

ADMIRALTY PRACTICE. By Kenneth C. McGuffie and Others. British Shipping Laws, vol. I. [London: Stevens. 1964. Ixviii + 773 pp. 10 gns.]

The recent 'seizure' of two Indonesian pilgrimage vessels by the Hong Kong admiralty marshal draws attention to the ever-present importance of Admiralty Practice from the point of view of the maritime lawyer, the master and owners of vessels and all those whose commercial dealings bring them into contract with ships.

3. See also *Rolls v. Miller*, cited at p. 877

The volume is presented as a textbook in treatise form. But it is aimed at the practitioner rather than the student — perhaps this makes the price less unattractive. As a practical work its aim is to enable the reader to follow an action right through from beginning to end, and it even makes provision for those who may find themselves in an Admiralty County Court or involved in a Lloyd Salvage Arbitration.

*Admiralty Practice* is divided into eight parts of which the first covering some 140 pages will prove of more general interest than the rest. Here the learned authors discuss general principles and draw attention to such preliminary matters as whether and where to litigate, the choice of action — whether in rem or personam, and the position of the Crown as a litigant in admiralty matters. This is followed by a full analysis of actions in rem and personam, default, the matters common to actions in rem and personam, the Admiralty County Courts and other courts with limited admiralty jurisdiction, Lloyd's salvage arbitrations and a short but fascinating account of priorities in actions in rem.

In a place like Singapore a volume of this character will prove of major value, and this is true even if the user were to ignore the remaining volumes in the library of British Shipping Laws. As the various volumes in this series become available, however, it becomes clear just how vital maritime law is today and what a useful service is being provided by the editors and publishers of these somewhat large and highly technical tomes.