

THE LAW RELATING TO BANKING. By T.G. REEDAY. Third Edition. 1976. [London: Butterworths. xxxvii+474 pp. £5.50]

The Law Relating to Banking by T.G. Reeday is now in its third edition. This new edition came out in 1976 four years since the previous edition.

The book as the author quite clearly states in his preface, is designed to meet the syllabus of the Institute of Bankers in its subject, Law Relating to Banking. Its treatment of the subject is tailored towards this end and therefore departs quite radically from the traditional banking textbooks. This book, as its title suggests, is a treatment of the Law Relating to Banking rather than the Law of Banking itself. The book consists of 14 chapters. Of these only five chapters are devoted to a commentary on the Bill of Exchange Act, 1882. The remaining chapters cover the following areas: Contract, Agency, Partnership, Companies, Bankruptcy, Land, Life Policies, Stock and Shares and Guarantees. As the number of topics covered under the book is far-ranging its treatment therefore has to be fairly brief and confined to bare statements of principles. Despite these limitations the exposition is clear and easily understood, and a very comprehensive list of cases are brought in to support the statements of law. Although many of the topics in the book are complete subjects in themselves yet they are intimately related to Banking. Any banker and for that matter any banking student would be required to have an understanding of these various topics if he is to understand the relationship arising between the banker and his customer. With most textbooks structured as they are, it is only too easy for the students to follow suit and to compartmentalise legal knowledge into pigeon-holes.

Although this book may not fit neatly into the syllabus of a traditional banking course, nonetheless, it will provide very good background reading for students proposing to read a course in banking law. Lastly, this book would be useful even for those merely wishing to brush up their general principles of law.

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