

**Banking.**—By c. 7, the Bank Act of 1923 was amended with respect to the appointment of an inspector-general of banks, his tenure of office and removal, his officials and clerical assistants, the inspector-general to examine and inquire into the affairs of each bank at least once in each calendar year, and to be entitled to receive from the officers of the banks such information as may be deemed necessary for the performance of his duties. The inspector-general and his staff are to be officials of the Department of Finance. By c. 8, provision is made for the change of the name of the "*Banque d'Hochelaga*" to "*Banque Canadienne Nationale*."

**Civil Servants.**—The superannuation of civil servants is provided for by c. 69; part I of the Act deals with persons appointed after the coming into force of the Act, each of whom shall contribute 5 p.c. of his annual salary to the Consolidated Revenue Fund, and may receive, on reaching 65 years of age or in case of earlier disablement, an annuity of as many fiftieths of his average annual salary for the last five years of his service as he has served years, provided that he has served at least 10 years, but no allowance is to be paid for service exceeding 35 years; the widow of a contributor to the fund may receive one-half of what he would have received and allowances of one-tenth of what the deceased contributor would have received may be paid in respect of each of his children up to the age of 18 years, provided that the total allowance to widow and children shall not exceed three-quarters of what the deceased contributor would have received. Retirement is generally compulsory at 70 years of age, but the period of service may be extended in special cases to 75 years. Part II of the Act provides that civil servants now coming under the Retirement Act may transfer their accumulated contributions to the retirement fund and receive the benefit of the Superannuation Act; while parts III, IV and V make regulations respectively for the transfer of civil servants coming under the former Superannuation Act, for those not coming under either of the aforesaid Acts, and for certain temporary employees.

**Commerce.**—By c. 5, the French version of the Patent Act of 1923 is amended. By c. 9, the Belgian Convention Act, 1924, products of the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxembourg and the colonies or possessions or mandated territories of Belgium are granted admission to Canada on the most favourable terms accorded to any foreign power; the Convention also provides that Canadian exports to the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxembourg shall receive most-favoured-nation treatment. The Feeding Stuffs Act of 1923 is amended by c. 42 to provide that certain feeding stuffs may contain 50 p.c. by weight of bran, shorts, middlings or feed flour. By c. 49, the Inland Water Freight Rates Act of 1923 is amended in respect of the definition of "shipper," the filing of charter parties and bills of lading and penalties.

**Companies.**—The Companies Act is amended by c. 33 in respect of the conditions of the creation of private companies, the issue of shares without nominal or par value, changes of name, the surrender of company charters, incidental and ancillary powers of companies, the payment of commissions for selling shares, the conditions on which a private company may become a public company, and the conditions on which a company may purchase stock in other companies, the transmission of shares by will or intestacy, borrowing powers, qualifications of directors, etc.

**Customs Tariff.**—C. 36 limits allowance for damages to brittle goods imported by railway or vehicle to cases where the damage exceeds 15 p.c. of the value. C. 38 amends the Customs Tariff of 1907, particularly in reducing the rates of duty levied