Only one person suggested a solution—Professor Yntema.[7] At first I felt inclined to treat his suggestions as idealistic nonsense but on further reflection I am inclined to delete the adjective.

His proposal embodies American education at its worst. His students will be required to obtain a superficial knowledge of Latin and two other languages, history, etc. Now consider what this will achieve. Study in depth will be impossible because of the range of topics required. Perhaps the period of study will be so prolonged that the greatest attribute of youth—sheer aggressiveness—is blunted. Certainly other fields of learning could be added with equal justification to the list which Professor Yntema supplies.

The answer to such problems lies not in the training preceding research but in the opportunities afforded the researcher to develop a deep knowledge of related fields while he is engaged in that research. In Australia there is a distinct shortage of funds to support significant research in legal problems. Perhaps with an expansion of teaching staff our law schools will be able to engage in more ambitious projects. Certainly opportunities to work at the National University and to supervise field research where this is necessary should be practical possibilities.

Perhaps the most saddening items in this book for an Australian reader are the reports of significant legal research outside the universities[8]—because this is a field which is dead in Australia apart from a few over-worked, unpaid law revision committees which patch some defects and copy some reforms from overseas. Their work is valuable but it is not enough.

It would be unfair to suggest that this book has no value. If you can read between the lines and sample experience vicariously then there is a rich store of learning to be gleaned from it. But as a comprehensive survey of the problems of legal research it is disappointing.

D. J. MACDOUGALL.*

Protection from Power under English Law, by Lord MacDermott, Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland. London, Stevens & Sons Ltd., 1958. vii and 196 pp. (£1/3/0 in Australia.)

This series of lectures, like those which have preceded it under the auspices of the Hamblyn Trust, was not primarily intended for an audience of lawyers. The intent of the founder of the Trust was that "the Common People of the United Kingdom" should realise "the privileges which in law and custom they enjoy in comparison with other European Peoples". The distinguished lecturers who have thus far delivered these annual lectures have succeeded, in the course of acquitting themselves of this task, in providing the material for a series of volumes which has also contained much to interest the lawyer and the student of the law. The present volume is no exception.

The idea of treating, in one small volume, such a diversity of the sources of power against whose exercise the individual is given, or may be in need of, protection, is a novel one. The lecturer deals first, under the heading of "The Power of Prosecution", with the discovery and punishment of crime as "functions which produce a dramatic preponderance of power on the part of the State". Under this head is contained an excellent short account of a subject on which comparatively little has been written, the office of the Attorney-General, which stresses in particular his complete independence of the Government of which he is a member. The conclusion of this chapter is that in the end "everything

[7] Pp. 74-78.

[8] For example the work of the New York Law Revision Committee (47-51) or the American Bar Foundation's study on the administration of criminal justice (144-45).

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turns on the training, character and capacity of those who, between them, administer the criminal law, be they judges, law officers, members of the legal profession, policemen, officials or gaolers. If personal standards fall, the best of systems cannot prevent a decline".

Subsequent chapters deal with the Power of Parliament (directed largely to the questions of delegation of legislative power and difficulty of statutory interpretation); the Power of the Executive (with a discussion of the supervisory jurisdiction of the Courts and of the Crown's immunities); the Power of Wealth and the Power of Status (with a treatment of legal assistance to litigants and of various aspects of the relationship between employer and employee); the Power of Monopoly and Restrictive Association (with a brief account of the modern English legislation on these subjects); and the Power of Numbers (with particular reference to its exercise through trade unions).

Of a number of interesting suggestions in the book, three may be noticed. First that legislative interpretation be assisted by a more generous use of express declarations of intention. This has much to recommend it as an aid to the construction of statutes whose complexity imposes a great strain on the resources of the conventional mode of drafting which relies exclusively on the command form. Secondly, trying out proposed new legislation on a panel, possessed of intellectual competence, a substantial background of legal experience, and ignorance of departmental institutions for the draft set before them, as a mode of detecting ambiguities in advance. And, thirdly, the setting up of an Administrative Council of distinguished administrators and experienced lawyers to which an executive department, at the discretion of its Minister, could refer, for guidance or decision, administrative problems involving the rights, welfare or livelihood of the subject.

B. SUGERMAN*

Municipal Law, by Charles S. Rhyne, Member of the Bar of the District of Columbia. Washington, D.C., National Institute of Municipal Law Officers, 1958, xxi and 980 pp. with Index.

This volume is stated in the preface to be "designed to meet the need of a current restatement of the basic principles of law applicable to the modern city". The author has performed a monumental task in reducing to order and system a great mass of United States case law on the subject. In this he has had the assistance of the "unique municipal law source materials and experience" of NIMLO (the National Institute of Municipal Law Officers). The result is a well arranged and comprehensive work which no doubt will be of much assistance to the large class of municipal attorneys in the United States to whom it is principally directed.

Although rooted in the common law, municipal law is in these days, in the United States as well as here, mainly dependent upon statute. Its scope and content in the United States are also affected by an apparently wider concept of the functions of municipal government and by constitutional doctrines and limitations. And the courts of the States differ in their conclusions on various questions; for instance such a statement as that "tourist courts may and may not be prohibited in a residential zone" may be a little baffling until it is appreciated that the "may" and the "may not" are supported by references to decisions in different States.

It is possible none the less to recognize many familiar problems, sometimes with solutions which are familiar and sometimes not—in the field of liability, for instance, little seems to turn upon the distinction between non-feasance and

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