

## PREFACE

It would be impossible within the narrow confines of one volume to deal exhaustively with so extensive a subject as that of Canadian banking practice, and the writer is fully conscious of his limitations in this and other respects. It is hoped, however, that the parts of this subject dealt with will be found to be treated with due regard to their relative importance, and that no really essential information has been overlooked. As far as possible, all matters coming within the scope of the Bills of Exchange Act have been purposely omitted, because an intimate knowledge of the act itself is essential to every business man and banker.

Although Canadian banks may differ in bookkeeping and methods, the general principles and aims of their systems are the same, and the reader should have no difficulty in understanding the forms and methods explained in the text, and in interpreting them by his own experience. Too specific explanations have been avoided as far as possible, lest the principles involved should be buried under a mass of detail.

The regulations governing general routine and the custody of securities as set forth in the rule books of the various banks are very similar in intention, if not in wording, and the sections dealing with these matters in Chapter V, Part II, and elsewhere conform to the best practice. The counter forms used in dealing with customers, such as powers of attorney, pledges, etc., are