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THE CONFLICT OF LAWS AND INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTS. Various lectures comprising the 1949 Summer Institute on International and Comparative Law. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Law School, 1951

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was given the same broad powers that the League Assembly had been given in the League of Nations. Article 10 of the Charter¹⁴ provides for this power.

The author explains the "Uniting for Peace" resolution which ultimately gave the General Assembly the right to use armed force against aggression. When referring to "political" in connection with United Nations affairs, it means those questions which are so highly charged that they are a potential threat to international peace. Through experience¹⁵ did the United Nations learn that it would be necessary to give powers to a body such as the General Assembly. The Assembly is the backbone of the United Nations and with its new roles should rather strengthen than weaken the United Nations. This United Nations Series in toto is a fine collection of materials presented by outstanding men in the international field. It would be, however, strongly advisable that these pamphlets and books be placed in more permanent form by being combined into one large volume, readily accessible to the general public.

G.HUGO WEIDHAAS

FORMER ATTACHE OF THE
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THE CONFLICT OF LAWS AND INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTS. Various lectures comprising the 1949 Summer Institute on International and Comparative Law. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Law School, 1951. Pp. 200.

The two years that have elapsed since this Institute was held have not dulled in the slightest the lustre of these lectures. Perhaps the most remarkable thing about this book is that in such a small compass so much has been said. Most of the authors have said some of the things before, some have repeated them since, but in no case does this reviewer know of a place in which they have been enunciated with such clarity, such brevity and brilliance. This volume is superior to the best of law review symposia because it bears the impress of group work. Though it may have been slight, the influence of working together under fire of practical questions from attorneys, students and judges has left a patina, a refinement in product that is admirable. No finer tribute can be paid to this first effort to explore the "frontiers of the law" than that it has set a level of exploration which will be hard to surpass. This volume

14. The General Assembly may discuss any questions or any matters within the scope of the present Charter or relating to the powers and functions of any organs provided for in the present Charter, and, except as provided in Article 12, may make recommendations to the Members of the United Nations or to the Security Council or to both on any such questions or matters.

15. League of Nations - League Assembly.

deserves a favored place on the shelf of every individual practicing in this field — a place easily reached in odd moments. It is not the type of work read lightly at one sitting; nor is it the compendium, the ponderous tome filled with much authority; rather it is the quintessence of matured thought to be absorbed slowly — to quicken and stimulate the already alerted mind. It is not a volume for the chance wanderer in the Conflict of Laws but rather for the lover of all the refinements prevailing today in the most political of private law fields.

The central theme of the Institute was chosen to honor Dr. Rabel on completion of the third volume of the *Conflict of Laws*. He has contributed three essays to it; *International Sales, Agency and Conflicts Rules on Contracts*. The material stands out in this form far better than in his great work. It too contains some of his most lucid and piercing analysis to date.

An international flavor was given by including three essays of Ronald Graveson and Henri Batiffol and two of Mario Matteucci. Australia made its indirect contribution through a comparative study of the conflict of laws in that land and ours by Zelman Cowan. The balance of the seventeen essays are one each by Professors Rheinstein, Freund, Cowan, Stumberg and Cheatham. One notable fact about all of these essays is that they are the more effective because of brevity and lack of overloading with authority.

It is impossible to select favorites in such a group but certain comments must be made. This reviewer's students have been exposed to Professor Freund's article on characterization for almost a year with great mutual benefit to student and reviewer. Now that the entire volume is available it is hoped that the same will occur with the balance of the articles. Especially suitable for student use are Professor Graveson's magnificent and realistic summary of the English Proper Law Rule and Professor Cowan's incisive attack on certain logical fallacies in the conflicts field.

All of the rest of the articles highlight the great central theme of the international conflict of laws field — party autonomy and the imperative law. The decision of the question which shall prevail must be made. It is to be hoped that some of the thoughts contained in this book will save its being made on the field of battle. In politics as well as in law we can use a few of Professor Freund's "winged elephants."

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. By Robert Strausz-Hupé and Stefan T. Possony.
New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1950. Pp. 947.

This writer had the privilege of studying under Mr. Strausz-Hupé