

GORE-BROWNE ON COMPANIES. By BOYLE & SYKES, (44th Edition). [Bristol (England): Jordan and Sons Ltd. 1986. 2 volumes.]

*GORE-BROWNE* has emerged over its 43rd and 44th editions to occupy the position of pre-eminence amongst practitioners' works on company law. The complexity of modern company law is such that it is no longer possible for one author or editor however eminent to provide comprehensive treatment of the subject for lawyers. The degree of specialisation within company law is such that a practitioner's work needs to draw on specialist skills, while concurrently providing consistent general treatment throughout the work.

*Gore-Browne* meets this challenge through the guiding hands of Professor A.J. Boyle and Richard Sykes Q.C. as general and consultant editor respectively, with special contributions from a diversity of academics and practitioners including, for example, merchant bankers on public issues and takeovers and accountants on accounts and auditors.

An accurate account of modern company law cannot be confined to its common law and statutory framework. It must focus on the extensive matrix of regulatory, administrative and practice guidelines and codes as well. This, *Gore-Browne* achieves admirably through its specialist contributors.

The 44th edition straddles the period of seminal legislative changes in the United Kingdom, in the form of the Insolvency Act and the Financial Services Act both of which were passed shortly after this edition was released. The loose leaf format of the work permits timely releases to update the work. It would not be surprising if the next edition of *Gore-Browne* should include a separate volume on securities regulation as it can now be said that securities regulation in the United Kingdom has come into its own to merit separate comprehensive legal treatment.

PHILIP PILLAI