

DRAFT BILL.

The following copy of a draft bill, by parties interested in a compromise arrangement was handed around in printed form to members of the conference, and formed a subject of discussion:

An Act respecting Copyright.

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:—

SHORT TITLE.

1. This Act may be cited as "*The Copyright Act*," 1896. 38 V., c. 88, s. 31.

INTERPRETATION

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

- (a.) The expression "the Minister" means the Minister of Agriculture;
- (b.) The expression "the Department" means the Department of Agriculture;
- (c.) The expression "legal representatives" includes heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, or other legal representatives;
- (d.) The expression "assigns" means and includes every person in whom the interests of an author in copyright shall be vested whether derived from such author before or after publication of a work, and whether acquired by gift, sale or bequest, or by operation of law or otherwise;
- (e.) The expression "author" includes any person who is the author of any book, or of any original painting, drawing, statue, sculpture or photograph, or who invents, designs, etches or engraves or causes to be engraved, etched or made from his own designs any print or engraving, or who is the author, inventor or designer of any other literary, scientific, musical or artistic work or composition, production, matter or thing in which copyright may subsist in the United Kingdom;
- (f.) The expression "book" means and includes every volume, part or division of a volume, pamphlet, sheet of letterpress, sheet of music, map, chart or plan separately published;
- (g.) The expression "copyright" includes any and every sole and exclusive privilege which in the United Kingdom is known in law as copyright, and for greater certainty, but not so as to restrict the generality of the foregoing terms, the said expression includes the sole and exclusive liberty of printing or otherwise multiplying or producing, and vending copies of any such literary, scientific, musical or artistic work or composition, production, matter or thing as aforesaid, in whole or in part, and of allowing translations to be printed publicly and sold of any book from one language into another, and of representing or performing, or causing to be publicly represented or performed any dramatic piece or musical composition;
- (h.) The expression "work" means any such literary, scientific, musical or artistic work or composition, production, matter or thing as aforesaid.

EXISTING COPYRIGHTS.

3. Nothing in this Act shall prejudicially affect any copyright now subsisting in Canada.

REGISTERS OF COPYRIGHTS.

4. The Minister of Agriculture shall cause to be kept, at the Department of Agriculture, books to be called the "Registers of Copyrights," in which proprietors of literary, scientific and artistic works or compositions, may have the same registered in accordance with the provisions of this Act.