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THE NEW FOUNDATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. *By Jorge Americano.*
New York: MacMillan. 1947. Pp. 137. \$2.50.

This concise book is the American edition of the original Brazilian publication of 1945. Its author is a distinguished Brazilian lawyer and educator, for some years past connected with the University of Sao Paulo as professor, dean of the law school and as president from 1941 to 1946. Most recently he has visited the United States as a guest of the Department of State on a tour of representative universities in this country and has given a number of lectures including several on international law. Mr. Americano advocates an approach to international law whereby human beings as well as nations will be treated as subjects of such law. His thesis is that the principles of the Atlantic Charter should be the very basis of international law with the concepts of national sovereignty giving way to the superstate, the United Nations. He in-

cludes in his system such regional groups as the Pan-American Union, and autonomous international organizations such as UNRRA and UNESCO. To implement his system of law Mr. Americano envisages an organization divided into the traditional legislative, executive, and judicial departments. Through this system of law and government peace will be secured and war treated "not as a legal duel to be regulated, but as a criminal act to be outlawed." To accomplish these ends Mr. Americano insists the only means is re-education of the people of the world. His program in that regard is aimed at repressions that lead to war, instilling democratic convictions and building confidence in regard to international action. This job, he contends, is, in the first instance, primarily for the teachers of international law, and to them he appeals. The American publication, while it suffers slightly from the fact that it was written originally at the very termination of the war and therefore takes no account of the several years that have intervened, nevertheless directs the reader's attention to the very fundamental objectives and purposes that should underlie any system of international law. The author's optimistic evaluation of Soviet Russia in the scheme of postwar affairs however, leaves the reader wondering whether the interim period between the war's end and date of publication of this American edition would have in any way tempered the author's views had he been writing with knowledge of the events that ensued.