

HANBURY AND MAUDSLEY MODERN EQUITY. By JILL E. MARTIN. (12th Edition). [London: Stevens and Sons. 1985. 1xiv + 920 pp. Softcover: £22].

THE 12th edition of this book marks the 50th year since its first publication and records the death of one of the co-authors of the work, Ronald Maudesley.

The aim of this book as stated in the 11th edition is “to combine a professional and academic treatment; providing the student with the information on the subject which a future practitioner needs to know and also to offer deeper analysis and discussion which an academic course ought to provide”. This aim has been admirably continued by Jill Martin who in five parts gives an excellent and up-to-date account of equity in a simplified fashion.

The first part of the book, which is the introduction, gives a concise account of the historical development of equity and discusses the various maxims of equity. The remainder of the introduction deals with the nature and classification of the various types of trusts.

The second part of this book gives an in-depth account of trusts. The third part deals exclusively with trustees and the fourth part with equitable remedies of specific performance, injunctions, rescission and rectification. The last part deals with various equitable doctrines and with licences.

A notable change from the previous editions of this book is that equitable remedies are covered in the later part of the book. This, the author states was done, without undermining the importance of equitable remedies, to reflect the fact that students generally covered remedies as the last stage of their course on equity.

The addition of a chapter on rectification and rescission also reflects on the work put in by the author to keep this edition in line with present developments in this area of law.

Throughout the book, the author has adopted an easy to follow style without sacrificing details which is the virtue of this book. Though this edition does incorporate recent legislative changes in the U.K., for example, the Forfeiture Act of 1982 and the Capital Transfer Act of 1984 which are not applicable here, it is nevertheless excellent value for money.

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