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## Brinton: FROM MANY ONE

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## RECENT BOOKS

This department undertakes to note or review briefly current books on law and matters closely related thereto. Periodicals, court reports, and other publications that appear at frequent intervals are not included. The information given in the notes is derived from inspection of the books, publisher's literature, and the ordinary library sources.

## BRIEF REVIEWS

FROM MANY ONE. By *Crane Brinton*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. 1948. Pp. vi, 126. \$2.25.

This book was developed from a series of lectures presented by Professor Brinton, of Harvard University, at Pomona College in the spring of 1947. It is an objective study of the processes of political integration and the problems involved in the formation of world government, beginning with a consideration of ancient and medieval nations and the actual methods by which political unions have been achieved. The contemporary problem of world disunity can be solved by one of two methods: imperialism and federalism. Neither will result in the hoped for Utopia within this generation. The only states which are strong enough at the present time—United States, Russia, and Great Britain—could not succeed in uniting the world through imperialism, according to the author. Nor will there be an immediate establishment of the world unit by federalism. Many believe that because the thirteen colonies succeeded in the formation of a federal state, there is no reason why the same plan could not work on a larger scale. However, Professor Brinton believes that the task facing world federalists today is not comparable to that facing the colonies in 1787, because there is no common heritage binding the seventy-odd nations to aid the framers of such a federation. His formula is one of long planning, and he warns against the trap of the perfectionist who would have us believe either that there must be complete political integration now, or that world chaos is imminent. Professor Brinton can see nothing in this prediction and believes that the human race will survive another war.