

By chapter 33, the Income War Tax Act of 1917 is amended by providing that persons failing to deliver a return of income within the prescribed time shall be liable to a penalty of 5 p.c. of the tax payable by them, but not to exceed \$500; a penalty is also imposed for short payment, while it is also provided that the taxpayers shall receive a notice of assessment. By chapter 34, the excise duties on spirits are drastically increased from a basic rate of \$2.40 per proof gallon when made from raw grain, to a basic rate of \$9.00 per proof gallon, the old duties to be continued, however, in the case of spirits used by licensed manufacturers of patent and proprietary medicines, extracts, essences and pharmaceutical preparations. A drawback of 99 p. c. of the duty is allowed on limited quantities of spirits used for university, scientific or research purposes. Under chapter 50, an Act to amend the Special War Revenue Act, excise duties imposed in 1920 on a large variety of articles are repealed and others reduced, while the tax on sales imposed in 1920 is increased in the case of sales and deliveries by manufacturers and wholesalers or jobbers from 1 p.c. to $1\frac{1}{2}$ p.c., and in the case of sales by manufacturers directly to retailers and consumers, from 2 p.c. to 3 p.c. Where goods are imported the rates under similar circumstances are increased from 2 p.c. to $2\frac{1}{2}$ p.c. and 4 p.c. respectively.

Agriculture.—By chapter 5, the powers of the Canadian Wheat Board are continued in order that unsettled business may be concluded. By chapter 15, the operation of the Act of 1918 increasing compensation for animals slaughtered under the provisions of the Animal Contagious Diseases Act, is extended until 1924. By chapter 28, the grading of dairy produce is authorized. Chapter 35 imposes upon pressers of baled hay or straw instead of on vendors the obligation of stating the weight of bales, and chapter 41 permits until March 1, 1923, the manufacture, importation and sale of oleomargarine.

Trade and Commerce.—By chapter 8, the French Trade Agreement signed January 29, 1921, modifying the terms of the Convention of 1907, is approved, Canada granting to France, subject to the usual reservation in favour of other portions of the Empire, most favoured-nation treatment. Certain Canadian articles are removed from the operation of the French minimum tariff, while certain others are granted its privileges.

The West Indies Trade Agreement Act (c. 13) brings into force, so far as Canada is concerned, the provisions of the agreement made in 1920, providing for preferential customs duties and for improved steamship communication between Canada and the British West Indies, British Honduras and British Guiana. (See 1920 Year Book, p. 744).

The Winding-up Act was amended by chapter 14 in order to promote the securing of statistics of companies going into liquidation. The Bankruptcy Act was amended in numerous particulars by chapter 17, including provision for the appointment of a committee of creditors to administer or carry on the business of the debtor.