## THE FUNCTION OF CRIMINAL LAW IN 1962

By J. D. MORTON. Toronto: Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. 1962. Pp. 54.

This book contains the text of five radio lectures (based on an earlier address to the Toronto Academy of Science) by Professor J. D. Morton, Q.C., of the Osgoode Hall Law School, broadcast on the CBC "University of the Air" series in April and May, 1962. It represents an ideal marriage of private and public enterprise.

The lectures explore, for the benefit of a general audience, a number of the problems with which every student of Criminal Law has had to wrestle: the relation of crime to sin, the rationale of punishment, the application of Criminal Law to abnormal persons, the notion of *mens rea*, and so on. But their appeal is not restricted to the general audience; what Professor Morton has to say will be of interest to the lawyer and criminologist as well. His approach to these perennial problems is highly individual, and his central thesis (which he develops so theatrically that the reviewer feels constrained not to reveal it) provides new illumination. It is safe to say that many will disagree with his views, but most will admire his independence of outlook, and few will deny that he has made an important contribution to Criminal Jurisprudence.

The role of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in this project should not be overlooked. By broadcasting the lectures it made Professor Morton's ideas available to an audience which would probably not have encountered them through other media, and now, by publishing the lectures (in an attractively designed book, with either paper or hard covers, worthy of CBC's tradition of quality) it has made possible permanent access to these ideas by those most likely to be influenced by them.

R. D. GIBSON*

## BOOKS ALSO RECEIVED

*Nationalization of Foreign Property*, by Gillian White. London: Stevens & Sons Limited. 1961.

*Labour Arbitration in Canada*, by A. W. R. Carrothers. Toronto: Butterworth & Co. (Canada) Ltd. 1961.

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