

THE CASE LAW OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE, Vols. 3 and 4.
Dr. Hambro. [Leyden: Sythoff. 1963, 1966. xix + 1147 pp.; xxi
+ 1081 pp. Dfl. 95 *per* vol.].

In 1952 Dr. Hambro, formerly Registrar of the International Court of Justice, published the first instalment of his masterly digest of the work of the World Court, drawing attention to the views and comments on various points of international law to be garnered from the judgments and opinions of the tribunal. Even then, Dr. Hambro drew attention to the fact that much of the wisdom of the Court was to be found in individual and dissenting opinions, and this is particularly so in so far as broad statements of the principles of law are concerned. The first task, however, was to analyse the majority views and to classify them and it took two volumes to bring the story up to 1958.

In 1963 the learned editor completed the task in so far as the first years of the Court's existence were concerned by making the individual and dissenting opinions available in accordance with the same rubrics he had employed in his earlier work, and in order to make the actual volume easier to handle he has published it in two separately bound parts — a practice that he has also pursued for volume 4. It is now possible, by examining the contribution of Judge Kojevnikov, Krylov, Winiarski and Zoričić to ascertain to what extent there is any Communist approach to international law which justifies the idea that judges coming from Communist systems of law reject what others regard as basic principles. It is also possible to see now whether is a real Latin-American international law and how far Alvarez was putting forward purely subjective and individual views when he talked of the 'new' international law. It is also extremely valuable to have to hand Lauterpacht's analysis of the 'Optional Clause' and reservations thereto, as well as his masterly exposition on the character of resolutions of the General Assembly; and Lord McNair's pellucid account of the nature of the trust and trusteeship and of the significance and meaning of ratification.

It is obvious that from the point of view of the critic or the student it is highly desirable that all the extracts in a particular field be presented in a related fashion, for while it is the opinion of the majority that carries weight in any particular case, from the point of view of understanding it is better to have the *obiter dicta*, as well as the *rationes* for any particular proposition side by side. In the fourth volume of his work Dr. Hambro has brought the story down to 1963 and now puts the relevant comments together, regardless of the 'authority' of the source.

For those anxious to see the comments of juriconsults who enjoy recognition as being among the most highly competent in the field or any particular aspect of

the law of peace, Dr. Hambro's *Case Law of the International Court* is an indispensable *vade mecum*.

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