INTERNATIONAL LAW: A CANADIAN PERSPECTIVE, by L.C. Green, Carswell Co. Ltd., 1984, pp. vii and 352.

This particular publication is derived from Title 81 of Volume 17 of *The Canadian Encyclopedic Digest (Ontario)*, Third Edition by the author. The book follows the format of the author's *International Law Through the Cases*, Fourth Edition, 1978 (at one stage this was going to be an abbreviated version of it) and the presentation of footnotes at the end of each numbered paragraph is in the familiar style of this particular digest.

This volume, like the number of previous texts — to cite, J.G. Castel's *International Law Chiefly as Applied and Interpreted in Canada*, Third Edition, 1976 and S.A. Williams and A.L.C. de Mestral's *An Introduction to International Law, Chiefly as Interpreted and Applied in Canada*, 1979 — is really meant to provide the reader with a general understanding of public international law and with a Canadian orientation to a number of issues. Accordingly, Professor Green's book is replete with bibliographical citations including particular references to judgments by Canadian courts and to Canadian government documents, as well as to the writings by Canadians. It must be stated that on the whole, the work achieves its dual objective.

The book is divided into the following seven parts (including a total of some twenty-seven different chapters): (i) Foundation of International Law; (ii) International Personality; (iii) State Jurisdiction; (iv) Objects of International Law; (v) International Transactions; (vi) The Law of Armed Conflict; (vii) The Law of International Organizations.

Under the first part, there are two chapters dealing with the nature and sources of international law; and on international and national law. The second part has five chapters that cover subjects of international law; sovereignty and equality of states; recognition; international representation; and continuity of international personality. While the third part contains eight chapters devoted to forms of state jurisdiction; customary law limitation on state jurisdiction; environment and pollution control; fisheries, canal and water use; international economic law; international criminal law; protection of minorities; and air law. Under the fourth part, there are three chapters covering territory and land frontiers; maritime frontiers and the high seas; and individuals and ships. Turning to the fifth part, this has two chapters dealing with treaties and other international agreements; and international personality. While the sixth part, composed of four chapters, is concerned with the nature of war and the law of armed conflict; military occupations; war crimes; and non-international armed conflict.

Finally, the seventh part of three chapters deals with international judicial institutions; the United Nations and specialized agencies; and the international civil service. In the footnotes, encompassing nearly all the parts mentioned, the author makes reference to over fifty of his previous articles and publications, spanning a period of over thirty-seven years.

The author is correct when he observes that private individuals and organizations like the European Community are subject to international law. He follows this surprisingly by defining international laws as "that

body of rules and principles which States and other entities enjoying legal personality and operating on the international scene recognise as necessary for the maintenance of peace and good order among themselves, and habitually obey in order to maintain and preserve that good order" (at page 40). This definition will undoubtedly cause the author problems. It will justify criticism on jurisprudential grounds for its reliance on the archaic notion of habitual obedience. The reference to "operating on the international scene" tends to omit the current concern for international humanitarian law and contemporary developments in the field of human rights.

In so far as the nature of international law is concerned the author, within the context of his treatment of treaties, mentions "general international law" and "universal international law" without, it seems, making a sufficient distinction between them to elucidate his point. This may cause confusion for some not too versed on the subject and this is further highlighted by a specific reference to Article 53 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties on peremptory norms (incidentally, this is again dealt with by him later in the chapter devoted to treaties and other international agreements).

This is an interesting book and vividly portrays the author's approach to the subject. Although Professor Green's treatment is succinct and direct, his attempt to cover the wide field of international law in some 300 pages unavoidably leads to complex material being too compressed. This inevitably results in contemporary issues — to name a few — such as environment and pollution control (more so, in light of the current acid rain problem between Canada and the United States of America) receiving brief attention in some four and a half pages, while the treatment of the vast field of international economic law (with UN Declaration on the Establishment of the New International Economic Order and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States not even mentioned) is dismissed in a mere four pages.

Whatever the shortcomings there is little doubt that Professor Green's book will serve as a useful source-book for those looking for Canadian perspectives on the subject. The volume has a number of informative tables and lists on statutes, cases, treaties and related documents, and most importantly, a surprising number of valuable footnotes. While this book contains much of value, its use especially for practitioners will have to be complemented with other extensive texts on particular issues, as well as, with the more prominent and well-established publications on international law.

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