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BOOK NOTES

VAGARIES AND VARIETIES IN CONSTITUTIONAL INTERPRETATION. By Thomas Reed Powell. New York: Columbia University Press, 1956. \$3.50.

The late Professor Thomas Reed Powell's *James S. Carpenter Lectures* have recently been published by the Columbia University Press.

Paul A. Freund's foreword characterizes this slim volume very well: . . . the present volume can be read on two levels. It is, most directly, a study of the evolution and involution of constructional doctrine. As such it will be of unique value to lawyers and judges who are required to deal with problems of state taxation and regulation affecting the common national market.

On another level these lectures are an exercise in legal philosophy. . . . The influence of Dewey . . . will be evident to those who bring a philosophical curiosity to the reading of legal literature. Definitions are to be formulated in terms of consequences; and when the consequences of a concept have been explored the need for a formal definition is likely to seem less insistent. Thinking about law is necessarily, to use a favorite word of Professor Powell's, "judgmental."

The lectures are divided into six parts. (1) Establishment of Judicial Review; (2) Profession and Practices in Judicial Review; (3) National Power; (4) Federalism: Intergovernmental Relations; (5) Federalism: State Powers Affecting the National Economy; State Police Powers; (6) Federalism: State Powers Affecting the National Economy; State Taxing Power.

There are several legal "gems" in this volume. To this reviewer, Professor Powell's easy familiarity with several Supreme Court Justices, in connection with their individual personality impacts on Supreme Court law in the chapter on practices in judicial review, was fascinating reading. This reviewer recommends Professor Powell's lectures to law students, lawyers and judges; this is "must" reading to those of the Profession interested in Constitutional Law.

THE MARSHALL READER, edited by Erwin C. Surrency. New York: Oceana Publications. \$1.00. Cloth bound \$3.50.

Professor Surrency's, *The Marshall Reader* is another of the Oceana Docket Series. This book follows the Docket Series approach in handling leading American legal figures — a biography of Marshall, a small number of Marshall's writings, and several evaluations of Marshall's legal contributions are organized by the editor to present a very general picture of the significance of Marshall in American law.