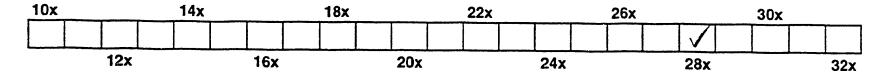
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3rd Session, 8th Parliament, 61 Victoria, 1898

BILL

An Act further to amend the Indian Act.

First reading, May 17th, 1898.

Mr. SIFTON.

AWATTO

Printed by S. E. Dawson Printer to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty 1898 No. 144.]

timber."

BILL.

1898

An Act further to amend the Indian Act.

ER Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows :---

1. Section 3 of The Indian Act, chapter 43 of the Revised R.S., c. 43 5 Statutes, is hereby repealed and the following is substituted 33

"33. Indians residing upon any reserve shall be liable, if so Indians liable directed by the Superintendent General, or any officer or person public roads by him thereunto authorized, to perform labour upon the public in reserves.

10 roads laid out or used in or through, or abutting upon such reserve, which labour shall be performed under the sole control of the Superintendent General, or officer or person aforesaid. who may direct when, where and how and in what manner such labour shall be applied, and to what extent the same shall be

15 imposed upon Indians who are resident upon any of the said lands; and the Superintendent General, or officer or person Enforcing aforesaid, shall have the like power to enforce the performance labour. of such labour by imprisonment or otherwise, as may be done by any power or authority under any law, rule or regulation in

20 force in the province or territory in which such reserve is situate, for the non-performance of statute labour; but the labour to be Amount of so required of any such Indian shall not exceed in amount or limited. extent what may be required of other inhabitants of the same province, territory, county or other local division, under the 25 laws requiring and regulating such labour and the performance

2. The section substituted for section 38 of the said Act New section by section 1 of chapter 35 of the statutes of 1895, is hereby 38. repealed and the following is substituted therefor:-

"38. No reserve or portion of a reserve shall be sold, alien-Sale or lease ated or leased until it has been released or surrendered of reserves. to the Crown for the purposes of this Act: provided that the Superintendent General may lease, for the benefit of any Indian, upon his application for that purpose, the land to which he is 35 entitled without such land being released or surrendered, and may, without surrender, dispose to the best advantage, in the interests of the Indians, of wild grass and dead or fallen

3. Subsection (b) of section 39 of the said Act, as amended section 39 40 by section 2 of chapter 30 of the statutes of 1891, is hereby amended. repealed and the following is substituted therefor:—

"(b.) The fact that such release or surrender has been Proof of assented to by the hand at such council or meeting shall be assent.

certified on oath by the Superintendent General, or by the officer authorized by him to attend such council or meeting, and by some one of the chiefs or principal men present thereat and entitled to vote, before some judge of a superior, county or district court, stipendiary magistrate or justice of the peace, or, in the case of reserves in Manitoba or the North-West Territories, before the Indian Commissioner for Manitoba and the North-West Territories, and in the case of reserves in British Columbia, before the visiting Indian Superintendent for British Columbia, or, in either case, before some other per-10 son or officer specially thereunto authorized by the Governor in Council; and when such assent has been so certified, as aforesaid, such release or surrender shall be submitted to the Governor in Council for acceptance or refusal."

New section 56.

4. Section 56 of the said Act, is hereby repealed and the 15 following is substituted therefor:—

License must describe land and kind of trees to be cut.

"56. Every license shall describe the lands upon which the trees may be cut, and the kind of trees which may be cut, and shall confer, for the time being, on the licensee the right to take and keep possession of the land so described, subject to 20 such regulations as are made; and every license shall vest in the holder thereof all rights of property in all trees of the kind specified, cut within the limits of the license during the term thereof, whether such trees are cut by the authority of the holder of such license or by any other person, with $25\,$ or without his consent; and every license shall entitle the holder thereof to seize, in revendication or otherwise, such trees and the logs, timber or other product thereof, if found in the possession of any unauthorized person, and also to institute any action or suit against any wrongful possessor or trespasser, 30 and to prosecute all trespassers and other offenders to punishment, and to recover damages, if any; and all proceedings pending at the expiration of any license may becontinued to final termination, as if the license had not expired."

Rights of licensees as to trespassers.

New section

66.

Continuing proceedings.

5. Section 66 of the said Act is hereby repealed and the 35 following is substituted therefor:—

Sale of trees, etc., seized, in default of notice of claim.

"66. All trees, logs, timber or other product thereof seized under this Act, shall be deemed to be condemned, unless the person from whom they are seized, or the owner thereof, within one month from the day of the seizure, gives notice to 40 the seizing officer, or nearest officer or agent of the Superintendent General, that he claims, or intends to claim them, and unless within one month from the day of giving such notice he initiates, in some court of competent jurisdiction, proceedings for the purpose of establishing his claim; and in 45 default of such notice and initiation of proceedings, the officer or agent seizing shall report the circumstances to the Superintendent General, who may order the sale, by the said officer or agent, of such trees, logs, timber or other product thereof."

New section 70. 6. The section substituted for section 70 of the said Act 50 by section 2 of chapter 35 of the statutes of 1895, is hereby repealed and the following is substituted therefor:—

70. The Governor in Council may, subject to the provisions of this Act, direct how, and in what manner, and by whom, the

Investment and management of

moneys arising from the disposal of Indian lands, or of property Indian tunds held or to be held in trust for Indians, or timber on Indian hand be regulands or reserves, or from any other source for the benefit of Governor in Indians (with the exception of such sum, not exceeding ten per Council.

5 cent of the proceeds of any lands, timber, or property, as is agreed at the time of the surrender to be paid to the members of the band interested therein), shall be invested from time to time, and how the payments or assistance to which the Indians are entitled shall be made or given; and he may provide for the

10 general management of such moneys, and direct what percentage or proportion thereof shall be set apart, from time to time, to cover the cost of and incidental to the management of reserves, lands, property and moneys under the provisions of this Act, and may authorize and direct the expenditure of such

15 moneys for surveys, for compensation to Indians for improvements or any interest they have in lands taken from them, for the construction or repair of roads, bridges, ditches and watercourses on such reserves or lands, for the construction of school buildings, and by way of contribution to schools attended by

20 such Indians."

35 port of such child."

7. Section 72 of the said Act, as enacted by section 4 of New section chapter 32 of the statutes of 1894, is hereby repealed and the 72.

following is substituted therefor:-

"72. The Superintendent General may stop the payment of Payment of 25 the annuity and interest money of, as well as deprive of any annuity may participation in the real property of the band, any Indian who case of marital is proved, to the satisfaction of the Superintendent General, desertion. guilty of deserting his family, or of conduct justifying his wife or family in separating from him, or who is separated from his 30 family by imprisonment; and the Superintendent General may apply the same towards the support of the wife or family of such Indian. The Superintendent General may also stop the payment of the annuity and interest money of any Indian parent of an illegitimate child, and apply the same to the sup-

8. The section substituted for section 73 of the said Act New section by section 9 of chapter 33 of the statutes of 1887, is hereby ⁷³. repealed and the following is substituted therefor:

"73. The Superintendent General may also stop the pay-Similar provi-40 ment of the annuity and interest money of, as well as deprive sion as to of any participation in the real property of the band, any woman. woman who deserts her husband or family and lives immorrally with another man, and the Superintendent General may apply the same to the support of the family so deserted."

9. The section substituted for section 75 of the said Act New section by section 3 of chapter 35 of the statutes of 1895, is hereby 75.

repealed and the following is substituted therefor:

"75. Whenever the Governor in Council deems it advisable, Governor in for the good government of a band, to introduce the elective Council may 50 system of chiefs and councillors or headmen, he may provide election of that the chief and councillors or headmen of any band shall be chiefs, etc. elected, as hereinafter provided, at such time and place as the Superintendent General directs; and they shall in such case Term of office. be elected for a term of three years. The councillors or head-

Number

men may be in the proportion of two for every two hundred Indians; but no band shall have more than one chief and fifteen councillors or headmen: provided, however, that any band composed of at least thirty members may have a chief.

As to present life chiefs, etc.

"2. Life chiefs and councillors or headmen now living may continue to hold rank until death or resignation, or until their removal by the Governor in Council for dishonesty, intemperance, immorality or incompetency; but in the event of the Governor in Council providing that the chief and councillors or headmen of a band shall be elected, the life chiefs and 10 councillors or headmen shall not exercise powers as such unless elected under the provision aforesaid.

Reason for may be set. aside.

"3 An election may be set aside by the Governor in which election Council, on a report of the Superintendent General, if it is proved by two witnesses before the Indian agent for the 15 locality, or such other person as is deputed by the Superintendent General to take evidence in the matter, that fraud or gross irregularity was practised at the said election; and every Indian who is proved guilty of such fraud or irregularity, g of fraud, etc., or connivance thereat, may be declared ineligible for re-elec-20 tion for a period not exceeding six years, if the Governor in Council, on the report of the Superintendent General, so directs.

Punishment at election.

Grounds on which chief.

etc., may be

deposed.

"4. Any elected or life chief and any councillor or headman, or any chief or councillor or headman chosen according 25 to the custom of any band, may, on the ground of dishonesty, intemperance, immorality or incompetency, be deposed by the Governor in Council and declared ineligible to hold the office of chief or councillor or headman for a period not exceeding three years."