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Book Reviews

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BOOK REVIEWS


A group of business men, interested in maintaining high employment after the war, organized The Committee for Economic Development in August, 1942. They propose to carry on a series of studies to help the nation in planning for post-war production and employment and to avoid leaving this to chance. The gathering of data and analyzing the same are carried on by a research committee with a research advisory board composed of leading social scientists. A series of monographs embody the results and conclusions reached as a result of these researches. Several have already been published. The first to appear was The Liquidation of War Production by Professor Kaplan of the University of Denver. This study covers the cancellation of war contracts and the disposal of surplus supplies and plants.

Production Jobs and Taxes, by Harold M. Grover, Professor of Economics of the University of Wisconsin, surveys the federal tax structure as it affects the question of future jobs and makes several valuable suggestions. A third of this series of monographs is Demobilization of Wartime Economic Controls, by Professor John Maurice Clark, of Columbia University. He considers the war-time controls of production, manpower, prices, wages, rationing, credit policies, and others. He further considers the question of relaxing these controls upon the termination of hostilities.

In Providing for Unemployment Workers in the Transition, Professor Lester of Duke University, tries to estimate the size of unemployment and its duration during the transition period following the end of hostilities. He considers the contributions to be made to the solution of this problem by a public works program, relief employment, unemployment compensation, wartime savings, dismissal pay, and private industry.

On the whole, he seems to lay the burden at the door of the federal government and, in tune with the current philosophy, to overlook any duty of the employee to set apart any of his high earnings to carry him over to his next job. He is simply a ward of the federal government. Professor Lester does, however, point out that the states have fared well in recent years and their finances, for the most part, are in good shape. He urges that the states increase the amounts of their unemployment payments and the number of weeks allowed. He would even have the federal government advance loans to those states the unemployment funds of which are small or have been depleted. His estimated costs for the federal government's
taking care of the unemployed during the transition period are from $600,000,000 to $700,000,000 for each of the first two post-war years. The book contains food for thought.

W. Lewis Roberts


As the war ends and airplanes come into even more common use as a means of travel and recreation than they are now, it is essential that we understand all of the many new problems that are involved. There are many more points to flying than the mere mastering of the plane and its technicalities. Airports must be acquired and maintained, and this factor alone involves many other factors. Real property and tort law are intertwined in the problems of acquiring the land on which the airport is to be situated, in deciding just how the airport is to be maintained and operated, and in solving the question of zoning. There are yet further problems which involve the rights of adjoining and other land owners, of the aviators, and of the airport operators.

In dealing with these numerous difficulties it is necessary to consider not only the legal principals of the common law, but also the state, local and Federal legislation upon the subject. Mr. Rhyne in his compact, handy sized book has not only analyzed all of these problems for his readers in the light of the legislation and common law principles involved, but he has also analyzed the court decision upon this important division of the law.

Interested and active in the field of aeronautical law for a number of years, the author is well equipped to deal with the subject of his book. As it is the first one to include such a comprehensive study and analysis of the numerous technical and, in many respects, entirely new problems involved, it is a very useful and worthwhile book for the modern lawyer to have in his library.