

in order to protect residential neighborhoods from the invasion of industry, and insure for industry the most economical rail and water communications; how the public interest and the large social scheme may prevail without violating the rights of individuals:—these are the problems of the city plan which challenge a new intelligence and a new æsthetics.

City-planning is one of the most fruitful courses we have yet found for social education. In the face of it, the citizen has to begin talking a new language. The old familiar antitheses between individual rights and the claims of society, in which every advantage the community as a whole gained was thought of as a sum of little surrenders of individual rights, begin to fade out. The new attitudes gained here may well extend into every field. We may be demanding—and city-planning does demand—a higher level of executive capacity, imagination and coöperating technical skill than we have been content with in the past.

Merely to adopt city-planning as a permanent municipal policy is to set a new social norm. It will not take long to see in city-planning the cardinal municipal policy. To any such general consciousness the law and courts would soon respond. "Rights" that nobody wishes maintained are not likely long to be upheld. A book like the present symposium seems to herald this consciousness. In careful, semi-technical discussion it gives the outlines of what we are to be conscious of. No one need fear that the new economic and administrative emphasis on town-planning will necessarily destroy the earlier æsthetic one. As Mr. Olmsted says, "Regard for beauty must neither follow after regard for the practical ends to be obtained, nor precede it, but must inseparably accompany it."

Conquest by Law

An Introduction to Roman Dutch Law, by R. W. Lee.
New York: Oxford University Press. \$4.15.

THE author intended this book as a succinct and scholarly account of the common law prevailing in the Union of South Africa, Ceylon and British Guiana, and in this he has been successful in a manner deserving the thanks of all students of law. But to the general reader the book has an interest entirely unintended by the author—it shows how thoroughly the Romans finally conquered the Teutonic invaders of their empire, and how the English (not British) common law is now slowly but surely conquering, or at least assimilating, vast tracts of Roman law. It is only quite incidentally that Dean Lee mentions some of the influences of English law on the law of these erstwhile Dutch communities. But enough is indicated in the law of torts, the law of wills, and the law of persons, to show how thorough that influence has been. If the scope of this book had included legal procedure, criminal and public law, this influence would have been even more marked. If one wants to study the cement which keeps the British Empire together, if one wants to understand why the Dutch Boers, conquered after a bitter war that terminated hardly more than a decade ago, are now voluntarily fighting for Great Britain against the monarch who flattered them with open sympathy, while forty years was insufficient to reconcile the people of German Elsass to Prussia, let him study *inter alia* the methods by which English law is extended in the Dominions beyond the sea. He will learn that there are other methods of conquest besides that of the mailed fist.

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