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EUROPEAN PEACE TREATIES AFTER WORLD WAR II. By Amelia C. Leiss and Raynold Dennett. Boston: World Peace Foundation, 1954.

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law, through the development of its Constitution, its private law, its judicial organization, to the status of Hungarian law in our times.

The treatise serves a dual purpose. It is a history of law for those interested in legal history generally. It is also a useful tool for anyone who wishes to understand the whole or any part of Hungarian law, and whose understanding will never be complete without a proper historical introduction. There is one important reason why it seems to the author that such an historical approach is the proper method. Though Hungarian jurisprudence strongly relies on statutes, the overwhelming portion of Hungarian law is still not statutory. It consists rather of a great body of case law which, much like common law, reflects customs and usage. Three important authorities cited in opinions are the following comprehensive legal works, all of which were milestones in the development of Hungarian law, and none of which was ever to receive statutory enactment, though their fertilizing impact at least equalled that of any code: (1) a legislative preparatory work by an eminent jurist of the early XVI century, (2) rules established as measuring rods for the courts by a special committee of justices, nearly a century ago, and (3) the Bill of a Hungarian Civil Code, which has had several drafts, and which has been cited time and time again without ever technically becoming the law of the land.

Undoubtedly, the author is eminently qualified to present this work. His book reveals him to be an experienced scholar in his field, exemplary in his clarity, conciseness, sense of proportion, and his striving for perfection: a masterfully balanced exposition.

ANDREW FRIEDMANN

MEMBER OF BUDAPEST BAR

EUROPEAN PEACE TREATIES AFTER WORLD WAR II. By Amelia C. Leiss and Raynold Dennett. Boston: World Peace Foundation, 1954. Pp. 341. \$4.75.

Published as a supplement to the series "Documents on American Foreign Relations", the book contains a carefully summarized account of what happened at the Paris Peace Conference, followed by a comparative analysis of the main features of these treaties. The first part of the volume is devoted to the treaty with Italy (pp. 16-79). Then the remaining treaties with Bulgaria, Hungary and Rumania are presented as a unit (pp. 80-152) while the treaty with Finland, for obvious reasons, is given less attention (pp. 153-159). The second half of the book contains the complete texts of these treaties.

The chief purpose of the publication, to present the procedures and issues as well as the solutions reached, has been achieved by the authors. Written in a concise and lucid way, the book makes easy reading and offers a reliable introduction to research. The authors rely largely on the Depart-

ment of State publication "Paris Peace Conference 1946", and only to a minor extent, on memoirs of one of the participants, namely Secretary Byrnes and his "Speaking Freely". It is to be regretted, however, that there is no bibliography nor is there an index, except by articles of the treaties. In addition, one would expect to find data concerning the discussion and ratification of these treaties in this country. Such information would greatly increase the usefulness of the publication by bringing these treaties and their diplomatic accomplishments closer into the focus of American foreign policies.

Regardless of this, the volume is a useful addition to the history of the Paris treaties and, at the same time, a handy edition of their texts. It should be in every library interested in foreign relations and international law.

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