

markets in China might be defended. Though business interests did not want war, they accepted its results and began to build hopes upon the supposed opportunities for trade and expansion in a string of dependencies stretching from the Philippines to Puerto Rico. In the light of these beliefs, their insistence on the acquisition of Hawaii, an isthmian canal, and a material increase in the navy is understandable. A canal was necessary to defend the islands which in turn were necessary to defend the far eastern markets. Conversely, the islands were necessary to defend the canal. Captain Mahan sat at the vortex of the diminishing concentric circle of arguments by contending that a large navy was necessary to defend both the islands and the canal.

Mr. Pratt's work comes at an appropriate time when the United States by its recent legislation affecting the Philippines has added another chapter to a strange story ably told thus far by Mr. Pratt, a story whose thesis is our inheritance of an uncomfortable place in the sun.

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CURRENT PROBLEMS OF PUBLIC POLICY. By Charles A. Beard and George H. E. Smith. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1936. Pp. viii, 523.

This volume, prepared under the direction of the American Political Science Association, is designed to make available to teachers of social science accurate and authentic materials on problems of current interest. The field chosen for this, the first of such volumes, was government—a felicitous choice in the light of the universal and intense interest concentrated on that subject. The breadth of the field chosen, the variety of topics touched upon, together with ever present considerations of space, prevent the volume from being comprehensive or complete. Yet it adequately achieves the object of the Association: an effective presentation of material that may serve as a starting point for further discussion. The compilation is divided into three parts; the first containing the official programs and platforms of groups organized to influence public opinion and action; the second treating of such momentous and controversial issues as the relation of industry and labor, unemployment relief and social security, and the problem of public utilities and holding companies; and the third dealing with certain problems of administration.

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INDEX INTERPOLATIONUM QUAE IN IUSTINIANI DIGESTIS INESSE DICUNTUR. Edited by Ernst Levy and Ernst Rabel. Tomus III. Weimar, 1935.

Since Roman law has lost actual force in all European Countries (except Greece), the science of Roman law has increasingly become an historical study. Modern Romanists, no longer bound to treat the *Corpus Juris* as positive law, regard as their principal task the reconstruction of the law of the classical period (first and second centuries A.D.). The Digest, although purporting to be composed of excerpts from the writings of the classical jurists, is not a reliable source of the classical law because Justinian's compilers, and perhaps others before them, changed the texts in order to adapt them to the changing conditions of their times. Modern scholars have scrutinized every single passage of the *Corpus Juris* and the results of their research work are spread over an immense number of law review articles and other publications of different countries. The Index gives a complete list of all of these writings. It need hardly be said that it is indispensable for any serious work in Roman law.