

REVUE ASIENNE DE DROIT COMPARE, Vol. 1, parts 1-4. [Saigon: Institut de Droit Compare. 1963. subscription not stated.]

RHODESIA AND NYASALAND LAW JOURNAL, Vol. 3 part 2. [Rhodesia: The Book Centre. 1963. subscription not stated.]

UNIVERSITY OF GHANA LAW JOURNAL, Vol. 1, part 1. [London: Sweet and Maxwell, for the African Universities Press. 1964. 25s. per part, 2 gns. per year.]

The birth of new states and new Universities with their own Faculties of Law has led to an increase in the number of legal periodicals. Among them are the three journals under review.

The *Revue Asienne de Droit Comparé*, as is indicated by its name, is a journal of Comparative Law. It casts its net wide and covers such matters as the reception of Western law in Japan, trade union rights in Korea, Roman law in Quebec, commercial law in Venezuela and comparative law and economic system. Most of the articles are in French and in order to widen its appeal in some of the new countries

of Asia and Africa it would be useful if the editors would add English summaries. The editors should be congratulated on the choice of articles and their quality. Professor Hazard's article on Comparative Law and Economics is of great interest from the point of view of any comparative lawyer. It would, however, be useful if the following issues of the review were to include more articles on substantive law in this region, especially since materials on many of these countries are scarce.

The two African periodicals have a narrower scope. Both of them are mainly concerned with local law and hence might be of great service to the Bar and Bench in Rhodesia and Ghana. Both journals include articles and case notes. The learned editors may perhaps consider adding legislation sections (or lists) with brief commentaries on recent statutes. People who are interested in the development of African law, might find such lists informative. The case note sections in both reviews appear to be very short. The *Rhodesia and Nyasaland Law Journal* includes reviews of four cases (one of which is English) and the *Ghana Law Journal* only one case note and two comments (one of which is based on English authorities).

Both journals are well edited and attention has been paid to detail. A few minor points may however be raised. In the *Ghana Law Journal* the Criminal Appeal Reports are cited as C.A.R. The editor may consider using the more ordinary abbreviation of Cr.App.R. or Cr.App.Rep. At p. 69 (f.n. 10) the author refers to *Phipson On Evidence*, 9th ed. and not to the 10th ed. In some cases there is a lack of uniformity in references. Thus, at p. 38 the *Journal of African Law* is cited as [1962] J.A.L., — at p. 46 it is cited as [1963] J. African Law.

As regards the *Rhodesia and Nyasaland Law Journal* the learned editors may consider separating text and references by introducing footnotes, a system which makes a publication more readable. An addition which might be of use in the case of both journals would be the inclusion of a list of abbreviations respecting local law reports. A foreign reader who might wish to look up authorities would find such a list most useful.

It is felt that the appearance of these three law journals should be welcomed by all those interested in comparative law. Moreover, lawyers in new countries should benefit from information about the developments of the laws in different countries, who might face similar legal as well as economic problems. Lawyers in such new countries might pay special attention to an extract from the speech of President Nkrumah (*Ghana Law Journal*, at p. 2), to a group of lawyers to pass out from Ghana's Law School:

The demand for the services of lawyers is great and varying. Our local authorities, our city and municipal councils, state corporations and enterprises, and the central government itself, will benefit greatly from the services of lawyers. Lawyers in Ghana will therefore be called upon to play an increasingly important role in the progress, development and reconstruction of the country.

Ghana will look to you to serve her with humility, honesty, integrity and loyalty. We do not expect you to regard yourselves as a privileged class, engaged in a selfish scramble to acquire wealth and influence. We expect you to identify yourselves fully with the people and with their hopes and aspirations, and apply your knowledge and energies fully for their welfare and progress.

You must not, in your profession, limit yourselves to the law courts only. As lawyers of new Africa, you must be ever ready to assist the ordinary men and women, the farmers, the workers and the market women, in the towns and villages, in their every day legal problems by providing sound advice, whenever they need it. You must remember at all times that law does not operate in a vacuum. Its value and significance must be related to its impact and the overall importance of the people and the state.