

7. Section thirteen presently reads as follows:—

“13. (1) The Minister may direct any person producing, dealing in, storing or having control of any munitions of war or supplies or constructing or carrying out any defence project to produce to any person authorized for the purpose by the Minister, any books or documents of any description specified in the directions and to permit the person so authorized to take copies of or extracts from any such books or documents.

(2) If the Minister is satisfied that the records kept by any such person as aforesaid are insufficient to enable a fair and reasonable price to be determined, or a fair and reasonable remuneration for the storage of the article or the construction or carrying out of the defence project in question to be determined, he may direct that person to keep such records as may be specified in the directions.

(3) If any person fails to comply with any directions given by the Minister under this section;

(a) he shall be guilty of an offence under this Act and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, and, if the failure in respect of which he was so convicted continues after the conviction, he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars for each day on which the failure continues; and

(b) the Minister may, without prejudice to the provisions of the last foregoing paragraph authorize any person to carry on, until the Minister otherwise directs and subject to and in accordance with the provisions hereafter contained in this Act, the whole or any part of the business of the person so failing.”

Order in Council P.C. 9159 passed the 26th November, 1941, as amended by Order in Council P.C. 662 passed the 30th of January, 1942, conferred on the Minister certain of the powers contained in the new proposed section, and it is considered desirable to insert such powers in the Act and to make it obligatory for a contractor to keep adequate accounts and records, and to empower the Minister in the circumstances mentioned in the new proposed section to fix an amount to be paid to a contractor or subcontractor which in the opinion of the Minister represents the fair and reasonable cost of the work plus a fair profit.