

THE LAW RELATING TO BANKING. 2nd Edition. By T.G. Reeday. [London: Butterworths. 1972. xxxiv + 453 pp. Paperback £2.60].

The 2nd edition of Mr. Reeday's book on the Law Relating to Banking, follows closely the 1st edition which was published in 1968. Apparently, the first edition was well accepted in both legal and banking circles, and there is every reason for the second edition to be even more popular.

The main difference in the pattern and contents of this book from other books on the law of banking, is that it does not confine itself only to the law of banking as such, but also deals with other "laws", "relating to banking". We therefore find special chapters on Contract, Agency, Partnership, Companies, Bankruptcy and Land, which are not given such individualised treatment in other books on banking law. This treatment, according to the author, serves a functional purpose, as the pattern of the book is based on the three sections of the syllabus of the Institute of Bankers concerning the paper on the Law Relating to Banking.

It should however be noted that the inclusion of related law, can be of great service not only to those candidates for the Diploma of the Institute of Bankers, but also to regular law students studying banking law at the Universities. Banking law is, in many Universities, taught in the final year, and by that time, many

students have almost forgotten subjects like Contract, Agency, Company and Land Law, without which a proper understanding of banking law and practice is not possible.

Regarding the contents of the book, one finds the treatment lucid and concise. The present edition of this book has incorporated many cases decided between 1968 and 1972, and therefore the book is not only pleasant reading but also very much up-to-date.

In view of the fact that many University students will also be using the book, a legitimate criticism might be that case law is treated in a rather elementary fashion; the treatment being more descriptive than critical. Related to this question of treatment of case law is the fact that Mr. Reeday refers to cases in the text by referring to the year only. Thus, in some instances, while reading the text, one has no idea of the nature of the Court deciding the case (unless specifically mentioned), or where it is reported. The table of cases does give the citation, but three seems to be no harm in giving the citation in the footnotes to the text, as is the practice in books of a similar nature.

All in all, the second edition is to be welcomed not only by students of law, but even by practitioners. It is a useful supplement to more classical texts on Banking Law, like Paget's Law of Banking, and will also be useful for quick and ready reference, and for revision purposes as well.

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