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others the office of scribe, - quite unknown in Greek or Macedonian legislation; the division into districts of the territory administered by the governor, heir presumptive of the Persian satrap; that of several simultaneously enthroned rulers, modelled after the office of vice-royship of Persian heirs to the throne in Baktria, and the institution of strategies which meant a total change in the administration of the Persian satrapy. A characteristic tendency of the hellenistic administration was that of uniting a number of strategies into larger areas which again were administered after the Persian pattern. Similarly were also classed the subjects of a kingdom in Asia as the dynasts, πόλεις and τόποι How deep and large-scale were the oriental influences upon various spheres of hellenistic administration, evidence the hypomnematismoi for clerks, of the same nature as the Persian ephemerides: also postal services organization which again were taken over from the Persians.

Considering to what extent the Greeks and Macedonians helped organize the hellenistic administration one may say that they had taken the letter of the Persian law while its spirit was hellenistic, i.e. they had considerably and in many ways changed it. In addition they initiated the worship of monarchs, introduced the Greek language as used in offices and public services, and finally the Greek law.

When discussing the reasons which accounted for the specific features of the Ptolemaic administration and which distinguished it from other hellenistic states, the author considers three factors as being most fundamental; namely the geographic position of Egypt, the natives whose manpower was the sole capital of the country, and finally its historic past.

B. A. van Groningen, Population et administration (178-191).

In this article the author discusses the distinctive traits of the specific relation of the administration to the population in Greco-Roman Egypt. In his conclusions he holds that the government's relationship to the population during the Ptolemaic period cannot be considered as novel or original except certain specific cases. No originality or new tendencies of the administration are noted, less so in various essential administrative functions. Certain new forms can be observed to develop only of some lowest functionaries of administrative hierarchy, and even then that "novelty" is de-

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cisively traditional. Several activities of economic or fiscal nature which were related to the general management of the country, such as a large number of monopolies in particular, permit us to state that those forms and functions could prevail nowhere else but in Egypt. With certain reservation the same may be stated in regard to the mode in which the population reacted to governmental policies.

As to the Roman Egypt neither the social structure nor the general principles of the administration offer anything new and original, excepting the statute granted in this epoch to the metropolies.

A. Piganiol, Le Statut Augustéen de l'Egypte et sa destruction (193-202).

In his study the author endeavours to prove that the foundation of Egyptian system was not based upon one but upon several acts enacted in various periods of history. The essential characteristic of the Augustan rule seems to be the following:

In Egypt the system of municipalities had never been put into practice; no magistrate would come there and no Egyptian could hold this office.

The contacts of the Roman society with that of Alexandria were almost non-existent. Egypt was treated as a possession, subject to exploitation and the revenues derived from it could only reach the Roman citizen after its passage through the royal treasury. The purely Egyptian elements are to be found in the lowest stratum of the social structure. All other intrinsically Egyptian institutions of more cultured or complex character which had once added lustre to the political life of the Lagides had withered away, and their final abolition was brought about by Augustus.

V. Arangio - Ruiz, Les documents du droit romain (238-247).

In this very interesting article the author discusses the three well-known documents, Mich. VII 434, 442 and Ryl. IV, 612 which in recent years have become subject of an animated controversy among the scholars.

As to the first two documents the author is of the opinion that they are two specimens of the Roman Law in its purest form and concern the restitution of a dowry; the law established in its traditional form of a *dictio*. Alike in Ryl., IV, 612 a *dictio dotis* is mentioned.