

SWEET & MAXWELL'S PROPERTY STATUTES. Advisory Editor, J.H.C. Morris, D.C.L., F.B.A. [London: Sweet & Maxwell 1968. xlv + 449 pp.].

In one volume, Sweet & Maxwell have printed a collection of the leading English property statutes as revised by later legislation. A reader therefore may refer to the volume to find the up-to-date text of a statute contained in it, showing any amendments or repeals affecting the statute from the date it was enacted up to June 1, 1968. There is also a list of the cases in which the statutes have been judicially considered.

The main complaint one may have of a book of this nature is in respect of what it omits rather than what it contains. The editors recognising this, and regretting the omissions, excuse themselves on the basis that the book, to be available to students, must be of a limited size. They also justify the omission of the statutes relating to Landlord and Tenant by classifying them as belonging to a separate subject. Presumably, this explains why the Leasehold Reform Act 1967 is omitted.

The most regrettable omission however is surely that of the Land Registration Acts, especially in view of the day to day increase in registered conveyancing. The argument by the editor, is that to include such would perhaps reduce the availability of the book to students presumably because of its increased cost, but the alternative seems to amount to spoiling the job for a half-penny worth of tar, which seems a pity.

Notwithstanding the gaps, the book as it stands will be of undoubted use to both students of English property law, and practitioners generally.

LEONARD PEGG