

courts of quarter sessions all cases of homicide. Chapter 29 amends the Post Office act R.S. 1906 c. 66 by rendering the Post Office Department liable to give compensation for loss not exceeding \$25 for each registered domestic article. This assimilates the practice of Canada to that of Great Britain and the United States. Chapter 26 confers power upon the Commissioners of the Transcontinental Railway to enter into agreements with the cities of Winnipeg and St. Boniface for the construction of a bridge over the Red River to serve for vehicular and pedestrian traffic as well as for the purposes of the railway. Chapter 18 amends the provisions of the Government Railways act, R. S. c. 36, with regard to compensation for cattle killed or injured on the railway. Amendments are also made in the Animal Contagious Diseases act (chapter 3), the Government Annuities act 1908 (chapter 4), the Cold Storage act (Chapter 8), the Dominion Lands act (chapter 11), the Exchequer Court act (chapter 12), the Extradition act (chapter 14), the Government Harbours and Piers act (chapter 17), the I. & P. E. I. Railway Employees' Provident Fund act (chapter 20), the Montreal Harbour Commissioners' acts (chapters 24 and 25), the Navigable Waters Protection act (chapter 28), the Canada Shipping act (chapter 34), and the Yukon act (chapter 37). Railway acts are amended by chapters 5, 31, 32 and 35, and chapter 36 amends the act relating to ocean steamship subsidies.

Compensation for loss of registered articles sent by post.

Railway bridge over the Red River.

Amendment of various acts.

Abolition of level railway crossings.

Chapter 32 contains provisions under which by the joint action of the national, provincial and municipal authorities with the railway companies level railway crossings are to be gradually removed. An annual sum of \$200,000 for five consecutive years from April 1 1909 will be appropriated towards the cost of construction work for the protection, safety and convenience of the public at level railway crossings.

Imperial defence.

On March 16, when the navy estimates for 1909-10 were under discussion, certain grave utterances of leading statesmen in the Imperial House of Commons with regard to the future maintenance of British naval supremacy made a profound impression throughout the Empire.

Resolution of the Canadian House of Commons.

On March 29 the question of Canadian participation in Imperial naval defence was brought before the Dominion House of Commons on a motion by the Hon. George E. Foster, and as the result of a memorable debate the following resolution was adopted unanimously on the motion of the Prime Minister :

That this House fully recognises the duty of the people of Canada, as they increase in numbers and wealth, to assume in larger measure the responsibilities of national defence.

The House is of opinion that under the present constitutional relations of regular and periodical contributions to the imperial treasury for naval and military purposes would not, so far as Canada is concerned, be the most satisfactory solution of the question of defence.