synthesis of special reports dealing with the points under discussion in the light of various systems of law. Thus, the longest one (157 pages) on "The Security of The State and Individual Freedom in Comparative Law," submitted in French by Professor W. J. Granshof van der Meersch, was written on the background of 16 special reports. Unfortunately, unlike other general reporters, the author did not acknowledge the names of the jurists who wrote them. However, Professor van der Meersch's report shows a great deal of his individual research work, while other papers are strictly based on special reports.

On the other hand, the general report on the great medieval Arabic Jurist Al-Shaibani was prepared by Professor Otto Spies of Bonn, Germany, on the ground of just one special report, which was changed and supplemented by the general reporter. The soundness of this procedure may be doubted. It is questionable, too, whether the inclusion in the collection of reports of some very sketchy papers serves its purpose. The shortest reports are those on "The Evolution of Ideas in The Matter of Proportional Representation" (in French), by Professor Adrien de Cléry of Geneva (3 pages), and on "The Concept of The Medical Secret," by Professor Albert Chavanne of Algiers, Algeria (4 pages).

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