

The definitions of 'control sample' and 'official sample', as set forth in the Seeds Act, 1937, are revised in minor detail by c. 51.

Civil Service.—The Civil Service Act (c. 22, R.S.C. 1927) is amended by c. 7. A proviso is added to the requirement that all appointments to the Civil Service shall be upon competitive examination, it being stipulated that no person shall be appointed or transferred to a local position unless such person has qualified, by examination, in the knowledge and use of the language of the majority of the persons with whom he has to do business. This proviso also affects s. 32 of the original Act which states that every examination shall be held in the English or French language at the option of the candidate.

Indians.—Amendments to the Indian Act (c. 98, R.S.C. 1927) are the subject of c. 31 of the Statutes. Leasing of and granting of the right to prospect, and of surface rights on Indian lands by the Superintendent General, under regulations of the Governor in Council, in connection with mining operations, are more specifically defined. The Minister of Finance is also empowered to authorize advances to the Superintendent General to enable the latter to grant loans to Indian Bands or individual Indians and to finance co-operative projects on their behalf. The total amount of such outstanding advances shall at no time exceed \$350,000 and shall be reported annually to Parliament.

Insurance.—C. 21 amends the Canadian and British Insurance Companies Act, 1932, by widening the list of investments for insurance company funds to include equipment trust certificates of Canadian railways, and bonds of certain public bodies of the United Kingdom and of the Dominions.

Justice.—C. 4 amends the Evidence Act (c. 59, R.S.C. 1927) with respect to proof of the mailing of any request, notice, or demand by a department of the public service. A sworn statement of an officer of such department, accompanied by a certificate of registration, a copy of such notice, and a Post Office receipt for delivery shall be evidence of such sending. By a paragraph added to subsection 2 of s. 29 of the Act, an affidavit of a manager or accountant of a bank shall be accepted as proof that the drawer of a cheque on that bank has no account therein.

By c. 11, a minor amendment is made to the Penitentiary Act with respect to period of confinement in gaol or other place pending the determination of appeal not being computed as time served.

By c. 28, the Exchequer Court Act (c. 34, R.S.C. 1927) is amended by deleting the words "upon any public work" at the end of paragraph (c) of subsection 1 of s. 19 thereof. This amendment is very important as it enlarges considerably the field of responsibility of the Crown for its servants' negligence.

C. 44 amends the Criminal Code (c. 36, R.S.C. 1927). In respect to aliens carrying firearms, the burden of proof that an accused person is not an alien is upon him. It is declared an offence to alter or remove any manufacturer's serial number on any firearm capable of being concealed upon the person; in addition to the registration of revolvers and pistols undertaken by the R.C.M.P., provision is made for a general registration of all revolvers and pistols during the period between Mar. 1 and July 1, 1939, and during the same period every five years thereafter; firearms carried by a minor under the age of fourteen elsewhere than in his own dwelling house or premises, without a permit, may be seized. A number of other minor changes are made to the sections dealing with the possession and use of firearms. By s. 11, restrictions are placed upon the publication of reports of judicial proceedings. Penalties are revised or enacted for: failure to stop a motor car after