

BOOK REVIEWS

With this issue *LAW AND CONTEMPORARY PROBLEMS* begins, on an experimental basis, the publication of reviews of recent books. Such an extension of coverage constitutes a departure from the established practice whereby each issue is devoted exclusively to a symposium on a single subject; and an added service of this kind could hardly be justified, in view of the excellent commentaries already provided by the law reviews, if the purpose were simply to review law books. The essential characteristics which have distinguished *LAW AND CONTEMPORARY PROBLEMS*, however, have been its concentration on the pervasive problems of modern society and its unremitting effort to bring to bear, in the consideration of those problems, not only the wisdom and the skills of the legal profession but also the companion qualifications of those who, sharing the lawyer's concern and responsibility, work toward the same ends in the fields of economics, politics, history, sociology, philosophy, and the other disciplines. The new book section will be in keeping with this tradition. The focus will be on social problems of breadth and significance, and the objective will be illumination from every available source. The books selected for review will be those which deal with problems that concern the lawyer, but not the lawyer alone. The authors will bring to the solution of these problems diverse techniques, backgrounds, points of view: sometimes the equipment of the law, sometimes that of another social science, sometimes both. The reviewers will be men, of whatever specific training, who appreciate the importance of breaking across the barriers of specialization and pooling human resources for a common purpose.

This section may, then, from time to time be the means of bringing to the attention of lawyers a book which constitutes an important contribution by a worker in another field to the solution of "legal" problems; similarly, it may be the means of bringing to social scientists the aid of penetrating legal analysis of problems which they regard as their own. If in this way it can contribute even a little toward that coordination of skills which is such a necessary condition of social progress, the experiment will have been amply justified. If, by assisting a deeper insight into problems of the contemporary social order, the department adds to the interest and usefulness of *LAW AND CONTEMPORARY PROBLEMS*, the justification will be complete.

To inaugurate the book-review section, we asked Judge Jerome Frank to discuss a recent collection of the writings of Benjamin N. Cardozo. We invited Judge Frank to disregard the limitations of the conventional book-review form and to write a comprehensive reevaluation of Cardozo's contribution to the understanding of that complex phenomenon, the judicial process. The result is the stimulating commentary which follows.