

CASES AND MATERIALS IN COMPANY LAW. By L.S. SEALY. Second Edition. [London: Butterworths. 1978. xxi+554 pp. £9.00]

This new edition of Sealy's casebook updates its coverage to include the various changes wrought by the European Communities Act 1972 and more recent cases. With a new publisher an immediately apparent feature is that while the first edition was bulkier, this edition is a slimmer volume which is achieved by excising longer extracts from the cases presented as well as omitting other cases. To the author's credit, he has resisted efforts to shorten extracts of the significant decisions. However, the omission of several cases, for example *Woodlands v. Logan* [1948] N.Z.L.R. 230 on the conferment of powers by the articles on third parties, detracts significantly from the new edition's value. The unique place, that the first edition enjoyed, as company law casebooks go, was that unlike others which contented themselves with brief extracts, Sealy's casebook was sufficiently extensive in its extracts as well as comprehensive in its coverage, features which made it invaluable as a teaching tool. Pressure of space, for example dictates only cursory reference to *Canadian Aero Service v. O'Malley* (1973) 40 D.L.R. (3d) 371 a significant extension of the *Regal (Hastings)* doctrine on secret profits. This edition amply demonstrates the continuing tension between academic demands and commercial expediency and while a balance is to be desired, the triumph of commercial expediency in this case the resulting slimmer, more elegant and more marketable product, causes some disappointment.

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