

Under Part VIII of the Act, the revenues that had previously accrued to the treasuries of the provinces were transferred to the Dominion, notably the customs duties. The public works, cash assets and other property of the provinces, except lands, mines, minerals and royalties, also became Dominion property. In its turn, the Dominion became responsible for the debts of the provinces. Since the main source of the revenues of the provinces, customs duties, was now taken over by the Dominion, the Dominion was to pay annual subsidies to the provinces for the support of their governments and legislatures. These subsidies have from time to time been increased.

Miscellaneous.—Among the miscellaneous provisions contained in Part IX of the British North America Act, are sections providing for the retention of existing legislation of the provinces in force until repealed, the transfer of existing officials to the Dominion, and the appointment of new officials. The Parliament of Canada is also given power necessary to perform treaty obligations of Canada, as a part of the British Empire, towards foreign countries.

Under Sect. 133, either the English or the French language may be used by any person in the debates of Parliament or of the Legislature of Quebec, all Acts of which bodies are to be printed in both languages. Either language, too, may be used by any person in any court of Canada established under the Act, or in the courts of Quebec.

Appendix to Section 1

The British North America Act, 1867

The original Constitution of the Dominion (in so far as it is a written one) was the British North America Act of 1867. Since the original enactment numerous Imperial and Canadian Acts have been passed modifying or amending the provisions of the original legislation, and the more important of these are printed in full in *British North America Acts and Amendments, 1867-1927*, which may be obtained from the King's Printer, Ottawa, at 50 cents per copy. This publication also includes the text of the Quebec Resolutions, 1864, and the London Resolutions, 1866.

In the presentation below, the text of the original Act is printed in roman type and notes regarding important modifications or amendments have been inserted in italics. No attempt at legal preciseness has been made since space is restricted and the main purpose is to inform the reader as to where changes have occurred and direct him to the source where they may be studied.

All such changes in italics are contained in the publication referred to above, with the exception of the Yukon Territory Act of 1898.

The First and Second Schedules to the Act, dealing with electoral districts in Ontario and Quebec, have been omitted, as subsequent Redistribution Acts have caused them to have only a historical value.