



CHAPTER 38

Collective Agreement Act

[Assented to, the 22nd of June, 1940]

WHEREAS social justice requires the regulating of Preamble.
labour whenever the economic situation involves
unjust conditions for the employee;

Whereas the tolerating of the forced acceptance of
insufficient remuneration is to fail to take into account
the dignity of work and the necessities of an employee
and his family;

Whereas it is expedient to adopt, extend and render
compulsory the working conditions contained in collect-
ive agreements, both to prevent unfair competing
with the signatories and to establish a fair wage and
to satisfy justice;

Therefore, His Majesty, with the advice and consent
of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative As-
sembly of Quebec, enacts as follows:

INTERPRETATION

1. In this act and in its application, unless the con-
text requires otherwise, the following words and expres-
sions have the meaning hereinafter given to them: Interpreta-
tion:

a. "Agricultural exploitation" means a farm, devel-
oped by the farmer himself or through employees; "Agricul-
tural exploi-
tation";

b. "Association" includes a professional syndicate,
a union or federation of such syndicates, a group of
employees or employers, *bona fide*, having as object the
study, defence and development of the economic, social "Associa-
tion";

and moral interests of its members, with respect for law and authority;

- "Com-
mittee"; c. "Committee" means the parity committee, constituted as a result of a decree;
- "Collective
agreement";
"Agree-
ment"; d. "Collective agreement" or "agreement" means any arrangement respecting working conditions entered into between persons acting for one or more associations of employees, and an employer or several employers or persons acting for an association or several associations of employers;
- "Decree"; e. "Decree" means an order-in-council making obligatory, amending, extending or repealing any collective agreement;
- "Employer"; f. "Employer" includes any individual, partnership, firm or corporation who or which has work done by an employee;
- "Professional
employer"; g. "Professional employer" means an employer who habitually has employees in his employ for any kind of work which is the object of a decree;
- "Minister"; h. "Minister" means the Minister of Labour of the Province of Quebec;
- "Wage"; i. "Wage" means the remuneration in currency, and the compensation or benefits of a pecuniary value as determined in the decree for the labour governed by it;
- "Employee"; j. "Employee" means any apprentice, unskilled labourer or workman, skilled workman, journeyman, artisan, clerk or employee, working individually or in a crew or in partnership;
- "Permanent
employee"; k. "Permanent employee" means the employee entrusted solely with the maintenance of a church, chapel, cemetery, seminary, college, convent, monastery, hospital, orphanage, asylum, foundling hospital, hotel, lodging-house, office building, immoveables or collection of buildings used as a manufacturing or industrial establishment, if the hiring of the work of such employee for such particular immoveable is made for a period of at least six months;
- "Construc-
tion". l. "Construction" includes demolition.

JURIDICAL EXTENSION

Extension
of collective
agreement
by decree.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council may order that a collective agreement respecting any trade, industry, commerce or occupation shall also bind all the employees and employers in the Province or in a stated

region of the Province, within the scope determined in such decree.

3. Any party to an agreement may apply to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council for the passing of the decree contemplated in the preceding section. Who may apply for passing of decree.

4. A petition to that effect shall be addressed to the Minister of Labour. The petition must be accompanied by a true copy of the agreement. How application made.

A single decree may be passed upon the receipt of several agreements. Single decree.

5. The agreement shall be published in the *Quebec Official Gazette*, in a newspaper published in the French language and in a newspaper published in the English language, with a notice of the receipt of a petition for its extension. Publication and notice of receipt of petition.

The notice shall require that any objection must be made within thirty days. Delay for objections.

The Minister may order the holding of an inquiry as to whether or not the petition or any objection made thereto is well-founded. Holding of inquiry.

6. At the expiration of the delay, or after the holding of the inquiry contemplated in section 5, the Minister, if he deems that the provisions of the agreement have acquired a preponderant significance and importance for the establishing of conditions of labour, without serious inconvenience resulting from the competition of outside countries or the other provinces, may recommend the approval of the petition by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, with such changes as are deemed expedient, and the passing of a decree for such purpose. Approval of petition.

The economic conditions peculiar to the various regions of the Province must be taken into consideration. Economic conditions.

7. The decree establishing the approval of the petition shall come into and remain in force from the date of its publication in the *Quebec Official Gazette*, or from a later date therein fixed. Coming into force, etc., of decree.

8. The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may extend or, at any time, repeal the decree. Repealing, etc., of decree.

Amending of decree.	After consulting with the contracting parties or the committee, and after publication of a notice as provided for the agreement, the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may amend the decree upon the recommendation of the Minister in conformity with section 6.
Provisions applicable.	The provisions of section 7 shall apply to the decree of repeal or of amendment, but not to the decree of extension which shall come into and remain in force from the date of its adoption.
Publication of extension decree.	The extension decree, however, must be published as soon as possible in the <i>Quebec Official Gazette</i> .

EFFECT OF DECREE

Provisions made obligatory.	9. Whenever a decree is passed under section 2, the provisions of the agreement, whether amended or not, which become obligatory, are those respecting wages, hours of labour, apprenticeship and the proportion between the number of skilled workmen and that of apprentices in a given undertaking.
Other provisions which may be rendered obligatory.	10. The decree may also render obligatory, with or without amendment, the provisions of the agreement respecting the classification of operations and the determining of the various classes of employees and employers, and also such provisions as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may deem in conformity with the spirit of this act.
Contracting parties.	The decree may order that certain persons or associations shall be treated as contracting parties.
Permanent employees.	The decree may authorize a different wage for permanent employees from that provided for the other employees.
Matter of public order.	11. The provisions of the decree entail a matter of public order and shall govern and rule any work of the same nature or kind as that contemplated by the agreement, within the jurisdiction determined by the decree.
Forbidding of different wage.	12. Whatever be the employer's occupation, it is forbidden to stipulate a wage different from that fixed by the decree. Notwithstanding any such stipulation and without it being necessary to demand the nullity thereof, the employee is entitled to recover the wage fixed by the decree.
Employee entitled to wage fixed by decree.	

13. Unless expressly forbidden by the provisions of the decree, the clauses of a lease and hire of work shall be valid and lawful, notwithstanding the provisions of the above sections 9, 10, 11 and 12, in so far as they provide, in favour of the employee, a higher monetary remuneration in currency or more extended compensation or benefits than those fixed by the decree. Certain clauses to prevail.

14. Every professional employer contracting with a sub-entrepreneur or a sub-contractor, directly or through an intermediary, shall be jointly and severally responsible with such sub-entrepreneur or sub-contractor and any intermediary, for the payment of the wage fixed by the decree. Joint liability of professional employers and sub-contractors, etc.

15. The publication of the decree in the *Quebec Official Gazette* shall bar any contestation alleging the incapacity of the parties to the agreement, the invalidity thereof and the insufficiency of notices; and, in all other respects, it shall create generally a presumption, *juris et de jure*, establishing the legality of all proceedings relating to its adoption. Effect of publication of decree.

PARITY COMMITTEE: RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES AND OBLIGATIONS

16. The parties to a collective agreement rendered obligatory must form a parity committee to supervise and ensure the carrying out of the decree, its amendments and renewals. Forming of parity committee.

The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may, however, with the consent of the parties to a collective agreement or of the committee formed by them, order that the observance of a decree be supervised and ensured by an already-existing committee, if the latter consent thereto. Already-existing committee.

17. The Minister may, at any time, upon such conditions and for such term as he deems proper, add to the committee such members, not exceeding four, as are submitted to him in equal number by the employers and employees who are not parties to the agreement. Adding to committee.

18. The committee shall adopt regulations for its formation, the number of its members, their admission, Making of regulations.

their replacing, the appointing of substitutes and the administration of funds; fix its corporate seat; determine the name under which it shall be designated and, generally, draw up regulations for its internal management and the exercise of the rights conferred upon it by law.

Replacement
of members.

Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary relating to the replacing of members of the committee contained in the regulations, any party to the agreement may, after the lapse of one year, replace any member appointed by such party.

Approval,
etc., of such
regulations.

19. The regulations contemplated in the previous section shall be transmitted to the Minister and are approved, with or without amendment, by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council; and notice of such approval shall be published in the *Quebec Official Gazette*.

Notice.

Contents of
notice.

Such notice shall state the name under which the committee is to be designated and the place where its corporate seat is situated.

Publication
deemed
evidence.

Such publication shall be sufficient evidence of the formation and existence of the committee and of the name under which it is to be designated.

Presumption
*juris et de
jure*.

The publication of the notice creates a presumption *juris et de jure* establishing the legality of all the proceedings relating to the formation and existence of the committee.

Amend-
ments to
regulations.

Every amendment to the committee's regulations must likewise be transmitted to the Minister and shall have effect only after approval by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, with or without any change.

Constitu-
tion of com-
mittee as
corporation.

20. From and after the publication of the notice contemplated in the preceding section, the committee shall constitute a corporation and shall have the general powers, rights and privileges appertaining to ordinary civil corporations.

Powers,
of committee:

From the mere fact of its formation, it may, as of right:

To exercise
recourses of
employees;

a. Exercise all recourses arising out of the decree in favour of employees who have not caused a suit to be served within a period of fifteen days from the due date, and may do so, notwithstanding any law to the contrary, any opposition, or any express or implied renunciation by the employee, and without being obliged to

establish an assignment of claim by the interested party, to put him in default, to inform him of the suit, or to allege and prove the absence of suit within such delay of fifteen days, or to produce the certificate of competency;

b. On the same conditions, continue suit in the place and stead of any employee who, having caused such a suit to be served, has neglected to proceed for fifteen days;

c. Recover as well from the employer as from the employee who violate the provisions of any decree relating to wages, and from each of them, a sum equal to 20% of the difference between the obligatory wage and that actually paid;

d. Effect any settlement, compromise or transaction deemed expedient in the cases contemplated in the three foregoing paragraphs;

e. Appoint a secretary, inspectors and other mandatories or employees, and determine their attributions and remuneration. Every person having the administration of the committee's funds must give security by a guarantee policy which shall be transmitted to the Minister.

The secretary and any inspector may, as of right at any time, examine the registration system, the compulsory register and the pay-list of any employer, take copies or extracts therefrom, verify as regards any employer and any employee the rate of wage, duration of work, apprenticeship system and observance of the other provisions of the decree; require, even under oath and privately, from any employer or employee, even at the place of work, all information deemed necessary, and, such information having been written down, exact the signature of the person concerned;

f. By demand in writing made to any employer or artisan, require that a copy sent to him of the scale of wages rendered obligatory, or of any decision or regulation, be posted up and kept posted up in a suitable place and in the manner prescribed in the demand;

g. By regulation, approved by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council and published in the *Quebec Official Gazette*, render obligatory for any professional employer a system of registration for any work which he controls or the keeping of a register in which are shown the name in full and residence of each employee in his employ, his competency, the exact hour at which the work was

begun, interrupted, resumed and ceased each day, the nature of the work and wage paid, with mention of the method and time of payment, and all other information deemed useful in the application of the decree;

To require
monthly
report;

h. By a regulation published in the *Quebec Official Gazette*, oblige any professional employer to transmit to him a monthly report in writing giving the name in full and address of each employee in his employ, his competency, the regular and extra hours of labour done each week and the nature of such labour and the wage paid;

To levy rate;

i. By a regulation approved by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council and published in the *Quebec Official Gazette*, levy upon the professional employer alone or upon both the professional employer and the employee, or upon the employee alone, the sums required for the carrying out of the decree; such levying to be subject to the following conditions:

Estimates;

1. The estimate of the receipts and expenses must be submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council at the same time as the by-law fixing the method and rate of the levy;

Limitation;

2. Such levy shall not exceed the one-half per cent of the employee's remuneration, and the one-half per cent of the professional employer's pay-list;

Artisan;

3. The regulation may determine the basis for the calculation of the levy in the case of a workman or artisan who is not serving a professional employer, and determine that the levy shall be collectable from such workman or artisan although demandable only from the professional employer;

Withholding;

4. The professional employer may be required to collect the levy imposed upon the employee by retaining same out of the wages of the latter;

Repeal,
amendment;

5. The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may, at any time, by an order published in the *Quebec Official Gazette*, terminate the levy or reduce or increase the rate thereof;

To grant
certificates
of limited
fitness;

j. By resolution, grant, upon proof deemed sufficient, to any employee of limited physical or mental fitness, a certificate authorizing him to work upon conditions determined and different from those contemplated in the decree;

To render
certificate of
classification
obligatory.

k. Render obligatory the certificate of classification for the employees exempted from the certificate of competency by section 36.

21. The committee shall transmit a quarterly report to the Minister, certified by a public accountant resident in the Province of Quebec, of all sums collected and of the employment thereof. Transmitting of quarterly report.

The committee shall also transmit to the Minister an annual report of all its activities. Annual report.

The form of such reports shall be determined by the Minister. Form thereof.

The latter may, by an inspector appointed by himself, verify such reports or hold an inquiry, at any time, into the administration of a committee or of its board of examiners. Such inspector shall have powers similar to those of a committee's inspector. Verification thereof, etc.

22. The committee shall hear and consider any written complaint from an employer or from an employee respecting the carrying out of the decree. Complaints to be heard.

23. After a decree has ceased to be in force, the committee shall continue to exist and shall retain its powers for the accomplishing of the objects for which it was formed. Continued existence of committee.

24. When the committee becomes extinct, its property shall be delivered to the Minister. The latter may, however, at any time after a decree ceases to be in force, require immediate delivery of the committee's property, and, in both instances, he may devote it to a similar work designated by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. Disposal of property upon extinction.

COMPETENCY AND CLAIMS OF EMPLOYEES

25. The committee may, by regulation, render a certificate of competency obligatory for every employee subject to the decree, throughout or in a part of the region determined in such decree. Obligatory certificates of competency by regulation.

26. Such regulation shall be subject to the provisions of section 19 and shall come into force from and after its publication in the *Quebec Official Gazette*. Approval and publication.

27. The committee which avails itself of section 25 must, by regulation, create a board of examiners to determine the competency of employees and to issue certificates of competency. Board of examiners.

- 28.** The committee may charge, as a fee, not more than two dollars for the examination of a skilled workman, nor more than one dollar for the examination of an apprentice.
- 29.** The certificate issued to an apprentice shall be valid for the period of his apprenticeship, and that issued to a skilled workman shall be permanent and shall not require to be renewed.
- It shall establish competency, except in the case contemplated in sub-paragraph *j* of section 20.
- 30.** The committee may, by regulation approved by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, allow an association of employees to issue certificates of competency to its members, if such association requires them to undergo an examination.
- If the committee refuses to grant an association the privilege sought for by the latter in virtue of the provisions of the preceding section, an appeal shall lie to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council whose decision shall be final.
- 31.** The association so authorized shall send a monthly report to the committee mentioning the surnames, Christian names and residence of the members to whom it has granted a certificate of competency.
- The Committee may, by resolution, order that any certificate so granted be voided, unless the holder successfully undergo, within a set delay, the examination provided for before the board of examiners. Such examination shall be free of charge.
- 32.** An appeal from decision of a board of examiners shall lie to the committee, and thereafter to the Minister whose decision shall be final.
- 33.** In municipalities where a certificate of competency is obligatory, no employer may utilise the services of an employee subject to the decree who has not obtained such certificate and no such workman may, without such certificate, carry on his trade, industry, commerce or occupation, nor avail himself of any recourse provided under this act or under the decree, but every recourse at common law is open to him.
- 34.**

35. In municipalities wherein the certificate of competency is not obligatory, the employee shall have the right to avail himself of the recourses provided by this act or by the decree if, according to the custom of the trade, industry, business or occupation, he is a skilled workman or in the apprenticeship stage.

Where certificate of competency not obligatory.

For the purposes of this section, the maximum duration of apprenticeship shall be four years.

Period of apprenticeship.

36. The provisions of sections 25 to 35 shall not apply:

Workmen exempt from certificate:

a. to labourers or workmen who do not specialize; nor

Labourers;

b. to employees holding a license under any act of the Legislature or of the Parliament of Canada; nor

Employees holding license;

c. to employees who work as clerks or office employees, nor to employees whose work requires no apprenticeship.

Clerks and office employees, etc.

37. Any civil action arising out of the decree or out of this act is prescribed by six months from the due date in each case. In the case of a false entry in the compulsory register, the system of registration or the pay-list, or of secret rebate, or of any other fraud, prescription shall run as against the committee's recourse, only from the date when the committee was aware of the fraud.

Prescription. Id., in case of fraud.

GENERAL PROVISIONS AND PENALTIES

38. This act shall not apply to;

Exceptions:

a. Agricultural exploitation;

Agriculture;

b. Work done by a blind employee;

Blind;

c. The operating of any railway company subject to the jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada. This latter exemption does not extend to the construction or reconstruction of the railway or of the buildings which are dependencies thereof, nor to the operating of the hotels which it may possess.

Railways.

39. Whosoever prevents directly or indirectly an employee from becoming a member of an association commits an unlawful act and shall be liable, upon summary proceeding, to a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars and costs for the first offence, and to a fine of

Freedom of association.

Offences and penalties.

not less than twenty-five dollars but not exceeding fifty dollars and costs, for any subsequent offence.

Bringing of suits.

The suit may be brought by the Minister, by the Committee, or by any person having a written authorization of the Attorney-General.

Unlawful dismissal.

40. Every employer who, without good and sufficient reason, proof of which shall lie upon him, dismisses an employee,

a. By reason of giving any information to the representatives of a committee and respecting an agreement, a decree, a regulation or a violation of the provisions of this act,

b. By reason of a complaint or accusation respecting the same, or of testifying in a prosecution or investigation relating thereto,

c. With intent to re-engage him in an inferior employment and so evade the provisions of the decree by paying a smaller wage,—

Penalties.

commits an unlawful act and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars and costs for the first offence, and to a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars but not exceeding fifty dollars and costs, for any subsequent offence.

Negligence of a member of committee.
Penalty.

41. Any member of the committee who refuses or neglects to fulfil the duties of his office commits an unlawful act and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars and costs.

Obstruction to inspection, etc.

42. Every professional employer who does not keep the compulsory registration system, register or pay-list, every employer or employee who refuses or neglects to furnish the representatives of a committee with the information contemplated in sub-paragraph *d* of section 20, in the manner therein prescribed, or does not grant them on request, or delays to grant them, access to the place where the work is being done, to the register, to the system of registration or to the pay-list or other documents, as provided in said sub-paragraph, or molests or hinders or insults the said representatives in the performance of their duties, or otherwise obstructs such performance,—commits an unlawful act and shall be liable to a fine of twenty-five dollars and costs for the first offence, and to a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars but not exceeding fifty dollars and costs,

Penalties.

for the second offence, and, for any subsequent offence, to the penalties provided in the following section for a first offence.

43. Whosoever, knowingly, destroys, alters or falsifies any register, pay-list, registration system or any document dealing with the carrying out of a decree, or knowingly forwards any false or inexact information or report, or gives a false designation to the attribution of any wage in order to pay a lower wage, commits an unlawful act and shall be liable to a fine of not less than two hundred dollars but not exceeding five hundred dollars and costs for the first offence, and to a fine of not less than five hundred dollars but not exceeding one thousand dollars and costs for any subsequent offence.

Fraud.

Penalties.

In default of immediate payment of the above-mentioned fine and costs, such person shall be sentenced to imprisonment for a term of not less than one month but not exceeding three months for the first offence, and for a term of three months for any subsequent offence.

Imprisonment.

44. Every employer or employee violating the regulation making the certificate of competency obligatory commits an unlawful act and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five dollars and costs for the first offence, and to a fine of not less than five dollars but not exceeding twenty-five dollars and costs for any subsequent offence.

Certificate of competency.

Offences and penalties.

45. Whosoever, by means of benefits having a pecuniary value, grants or accepts any rebate reducing the wage made obligatory, or participates in such a rebate, commits an unlawful act and shall be liable to a fine of not less than ten dollars but not exceeding twenty-five dollars and costs for the first offence, and to a fine of fifty dollars and costs for any subsequent offence.

Unlawful rebate.

Penalties.

46. Any person violating any decree, any regulation made obligatory, or any provision of this act, in cases not provided for in the preceding sections, commits an unlawful act and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten dollars and costs.

Other offences.

Penalties.

47. Whosoever attempts to commit any of the illegal acts above provided, or aids or incites any person

Attempts and accomplices.

to commit or attempt to commit such an act shall be liable to the penalty provided for such act.

Damages for
unlawful
dismissal.

48. Every employee dismissed in violation of sections 39 or 40, or with the object of obliging him to accept a classification calling for a wage less than that which he is receiving, has the right to claim, from the person who employed him, as damages, the equivalent of one month's wages. Proof that the employee does not come within the requisite conditions to claim such right shall devolve upon the person who employed him.

Owens of
proof.

PROOF

Authenticity
of decrees,
etc.

49. In any civil or penal action brought in virtue of this act, all decrees and all regulations and notices are authentic and shall be proof of their contents if they have been published in the *Quebec Official Gazette* to which it shall be sufficient to refer, and whereof the court, of its own accord, shall be obliged to take cognizance.

Prima facie
proof.

50. The minute-books of the deliberations of a committee or of a board of examiners, and the certificates of competency and other documents issued by them, and copies certified by the secretary of the committee, shall be proof of their contents until the contrary be proved, without it being necessary to prove the signature or capacity of the signatories.

Informer.

51. No evidence shall be permitted with a view to establish that any action or suit contemplated by this act was brought following upon the complaint of an informer or to discover the identity of the latter.

PROCEDURE

Suits before
civil courts,
summary.

52. Every suit taken in virtue of this act before the civil courts shall be summary and be brought as such.

Cumulation
of recourses.

53. The recourses of several employees against the same employer may be cumulated in a single demand whether emanating from the employees or from the committee, and the total claimed shall determine the competency of the court of original jurisdiction as well as of appeal.

54. After receiving a claim from the committee, the employer cannot validly pay the sums which are the object of such claim, save by handing them over to the committee. Payment to committee.

55. The committee shall remit to the employees the net amount realized in exercising their recourses, after deducting the percentage provided for in subparagraph c of section 20. Amount remitted to employee by the committee.

56. The percentage collectable from the employer may be added to the amount of the demand formulated by the committee, and must likewise be accorded to the committee when the latter continues suit in place of the employee. Percentage added to demand.

57. The committee may also, if need be, join to its suit a demand for the cancellation of any contract or arrangement, intended to infringe or evade the provisions of this act or of a decree, effected between the employees whose recourses it is exercising and the employer or third persons, and this, before the court having jurisdiction by reason of the amount claimed by the committee and without being obliged to bring the employees into the suit. Joining of demand for cancellation of fraudulent contract.

58. The provisions of the second paragraph of article 339 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall not apply to the examination of an employee produced as a witness by a committee if such employee be in the employ of the opposite party. Leading questions.

59. In the event of contestation of the employee's competency, the classification of operations or the hours of labour in any civil suit involving a decree, the court must, if thereunto requested by the committee-plaintiff, order a report by experts. Report by experts.

60. The penalties provided in this act may, at the prosecutor's option, be imposed on summary proceeding, or by a penal action before a civil court of competent jurisdiction according to the amount of the condemnation sought. How penalties imposed.

61. Every penal action must be brought by the committee, unless there is an express provision to the contrary. Penal action brought by committee.

Prescription
of penal
action.

62. Every penal action must, under pain of forfeiture, be brought within six months from the date of the offence.

REPEAL

1 Geo. VI,
c. 49, re-
pealed.

63. The act 1 George VI, chapter 49, as amended by the acts 2 George VI, chapter 52, and 3 George VI, chapter 61, is repealed.

Repeal not
to affect
decrees, etc.

This repeal shall not affect the decrees, regulations and proceedings adopted under the authority of the acts repealed by this section, or of the previous act 24 George V, chapter 56, as amended by the acts 25-26 George V, chapter 64, and 1 Edward VIII (2nd Session), chapter 24, which, until the expiration of the period for which they were adopted, shall have the effect of decrees, regulations and proceedings adopted under the present act.

Repeal not
to affect
committees.

This repeal shall not, moreover, affect the existence of the committees formed under the said acts, which committees, and their representatives, shall have the rights, powers and privileges of committees formed under the present act.

Repeal not
to affect
rights ac-
quired, etc.

Furthermore, this repeal shall not affect the rights acquired and penalties incurred or offences committed under the authority of the said acts, all of which may be exercised, executed and prosecuted in the manner provided for in the present act.

Coming into
force.

64. This act shall come into force on the day of its sanction.