[®] The Indian Law Institute

REVIEWS

Polycentrism, Pluralism, Mondialism, Realpolitik, etc.) could probably be better appreciated if they were accompanied by adequate explanations in the footnotes or the appendix.

However, this small book gives much food for serious thought and prompts one to study and evaluate the Soviet approaches to international law (which is practically absent in the Free World countries, except the U.S.A. and probably Canada). It is a remarkable illustration of the application of American Realism in the field of international law.

S. K. Agarwala *

- ELEMENTS OF INDIAN INCOME-TAX. By Ram Niwas Lakhotia. Calcutta: Asha Publishing House, P-16, C.I.T. Road, Calcutta-14. Ninth Edition. 1965. Pp. 415. Rs. 8/-.
- TAXATION OF COMPANIES AND THEIR OFFICERS. By Ram Niwas Lakhotia. Calcutta : Asha Publishing House, P-16, C.I.T. Road, Calcutta-14. 1965. Rs. 30/-.

Mr. Lakhotia in *Elements of Indian Income-Tax* makes a shaky beginning with an account of history of income taxation in India. He gives a much too brief summary of the statutory provisions of the new income tax statute. In his desire for being brief he has said almost nothing of the developments of this branch of law. The incomplete definition of "income" given by him,¹ the description of the residence of various types of income tax assessees,² the attempted summary of the tests and conditions for determination of residence of various persons.³ and the treatment of the topic of exemption of income from property held under a charitable trust are disappointing and leave the reader ignorant of the important changes made both by statute and judicial precedents. He has singularly failed to point out that the new income tax legislation has effected important changes by way of narrowing down the scope of the exemption, firstly, by insertion of the words "not involving the carrying on of any activity for profit" at the end of the definition, and secondly, by insisting upon actual expenditure of the trust income for charitable purposes.

The adoption of the short notes technique in preference to analysis of the growth of the law and refusal to refer to case law will not help even the student for whom the book is intended. The chief merit of the book lies in the problems and their solutions for the advantage of the students, who, for various reasons for some of which they are not

^{*} M.A., LL.M. (Luck.), LL.M. (Harv.), LL.D. (Luck.); Reader in Law, Muslim University, Aligarh.

^{1.} Lakhotia, Elements of Indian Income-Tax 17 et seq. (9th ed. 1965) [hereinaster cited as Lakhotia].

^{2.} Lakhotia 29.

^{3.} Lakhotia ch. 3.

responsible, are ready to accept any given answers. The problem at page 31 and its solution at page 33 are not clear to the reviewer.

The object of having a small book on the subject of income tax is highly commendable and the author should be admired to have attempted to achieve that object, although this book does not fulfil that need.

Compared with the author's other book, Taxation of Companies and Their Officers is no small a contribution to the literature on income tax law in general and on taxation of company income in particular. Though not an original treatment of the subject, it reproduces the fast developing law on the subject under well thought and neatly arranged heads. For systematic treatment of the subject from the theoretical and practical viewpoints, the book is divided into four parts each containing a number of chapters. At places the treatment of the subject is both lucid and authoritative. References to the statutory provisions and case law are up-to-date. Although not exhaustive, the book is fairly informative and helpful in the understanding of the law. The author makes no attempt to discuss the cases at length and seems to be satisfied by mere collection of cases under different heads. It is no wonder that he produces an annotated digest ready at hands of a busy lawyer or a tax adviser. He leaves the reader largely to his own understanding of the law reports. The practice of giving cases and citations in the body of the text seems to show the author's dislike for footnotes. The technique of treating the subject with the help of problems, as stated above, has certain merit and adds to the value of the book to a business executive, a company director, as also to a student.

The inclusion of the Income Tax Act, 1961, a comparative table of the provisions of the repealed statute and the new Act, and the Income Tax Rules, 1962, accounts for volume of the book, and has added to its practical utility.

M. C. J. Kagzi*

COMPANY LAW AND SECRETARIAL PRACTICE. By K. Kishore, M.A., F.C.C.S. Forword by Mr. D. L. Mazumdar, I.C.S. Bombay: Asia Publishing House. 1964. Pp. XII, 748. Rs. 35/-.

This is a fairly detailed textbook on company law and secretarial practice written by a person who has himself been for many years, and still is, in the midst of secretarial responsibilities in important companies. The book consist of forty-nine chapters and two appendices.

The learned author, in the Preface, does not pretend, and very rightly so, to have produced a scholarly treatise, but aims at enabling students of company law and secretarial practice to "acquire some working familiarity with the provisions of the new Act and requirements

www.ili.ac.in

^{*} Lecturer in Law, Delhi University, Delhi.