
Paul M. Hebert
itself will almost automatically arouse the wish for certain re-
forms." His second and third chapters alone should do this and it is to be hoped that eventually the Restatement will be restated. But much preparatory work needs to be done in the discovery of the methods in which various systems of law handle similar social situations before adequate, satisfactory conflicts rules can be devised. This means intense comparative law study which should result in not only improved conflicts law, but increased perspective in law, greater appreciation of it as a means of social control, and better understanding of other ways of living. Rabel has begun the effort in the field of family relations. It is understood that his second volume will consider corporations, contracts and torts. He has pointed the way to a sound conflict of laws.

ROBERT A. PASCAL*

STUDYING LAW. Selections from the writings of Albert J. Bever-
dge–John Maxcy Zane–Munroe Smith–Roscoe Pound–Ar-
Charles B. Stephens. Edited by Arthur T. Vanderbilt. Wash-
Pp. viii, 753. $4.75.

In this compilation, Dean Vanderbilt has attempted to pre-
sent a comprehensive array of materials selected with the pri-
mary purpose of stimulating the law student, present and pros-
pective, "to a realization of his opportunities and his responsi-
bilities as a lawyer and as a citizen." The technique used is 
largely one of selection from the "old masters." The compiler 
states that his book is especially designed for the young man in 
the service of his country who may be contemplating the study 
of law. The class of students for whom the work is intended 
have already entered law schools in goodly number so the com-
pilation's appearance is timely. There can be little doubt that a 
broader perspective of the nature and purposes of law, its his-
tory, the human influences which have been brought to bear in 
its moulding, the interests which law protects, the techniques of 
the law, the requirements of a sounder prelegal preparation and 
an insight into the problems of professional opportunities and 
placement can be considerably aided from careful study of ma-
terials in this compilation. This is reading of the type which 
law schools expect of law students. But selections from only

10. P. xxiii.
* Assistant Professor of Law, Louisiana State University.
nine men, however scholarly, including Beveridge, Zane, Munroe Smith, Pound, Goodhart, Wambaugh, Wigmore, Stephens and Vanderbilt appear unduly narrow in range considering the wealth of material available in the fields which are selected for treatment. Not unnaturally, of a book designed to stimulate thinking about the study of law one may ask—Where are such men as Hutchins, Adler, Frank, Cardozo, Brandeis, Hohfeld, Arnold, Frankfurter, Cook, Green and others of their ilk? Their absence or relegation to footnotes suggests that this book can be only a point of departure for deeper reading more widely selected if a really thorough comprehension of the contemporary range of legal thought is to be obtained.


Pound's lectures on Fundamental Conceptions, History of the Common Law, The Common Law in America, Sources and Forms of Law, and System of The Common Law, have been revised for inclusion under the topic “Introduction to American Law.” A particularly valuable feature of this part of the book is the bibliography indicative of the breadth of reading which should supplement the consideration of the main topics discussed. The bibliographical references at this point do much to redeem what would otherwise seem to make the collection unbalanced.

There is an inherent difficulty in the selection of materials to be included in any work on introduction to the study of law. The critical reviewer would probably feel that there is something almost anachronistic in the emphasis on history and legal philosophy with so scant attention to important modern trends in the law. One has the impression that the work is too much of earlier vintage, or that it is open to the characterization which
Rodell applied to the List of Books for Prospective Law Students Now in Service, Prepared by a Committee of the Harvard Law School, as "a sort of wishful memorial to an intellectual and legal past." The collection would be entirely unworkable for purposes of an introductory course in law, but such it is understood is not the purpose of the book.

As an historical approach to the study of the common law in a convenient volume the book has value in the light of the author's intended purpose. Compilations of this nature must always be tested in the light of the purpose to be served. For example, Professor Morgan's book, Introduction to the Study of Law (1926) is most helpful as an introduction to courses in procedure rather than a broader approach to the study of law; Dean Gavit's Cases and Materials on Introduction to Law and The Judicial Process (1936) is especially designed for a first year law course and seeks to open the student's mind to the more modern trends in legal thinking; the compilations of Hicks, Costigan, Arant, and Cheatham are designed for courses emphasizing professional organization and ethics of the legal profession with aspects of judicial administration and law reform. The pre-law student whom Dean Vanderbilt is seeking to serve should be materially assisted by the scholarly selections in this book. Parts X and XI have special value to the prospective law student. He can profit greatly by careful consideration of the scope of a desirable pre-legal education as set forth in Dean Vanderbilt's Report on Prelegal Education presented to the Section on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association in 1944. He can also gain a general orientation on his possible future place in the legal profession by consideration of Charles B. Stephen's Report on the Economic Condition of the Bar, presented to the American Bar Association in 1945. Finding a place in the legal profession is likely to constitute a major problem in the years ahead. One can almost sense the reactivation of the familiar bar association theme of the thirties on the overcrowding of the bar.

To the reviewer in a Louisiana law school the appearance of a book on studying law inevitably suggests a local need for a complementary compilation for students who will study law
from the viewpoint of civil law emphasis. There is need for a collection which will assist in the maintenance of Louisiana's civil law methodology and inculcate a better understanding of codification as a legal system.

Dean Vanderbilt's book should prove a useful field for the limited purpose for which it is designed.

PAUL M. HEBERT.*

* Dean and Professor of Law, Louisiana State University Law School.