

BOOKS RECEIVED

MAN SLAUGHTER. By Steven Englund. Garden City, New York: Doubleday Press. 1983. Pp. viii, 419. \$17.95. A reconstruction of the facts surrounding the highly publicized murder trial of Jennifer Patri, from the initial police investigation to the second half of the severed trial, *Man Slaughter* thoroughly explores the evidence and allows the reader to draw his own conclusions as to guilt or innocence. On a more subjective level, Englund questions the integrity of a legal system in which a skillful lawyer influences the results of a murder trial by his flamboyant but artful control of the media. By the end of the trial, Mrs. Patri's lawyer himself believes the false image that he created of Bob Patri, the victim, to enable Mrs. Patri to plead self-defense and eventually avoid a murder conviction.

THE PARTNERS. By James B. Stewart. New York: Simon and Schuster. 1983. Pp. 377. \$17.95. Stewart, the executive editor of *American Lawyer* and a former associate at Cravath, Swaine & Moore, provides an inside account of what he dubs "America's most powerful law firms." He deals with eight cases or clients to illustrate the power and influence of ten of the nation's largest firms. Using the case or client as an introduction to each of these firms, Stewart explores personal characteristics of partners, operational procedures, and general gossip about the firm. Such information is usually attributed to unidentified past or present associates. The book provides a candid look at a segment of the legal profession that intentionally avoids such publicity and exposure; Stewart focuses primarily on Wall Street firms such as Cravath; Davis Polk & Wardwell; Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy; Shearman & Sterling; and Sullivan & Cromwell. Among the cases discussed are the Iranian hostage negotiations, the IBM antitrust suit, Chrysler's bankruptcy, and the administration of Nelson Rockefeller's estate.

MINNESOTA RAG. By Fred W. Friendly. New York: Random House. 1982. Pp. 243. \$5.95 (paperback). In a thorough and entertaining fashion, Friendly provides a dramatic account of the Supreme Court's landmark decision in *Near v. Minnesota*, 283 U.S. 697 (1931). He focuses more on the events leading up to the Court's decision than on the decision itself, which struck down a Minnesota public nuisance statute

as an unconstitutional prior restraint. Especially lively are the accounts of muckraking and corruption in Minnesota journalism and politics in the pre-depression era, including an enlightening profile of Jay M. Near, publisher of the newspaper "gagged" by the Minnesota statute. Friendly also devotes substantial coverage to the alliances and biases of the Supreme Court Justices sitting on the Court in the late nineteen twenties and early thirties, including Holmes, Hughes, and Brandeis.

THE BRANDEIS / FRANKFURTER CONNECTION. By Bruce Allen Murphy. Oxford University Press. 1982. Pp. xi, 473. \$18.95. Murphy chronicles the extensive off-the-bench political activities of Louis Brandeis and Felix Frankfurter; the "connection" between the two developed as a result of Brandeis's reluctance to curtail his involvement in various social reforms while sitting on the Court. Frankfurter, then a Harvard law professor, became Brandeis's confidant, friend, and political ally, as well as the conduit for Brandeis's political views. Through Frankfurter, Brandeis filtered his opinions to presidents, politicians, lobbyists, legislative draftsmen, and the public. The two lobbied for the appointments of individuals who favored their viewpoints and succeeded in establishing a network of "lieutenants" in various administrative agencies. Frankfurter, upon his appointment to the Court, crusaded for causes like Brandeis before him. Although Murphy is careful to avoid accusations of impropriety, he raises several questions concerning the ethical boundaries of extrajudicial activities.

LAW, BIOLOGY & CULTURE: THE EVOLUTION OF LAW. Edited by Margaret Gruter and Paul Bohannon. Santa Barbara, California: Ross-Erikson Publishers, Inc. 1983. Pp. xviii, 205. \$10.95 (paperback). This collection of essays from the first Monterey Dunes conference, a symposium on law and behavioral research, reflects a growing appreciation for the biological bases of individual behavior. Specifically, Margaret Gruter and Paul Bohannon are concerned with the biological precursors to individual legal behavior and human social organization. An understanding of the relationship between the law and biology, the editors maintain, would help men devise legal systems in which the laws of nature are complemented by man-made laws.

