

An Act respecting Industrial and Co-operative
Societies.

(Reprinted as amended and reported by the Special Committee to
which it was referred.)

WHEREAS it is desirable to provide for the creation and organization of industrial and co-operative societies among the farming and labouring classes of Canada: Therefore His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:—

Preamble.

1. This Act may be cited as *The Co-operative Societies Act*. Short title.

2. In this Act the word "Minister" means the Minister of Labour for Canada, the word "Department" means the Department of Labour, and the word "society" means a society incorporated under this Act.

Interpretation
"Minister,"
"Department,"
"society."

3. A society which may be incorporated under this Act is a society for carrying on any industries, businesses or trades (except banking, as defined by *The Bank Act*, life or fire insurance), specified in or authorized by its rules, whether wholesale or retail, including dealings of any description with land: Provided that—

What
societies
may be
incorporated.

(a) no member shall have more than one vote, and voting by proxy shall be allowed only in case of a joint stock company, an agricultural association existing under the law of Canada or some province thereof, or a municipal body, school board or *fabrique d'église* not prohibited from holding shares by the law or by-laws governing it;

Proviso.

(b) in regard to a savings and credit society, such society shall not carry on any other business, and shall be subject to the provisions hereinafter contained.

4. Any number of persons, not less than seven, capable of contracting, may be incorporated as a society.

Number of
incorporators.
Declaration
for incorporation.

2. Such person shall, with their provisional secretary, sign, in duplicate, a declaration in the form in schedule A to this Act, before two witnesses; one of such declarations, with a copy of the proposed rules or by-laws, shall be immediately forwarded by registered letter to the Minister, and the second declaration, with a copy of the said rules or by-laws, shall remain of record in the archives of the society.