

Punishment
for con-
travention.

"7031s. Any contravention of the provisions of this subsection shall constitute an offence, and shall be punishable as for an offence against paragraph 1 of article 6961."

Not appii-
cable to
religious
corpora-
tions.

"7031t. The provisions of this section shall not apply to religious associations or corporations providing for the funeral services of their members at death."

Coming into
force.

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

C H A P. 48

An Act to amend article 7233 of the Revised Statutes, 1909,
respecting clubs for amusement

[Assented to 22nd December, 1916]

HIS MAJESTY, with the advice and consent of the
Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly
of Quebec, enacts as follows:

R. S., 7233,
am.

1. Article 7233 of the Revised Statutes, 1909, is amended by inserting therein, after the words: "musical association", in the third and fourth lines thereof, the words: "or an automobile club".

Coming into
force.

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

C H A P. 49

An Act to guarantee certain inhabitants of the district of
Gaspé the ownership of their lands

[Assented to 22nd December, 1916]

Preamble.

WHEREAS by the act 59 George III, chapter 3, (1819), certain provisions were voted for assuring to the inhabitants of Lower Gaspé District the ownership and enjoyment of the lands they had cleared in good faith without having regular titles from the Crown;

Whereas under the said act, the commissioners appointed for the purpose of holding an inquiry into cases of possession submitted to them, did, in consequence, adjudicate, maintaining the possession of those who were entitled thereto;

Whereas under the act 6 William IV, chapter 53, (1835), the purchasers who so obtained adjudication in their favour for the possession of their lands, are considered as having obtained regular grants from the Crown;

Whereas, in certain townships of the district of Gaspé, there are persons holding Crown lands without titles, and whose continuous, peaceful and public possession by their *auteurs* dates back previous to the year 1820;

Whereas it is expedient to recognize the continuous, peaceful and public possession of those who hold such lands, and whose peaceful, public and uninterrupted possession by them and their *auteurs* dates back previous to the year 1820;

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

1. The Minister of Lands and Forests is authorized to grant, free of charge, letters patent to the present holders, as proprietors, of such lands, upon their furnishing proof that their possession of such lands dates back previous to the year 1820, and has since then been peaceful, public and uninterrupted, notwithstanding the provisions of article 1549 of the Revised Statutes, 1909. Letters patent may be granted to certain persons in possession of land.

2. Letters patent shall be given to the present holders of such lands upon their furnishing proof, by title or otherwise, that they are in the position required by this act to obtain them; and the Minister of Lands and Forests may cause any inquiry which may be deemed advisable to be made regarding the nature and duration of the possession and of the right of ownership of the claimant or claimants, and may cause to be given such notices as may be deemed necessary. Conditions on which they may be granted.

3. The letters patent shall be granted for the whole quantity of acres so possessed, notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary of the general law respecting the sale and administration of public lands. Quantity of land to be covered thereby.

4. The letters patent so granted shall constitute, in favour of the persons mentioned therein, a title to the lands described therein, but shall in no way affect the dowers, hypothecs, gifts, sales, sales with right of redemption, or other charges, legally constituted before the issuance of the letters patent for such lands, by the person who obtains such letters patent or by his *auteurs*, and which may exist against the said lands, and the said To constitute a title.

charges shall continue to be a burden on such lands, and the deeds constituting them shall continue to govern the parties to the same.

9 Ed. VII, c. 67, repealed. **5.** The act 9 Edward VII, chapter 67, is repealed; nevertheless inquiries made under the said act, regarding the possession of the holders of such lands, may serve for determining the rights of the present claimants.

Coming into force. **6.** This act shall come into force on the day of its sanction.

CHAP. 50

An Act to amend article 687 of the Civil Code and article 1741 of the Revised Statutes, 1909, relating to certain escheated property

[Assented to 22nd December, 1916]

HIS MAJESTY, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly of Quebec, enacts as follows:

C. C., 687, am. **1.** Article 687 of the Civil Code is amended by adding thereto a new paragraph, as follows:

Crown may obtain possession. "After the appointment of the curator, the Crown, failing any other heir or legatee, may have the curatorship set aside for the future, and may obtain possession by complying with the provisions of article 639."

Pending cases. **2.** Section 1 of this act shall not apply to pending cases.

R. S., 1741, am. **3.** Article 1741 of the Revised Statutes, 1909, is amended by adding thereto a new paragraph, as follows:

Costs of taking possession. "The Minister of Lands and Forests may, out of such property or its proceeds, pay the costs and expenses occasioned by the taking possession, as well as any debt that may be due by the estate."

Coming into force. **4.** This act shall come into force on the day of its sanction.