

lating to Joint Stock Companies into one Act known as the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908.

The British North America Act, an Act of the Imperial Parliament, is the written constitution of the Dominion of Canada. Sub-section 11 of Section 92 of this act gives to the Legislature of each Province in the Dominion the right to legislate exclusively as to, amongst other things, the incorporation of companies with Provincial objects. Section 91 of the British North America Act gives exclusive jurisdiction to the Parliament of Canada to legislate on all matters not expressly assigned to the Legislatures of the Provinces.

Mr. Lefroy, in his work on the Legislative Power in Canada, in Sections 55, 56 and 57, summarizes the powers of the Dominion Parliament and the Provincial Legislatures as follows:

55. The Dominion Parliament can alone incorporate companies with powers to carry on business throughout the Dominion and the business of companies so incorporated may have to do with property and civil rights, yet it cannot empower them to carry on business in any Province otherwise than subject to and consistently with the laws of that Province (unless the business is such that power to make laws in relation to it is exclusively in the Dominion Parliament, under one of the enumerated heads of Section 91 of the British North America Act).
56. The fact that Provincial Legislatures may have passed acts relating to companies of a particular description, such, for example, as building societies, and defining and limiting their operations, does not interfere with the power of the Dominion Parliament to incorporate such companies, with power to operate throughout the Dominion.