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Regulation of Public Utilities, by Cassius M. Clay

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BOOK REVIEWS


This book is edited as the May 1933 Annals of The American Academy of Political and Social Science. The editors have selected and herein published several articles on different phases of the administration of justice in the United States. These articles present an array of the uncertainties and frailties of our present legal system and suggestions for their eradication or improvement. They are divided under the following general problems: general administration of the law; civil procedure; scientific methods in and studies of the courts; trends in legal education; and the devolution of justice. The outstanding legal reforms that have been attempted, and which have met with any degree of success, are reviewed and analyzed. The scope of these articles reach the bench, the bar, the administrative tribunals of the legal system, and the legislatures and their reforms. The work is suffixed with a “Book Department,” which contains reviews of the recent books relative to subjects of reform in the judiciary, legislative and administrative branches of our government. This work presents one of the most formidable arrays of suggestive reforms and analyses of the existing problems ever published. It is a most splendid review of the problems presented in the present day administration of law and justice. The editors need no introduction, as their names are well known to the bench, the bar, and the student of the law.

Of the Jackson County Bar. ALVIN C. JOHNSON.


The book presents a clear analysis of the current problems in relation to the control and regulation of Public Utilities in the United States, emphasizing the inseparableness of economics and the law in this field. Part I is a study of the constitutional problems and difficulties in the regulation of utilities. This study emphasizes the importance of the part played by the Supreme Court of the United States, and its interpretation of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution. Part II presents some plans for the regulation and control of utilities, and points out their practicability; surveys the conflict between State and Federal control of utilities, and proposes solutions to the difficulties there found; and reviews the history of the holding company, its defects and advantages and present day usefulness. Part III is devoted to the author's conclusive analysis of the subject. The work is abundant with citations and excerpts from authoritative sources, such as judicial opinions, public reports, and opinions of scholars and experts.

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