

certain other purposes, can be enforced only on the certificate of the President of the Exchequer Court or Chief Commissioner of the Dominion Trade and Industry Commission that it is fit and proper that the action mentioned in the application should be taken. It is further provided that where an investigation under the Act is proceeding in any province, and the Commissioner or Special Commissioner is desirous of exercising the power to commit to prison or otherwise penalize any person, application for authority to do so may be made to a judge of the Supreme or Superior Court of the province in which the investigation is being made.

For the purpose of expanding employment in primary and secondary production and at the same time conserving and developing natural resources, accelerating the expansion of trade, industry, and gainful occupation, and thereby lessening the governmental burdens consequent upon unemployment and agricultural distress, the Unemployment and Agricultural Assistance Act, 1937, (c. 44) was enacted. The Act authorizes the execution of such works and undertakings as may be determined, and the employment thereon of competent persons who are in receipt of relief. All contracts for such works carried out under provincial jurisdiction but to which the Dominion Government is contributing shall be approved by the Minister of Labour and supervised by the Dominion Government. The Government may enter into agreements with any of the provinces respecting alleviation of unemployment conditions and of agricultural distress and may, where necessary, grant financial assistance by way of a loan to assist the province to pay its share of expenditures for such purposes. Such agreements may be entered into with corporations or individuals respecting expansion of industrial employment, but no financial assistance shall be granted to any province unless certified statements as the Dominion Government may require are furnished. The Dominion Government may also examine and audit provincial records related to such works if deemed necessary.

Parliamentary Representation.—C. 9 amends the Dominion Franchise Act to permit of the annual revision of the lists of electors being omitted for the year 1937.

Pensions.—By c. 12, the payments of pensions and compassionate allowances to officers' wives, under the Militia Pension Act, are to be made in equal monthly instalments in arrear, instead of yearly in advance, and, unless otherwise specified, shall continue during the lifetime of the recipient.

C. 13 amends the Old Age Pensions Act (c. 156, R.S.C. 1927). It provides for the payment of a pension to every blind person, 40 years of age or over, who does not receive a pension in respect of blindness under other legislation, and whose income is less than the specified amount for each of the classes enumerated in s. 8A, s-s. 1. The maximum pension is \$240 yearly, but in the case of a blind person who, after the coming into force of this legislation, marries a blind person unable to perform work for which sight is essential the maximum pension is \$120. Maximum pensions are subject to reductions as laid down. Pensions for blind persons are to be made on the same basis as old age pensions, *i.e.*, the Dominion Government will contribute 75 p.c. of the cost if and when the individual provinces undertake to contribute the remainder.

The Throne.—By c. 16, the alteration in the law touching the Succession to the Throne, as set forth in the Act of Parliament of the United Kingdom entitled "His Majesty's Declaration of Abdication Act, 1936", is assented to in line with the Statute of Westminster, 1931. The Instrument of Abdication is set out in Schedule 1 to the Act and the request and consent of Canada to the enactment of the said Act in Schedule 2.