

PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

The first edition of this pamphlet was printed on 15th November, 1909, and copies were sent to the general managers of Canadian banks. A conference of bankers followed, from which a faint hope was indulged that the bankers would go on record in favor of some effective system of inspection. This hope led to withholding the pamphlet from general distribution pending action by the Canadian Bankers' Association at its meeting on November 25th, 1909. A motion that the substance of the suggested amendment to the Bank Act (see page 37) should be adopted as a recommendation to the Finance Minister, did not receive other support than to be referred to a committee quite out of sympathy with inspection from without. The pamphlet is therefore presented to legislators, to bank shareholders, and to the public generally. Facts are the best arguments, and even bankers opposed to the scheme of external inspection herein suggested admit that the arguments presented are unanswerable. I ask careful perusal, unbiased judgment, and independent action.

H. C. McLEOD.

TORONTO,
November 26th, 1909.