

COMMONWEALTH AND COLONIAL LAW

Sir Kenneth Roberts-Wray, G.C.M.G., Q.C., M.A.(Oxon.)

*of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-Law: Lately Legal Adviser to the
Commonwealth Relations Office and the Colonial Office*

However one may attempt to analyse the Commonwealth, its history, politics, economics, geography, and other attributes, there is no doubt that identifiable legal rules apply to it and, to a large extent, define it. The answer to the question, 'What is the Commonwealth?', is basically a legal one and this emphasises the importance of this book. Written by a distinguished expert, this book is the first comprehensive statement of the *general* law relating to the Commonwealth and its value is enhanced by the large, complementary, Appendix which contains summaries of the *national* law of all member countries.

The book opens with a chapter authoritatively defining some thirty key terms and then, in Chapter 2, the author deals generally with the composition of the Commonwealth and the rights and obligations of members. Chapters 3, 4 and 5 discuss Commonwealth territory, its acquisition and transfer and authority over dependent territories. Chapter 6 presents a complete account of the processes of transition to independence. Chapters 7, 8 and 9 deal with all the patterns of executive, legislative, and judicial activity to be found in the Commonwealth: the role of the Sovereign and the Sovereign's Representative, the various types of Executive authorities, ministerial responsibility, legislative machinery, the powers of legislatures, and Commonwealth judiciaries are dealt with in full. Chapter 10 deals with the public service. Basic law, in particular the problems raised by the application of indigenous law and imported English law, is dealt with in Chapter 11 and concluding chapters deal with legal proceedings, sovereignty and land title, defence, finance, and the legal profession.

This work is not only the first textbook made available for those working in and administering Commonwealth law and government, but also it provides a detailed basis for discussion of the present position of the Commonwealth in world affairs. It will be of the greatest importance to politicians, lawyers, judges and students of world affairs, and every law library ought to offer it for reference, teaching and research.

Post free in U.K.
£8 10s. net

STEVENS

11 New Fetter Lane, London, E.C.4

Law in Africa Series

No. 15 The Customary Laws of Succession in Eastern Nigeria

Nwakamma Okoro

Published in July £2 17s 6d net

No. 16 The Law of Testate and Intestate Succession in Ghana

The Hon. Mr. Justice N. A. Ollennu

To be published in July Hardbound: £4 4s net
Paperback: £2 5s net

No. 17 The Native and Customary Courts of Nigeria

E. A. Key and S. S. Richardson

Published in June Hardbound: £3 17s 6d net
Paperback: £1 15s 0d net

No. 18 The Police and the Public in Nigeria

Cyprian O. Okonkwo

Published in March Hardbound: £1 net
Paperback: 10s net

Paperback editions are not for sale outside Africa
Post free in U.K.

SWEET & MAXWELL LTD.,

11 New Fetter Lane, London, E.C.4.

African Universities Press, P.O. Box 1287, Lagos.