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Lectures on Legal Topics 1921-1922, 1926

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NOTICES

(These *notices* are preliminary; they do not preclude *reviews* later.)

Lectures on Legal Topics 1921-1922, 1926. Published by the
McMillan Company, New York. pp. viii, 390. Price \$3.50.

This volume consists of a series of addresses delivered before the association of the bar of the City of New York. The various papers are by James N. Rosenberg, Allen Wardell, Charles M. Hough, Robert Swaine, Benjamin N. Cardozo, Learned Hand, Hampton L. Carson, Francis J. Swayze, Carlos C. Alden, Sir John W. Salmond, Rt. Hon. Charles J. Doherty, Henry M. Powell, Augustus N. Hand, Willard Bartlett. The subjects of the address in the order of the authors just given are: Reorganization, The Next Step (dealing with reorganization of the corporations that have become insolvent or financially embarrassed), The Review of Criminal Causes in the Courts of the United States, Progress in the Law: A Ministry of Justice (this address was printed in the *Harvard Law Review*, Vol. 35, p. 113), The Deficiencies of Trials to Reach the Heart of the Matter, James Kent, Can We Improve the Sources of Our Law?, The New Civil Practice Act and Rules (Under this title are printed a series of five addresses by the Dean of the Law School of the University of Buffalo dealing in detail with the new court provisions governing civil procedure in New York State), The Literature of Law (in which the distinguished New Zealand jurist makes a plea for the codification of the common law with provisions so that common law precedents antedating the time of codification should not be recognized after codification), Canadian Constitutional Law, Taxation of Corporate and Personal Income in New York, A Sketch of Constitutional Law in America, and The Court of Appeals and Its Predecessors (which refers to the highest judicial court in the state of New York).

² Russell on the Power and Duties of an Arbitrator and the Law of Submissions and Awards and Repression Under Order of Court. Tenth edition, by Alfred A. Hudson, London, 1919.

Of these admirable addresses perhaps the two that have the greatest general influence are those by Judge Cardozo on "The Ministry of Justice" and by Sir John W. Salmond of the codification of the common law. Both have been received with a great deal of critical approval and both are unlikely of realization in the near future. Many of the ends which Judge Cardozo hopes to accomplish by the ministry of justice are now being supported in some measure by the American Law Institute and the work of several of the leading law schools. The suggestions of Sir John Salmond are very much in keeping with the analytical school of jurisprudence which that jurist may be said to represent in large measure. There is some codification of the common law going on all the time but whether we will be willing to dispense with previous common law precedents entirely is to be doubted even though the common law were as fully codified as one can readily imagine.

All of the other addresses are of great merit and those that deal with New York practice are of special interest to lawyers in that state. For our purposes in Indiana, we might take a hint from this practice of the association of the bar of the city of New York in arranging for addresses on strictly legal subjects at their several meetings during the year. It will be noticed that these addresses are not of a popular or political nature, nor are they purely literary in character intended to interest and delight an audience apart from their content. In Indiana the Gary Bar Association has gone a long way in securing substantial addresses by able men at their several meetings. Similarly a number of county bar associations in the state have made excellent progress along the same line. This volume of legal papers shows what can be done in the field through the medium of bar association meetings.