

## *Reviews*

### **'Legislation'**

DAVID R MIERS LL M, D Jur, senior lecturer in Law at Cardiff University, and ALAN C PAGE LL M, Ph D, senior lecturer in Law at Dundee University; pp 266 + xviii. 1982. Sweet & Maxwell. £9 net.

This excellent book concentrates on legislative procedure, and reflects the growing sense that lawyers need to be more skilled than they are in statute law. It adds to the resources available for acquiring that skill; and is clearly the product of much careful research.

The authors also recognise the potential value of text manipulation techniques such as composite restatement. They refer to this as 're-formulating the rule by formal rearrangement of its parts'; but the main help given to the user by composite restatement is in combining together *different* rules from both Acts and statutory instruments.

The first half of the book describes institutional arrangements for the preparation and passing of public bills. Then, after a lengthy analysis of secondary legislation (including Community law), and a brief discussion of statutory interpretation, the book ends with a fascinating investigation of the impact of legislation. This is of obvious importance. Governments should take greater interest in whether the legislation they pile on to the statute book actually works.

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