Issue Editor's Preface

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Few fields of the law have been as deeply plowed by recent Supreme Court decisions as that of admiralty. Traditionally esoteric, the admiralty area has nevertheless lately been the subject of severe judicial scrutiny. Long established concepts such as unseaworthiness have been redefined to meet the demands of a modern industrial society. Today the ancient mariner would scarcely recognize his calling.

With the present membership of the Supreme Court, it is not surprising that the greatest activity within admiralty has been with regard to personal injury. The content of the issue reflects this, because we felt that articles in this area would have the widest appeal and be of greatest use to the bar in general. Hence Mr. Carl Bue of Royston, Rayzor & Cook in Houston discusses developments since the Supreme Court's decision in Reed v. The Yaka. Mr. Stanley Cook of Derby, Cook, Quinby & Tweedt in San Francisco deals with the perplexing problem of death on inland waters. And Mr. D. Thomas McCune of Lillick, McHose, Wheat, Adams & Charles in San Francisco investigates some of the interesting conflicts created by the introduction of the law of products liability into the maritime area.

All this is not to say that we have had no room for other aspects of maritime law. Mr. Robert Fremlin of Lillick, McHose, Wheat, Adams & Charles in San Francisco analyzes the primary jurisdiction doctrine in relation to the Federal Maritime Commission. Mr. Gary Strieker’s comment explores the creation of the new United States Fisheries Zone.

The student work, with the exception of Mr. Gordon McClintock’s interesting off-topic comment on the use of price-index clauses in long term corporate obligations, also reflects the judicial emphasis on maritime personal injury. To be particularly noted is Mr. Dinko Bozanich’s exhaustive analysis of the relation between the Longshoremen’s and Harbor Worker’s Act and state compensation legislation.

I must close with special words of appreciation to Mr. Lester Clark of Graham, James & Rolph in San Francisco, Mr. Graydon Staring of Lillick, McHose, Wheat, Adams & Charles in San Francisco, and Mr. Keith Ferguson of our faculty whose advice was invaluable. I also would have found it impossible to produce the issue without the assistance of my associate editors, Susan Briggs, William Flenniken, and Irwin Goldman. Mr. Thomas Boyle, presently with the Admiralty division of the Justice Department in Washington, did all the excellent research work last year in preparation for the issue.

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Issue Editor

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