

que guardan fidelidad inmensa, o se adhieren incondicionalmente a alguna ya creada, prejuiciando de esta manera a muchos de sus lectores. Esta actitud es más criticable en tratándose de obras de iniciación, como la que estamos comentando, en las cuales se debe presentar el dato sociológico eclécticamente, descarnado de prejuicios escolarescos, para que el lector —quien debe ser selector, de acuerdo con la raíz latina de donde viene la palabra castellana— sea quien elija lo más apropiado sociológicamente y ejercite así un sincretismo que lo enriquezca.

Desde 1956 a esta parte, el libro de sociología en reseña ha sido recibido con aplausos por intelectuales de Colombia y del exterior. Entre los segundos registramos los nombres de Oscar Uribe Villegas, Lucio Mendieta y Núñez (Mejicanos) y Alfredo Poviña (Argentino).

En cuanto a la forma, cabe decir que la obra ostenta una prosa fácil y agradable pero que con frecuencia se hace pesada y se rompe la unidad de los períodos por la introducción de citas bibliográficas siempre textuales y nunca parafraseadas o contextuales. El empleo entremezclado de uno y otro modo de citación confiere a un escrito variedad que agrada y agiliza la lectura, la cual de otra manera sería monótona.

Para cerrar esta reseña concluimos que el libro "*Sociología General*" de Mantilla Pineda, es el mejor texto colombiano de la materia y uno de los más completos que se hayan elaborado en lengua española. Constituye excelente manual de iniciación o introducción, toda vez que brinda un panorama casi exhaustivo —falta, sin embargo, una exposición de las tan en boga doctrinas funcionalistas— de lo que se ha dicho y enseñado sobre la sociología general en el transcurso de un siglo de vida de tal quehacer intelectual. De modo, pues, que llena con creces el cometido que se fijó el autor en el prólogo: "Las obras de iniciación —introducción y textos— son escasas en nuestra lengua y difíciles de adquirir en nuestro medio por ser artículo de importación. Este texto pretende llenar este vacío".

Hernán Valencia Restrepo

TURKISH CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ASSEMBLY DEBATES ON THE CONSTITUTIONS OF 1924 AND 1961

by Dr. Suna Kili (Member of the Faculty of the Bosphorus University).

In her work, Dr. Suna Kili analyzes Turkish constitutional development from the 19th century through the Spring of 1971, and she indicates the importance of these development in Turkish history and in the shaping of Turkish political culture.

The book includes a careful analysis of the most important documents, which constitute important stages in Turkish constitutional developments, both to indicate the essential characteristics of Turkish constitutional developments, and also to provide the necessary background that will help to understand the full implication of the debates on the Turkish Constitutions of 1924 and 1961.

The major portion of the book is devoted to the analysis of the Assembly debates on the Turkish Constitutions of 1924 and 1961, which provide an insight into the thinking and the political convictions of the debaters, and which also shed light on the type of Constitutions that emerged from both of these debates. The views expressed by different debaters, on the draft Constitutions as a whole and on particular Articles, have been translated in order to make it possible for the reader to have a direct knowledge of the political convictions of those deputies who participated in the debates.

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As the debates on the Turkish Constitutions of 1924 and 1961 are available only in Turkish, Dr. Kili has made a special effort to

bring them to the attention of those interested in Turkish political and constitutional developments. This is the first comprehensive analysis of the Assembly Debates on the Turkish Constitutions in any language.

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The book consists of 209 pages and is written in English.

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THE NOMINALISTIC PRINCIPLE

A short summary of the contents

E. Hirschberg, Bar, Ilan
University, Ramat-Gan, Israel, 1971

The book with the problem what is the attitude of the existing law to changes of value of money. The main problem is the analysis of the nominalistic principle which provides that a pound is always a pound and a dollar is always a dollar, notwithstanding the fact that its value has appreciated or depreciated. Owing to the fact this principle prevails the law does not take account of fluctuations of currency even the most evident, when the extent of a monetary obligation is ascertained. According to this principle government policy or lack of policy in this field is given effect to.

This principle is not just because it cannot be maintained that a pound is the same before devaluation or after it. But many economic and social considerations are in favour of it.

The principle has been accepted in the XV and XVI century, when Kings and princes used to finance their enterprises and countries by debasing the metallic content of coins issued by them, and were interested in paying their debts contracted in valuable coins in debased coins. This principle applies till to day notwithstanding the fact, that during the last fifty years changes of value of money are the rule and not an exception. In legal theory the private parties are presumed to contract with each other according to the nominal values of money. Otherwise the parties would have contracted according to value clauses. The book discusses and criticises this approach.

The nominalistic principle applies all over the world is applied strictly in Anglo-Saxon countries.

The book analyses the alternative approaches. The valoristic approach provides that value of money consists in its purchasing power. A whole chapter is devoted to the Revaluation problem, which was carried out in Germany during the Great Inflation and in the Confederate States the U.S.A. after the Civil War.

The book is intended for everybody who is interested in the problem especially for the lawyer and economist.