

from this duty in the way indicated in the Act. If they do, we may expect to see a very marked improvement in the financial condition of some of the charitable institutions of this Province.

C. 7 allows the Provincial Treasurer, at a sale for taxes in Algoma or Thunder Bay, to purchase for the amount of the taxes lands not sold, which will again become Crown lands. "The Mines Act" consolidates the previous mining legislation, and also enacts that the owner of mining lands shall have priority where applications are made for patents or leases.

The Act for the protection of the Provincial fisheries follows the lines of the report of the Royal Commission, and makes machinery for the more complete protection of this important industry, as well as laying down very stringent rules regarding the catching of fish which it will be impossible to enforce. No person, not a resident of the locality where it is intended to fish, may catch in one day more than one dozen bass, or fifty speckled trout—which latter must not weigh in the aggregate more than fifteen pounds; and since all of these varieties under a certain length must be returned to the water, it will be advisable henceforth that each sportsman label his hooks, "Bass under ten and trout under five inches, please do not bite at this line," and the "complete angler" must also include a foot rule and a weighing machine. Stories, too, regarding the number of fish caught will no longer be in order.

By C. 12 the Provincial Legislature assumes the right to deal with Grand Juries by repealing c. 13 of 42 Vict., and limits the number of grand jurors to thirteen. We notice, however, that the Act is not to come into force until a day to be named by proclamation. It may be that there is still a doubt in the mind of the Attorney-General as to whether this Act is not *ultra vires* of his jurisdiction.

C. 14 makes the defendant or his or her wife or husband a competent and compellable witness in all cases where a contravention of an Ontario Act is in question, and is enacted in order to meet the decision of the Common Pleas Division in *Regina v. Hart*, 20 O.R. 611, where an offence against an Ontario statute was held to be a crime, and consequently such a witness was neither competent nor compellable, as the repealed section provided only for cases "not being a crime." By the omission of these words the defendant and his wife can now give evidence on all charges brought under a Provincial Act. The citizen, too, summoned for a breach of the snow by-law can now himself prove that he made a clean sweep of the sidewalk.

C. 18 provides for an additional yearly sitting of the High Court at Sault Ste. Marie and Port Arthur if required. C. 20 relaxes in a great degree the stringency of the Acts respecting mortmain, and by c. 25 the scope of the word "creditor" in the Act respecting assignments and preferences by insolvents is enlarged.

The Act respecting mortgages and sales of personal property is now made (c. 26) to apply to goods not the property nor in the possession or control of the mortgagor at the time of the mortgage or sale, and whether they are not yet delivered or ready for delivery. S. 5 is intended to give a *quies* to the numerous actions brought to test whether or not the property in the goods had