

**A HANDBOOK OF
PUBLIC
INTERNATIONAL LAW**

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A handbook of public international law by T. J. Lawrence

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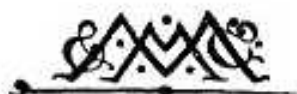
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T. J. LAWRENCE

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A HANDBOOK
OF
PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW

BY

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SEVENTH EDITION

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*Gift of
Carleton H. Parker*

THE WIND
AND THE WIND

PREFACE TO THE SEVENTH EDITION

THOUGH a thorough revision of this book was made in the spring of 1907, the Conventions negotiated at the Hague Conference of the summer and autumn of that year, and the Declaration of London which was the result of the labours of the Naval Conference of 1908-1909, have necessitated a further revision in less than three years. Short as is that period, it has been crowded with great events. Probably it will be regarded in future as the epoch when a statute book of the law of nations took definite form, and the foundations were laid of International Courts to give it authoritative interpretation. All this and more I have set forth very briefly in the text. So numerous are the omissions, alterations, and additions, that the book has been practically rewritten. It is longer by several pages than the previous edition; and at least one-fifth of it is new matter.

T. J. LAWRENCE.

UPTON LOVEL RECTORY, WILTZ,
October 1, 1909.

PREFACE TO THE SIXTH EDITION

A FEW weeks after this little book was first issued, its adoption by the British Admiralty for the officers of the Royal Navy caused the appearance of a second edition. Others followed in due course; and now a translation for the use of the Italian Navy affords the opportunity of careful revision, and necessitates a sixth edition.

In the original preface I stated that, though the book was in no sense an analysis of any larger work, it was an attempt to analyse International Law, and hoped to be found useful as an introduction to the more comprehensive treatises which enrich our legal literature. It was designed chiefly, though not exclusively, for the benefit of students unable to obtain oral information, and men of action with little taste for legal subtleties and little time for minute investigation. To aid both classes I added at the end of each chapter references to the leading English text-books; and to enable the former to test their own knowledge I published, along with the references, a few examination questions. These features still remain, though they

have been altered to meet modern needs and keep pace with the growth of our legal literature. My endeavour throughout has been to put accepted principles and settled rules into plain words. Where matters are doubtful I have frankly said so, adding, as far as space would allow, a statement of divergences of doctrine and the reasons for them.

The book has been revised from cover to cover. In spite of strong efforts at compression a few additional pages appear. Special pains have been taken to bring the information on all subjects down to the date of publication. In dealing with the modes of acquiring title to territory, I have dwelt at some length on the modern developments of the doctrine of Occupation. Matters arising out of International Leases, Protectorates, and Spheres of Influence have received enough attention to enable my readers to understand some recent controversies and agreements, and to form for themselves an intelligent anticipation of future transactions. In the latter half of the book I have glanced at the points raised during the wars of the last few years, especially the questions of the rights and duties of neutral States which became prominent in the great struggle between Russia and Japan. The proceedings of the Hague Conference of 1899 have received the notice which their importance demands. Many intelligent people