

BOOKS IN REVIEW

THE GEOMETRICAL SEAMAN

by E.G.R. TAYLOR and M.W. RICHEY

111 pages; 37 illustrations; 22 × 17.5 cm.

Published by Hollis & Carter, London, for the Institute of Navigation, 1962

Seamen will surely agree that this is a book that needed to be written. The story of the development of all the diverse navigational instruments used by mariners over the centuries is a fascinating one, and demonstrates the long process of trial and error that took place before the refinement of present day navigation was attained. Reducing the seaman's main requirements to the determination of latitude and longitude, it is well to acknowledge the immense debt owed to NEWTON and his contemporaries for establishing the principles leading to the development of the sextant, and to John HARRISON for his marine chronometers.

But putting the emphasis in the right place, what more fitting conclusion could be reached than the authors' closing words ?

“ But as the event has proved, the machine is capable of more exquisite accuracy than can be achieved by any human hand or eye. The sailor has nothing to fear — except the intermittent violence of Nature, which must be countered, not with instruments and mathematical tables, but with good seamanship ”.

SHORE AND SEA BOUNDARIES

by A. L. SHALOWITZ

Publication 10-1, U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey,
U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C., 1962.
18 × 25 cm. Illustrated. Appendices. Index. XXIV plus 420 pages.

Price \$3.50

This is the first of two volumes that treat of shore and sea boundaries. Although it is written with special reference to the use and interpretation of Coast and Geodetic Survey data a great deal of the material and practically all the principles discussed are international in character.

The volume is divided into three parts and comprises eleven chapters. Part 1 deals with cases particular to the United States in the division of sovereignty between the Federal Government and several coastal States over ownership of offshore submerged lands. These are discussed against a background of applicable principles of international law in their relation to the seaward boundaries of a littoral nation. Of special interest is the offshore island