JOINT/SELECT COMMITTEE REPORTS OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 1932

The Indian Air Force Bill

erial No.		Date of presentation.	Remarks	
1.	The Indian Partnership Bill.	26.1.32.	***	
2.	The Wire and Wire Nail Industry Protection) Bill.	15.2.32.		
3.	The Bamboo Paper Industry (Protection) Bill. 16.2			
4.	The Bengal Criminal Law Amendment(Supplementary) Bill. 22.2.32.			
5.	The Sugar Industry (Protection)Bill.	23.2.32.		
6.	The Foreign Relations Bill.	29.2.32.		
6. 7.	The Indian Air Force Bill.	10.3.32.		
8.	The Ancient Monuments Presentation(Amendment) Bill. 5.4.32.			
9.	The Port Haj Committees Bill.	5.9.32.		
10.	The Tea Districts Emigrant Labour Bill.	5.9.32.		
11.	The Code of Criminal Procedure(Amendment) Bill. 12.9.32.			
12.	The Children Pledgring of Labour Bill.	19.9.32.		
13.	The Criminal Law Amendment Bill.	7.11.32.		
14.	The Indian Merchant Shipping(Amendment)Bill	14.11.32.		
15.	The Indian Tariff(Ottawa Trade Agreement) Amendment Bill.	12.12.32.		

WE, the undersigned, Members of the Select Committee to which the Bill to provide for the administration and discipline of the Indian Air Force was referred, have considered the Bill and have now the honour to submit this our Report, with the Bill as amended by us annexed thereto.

2. Clause 9.—We are not satisfied that clause 9 in the Bill as introduced secures the intention underlying it, namely, that the Indian Air Force should be definitely of an Indian character. We have re-drafted the clause accordingly.

Clause 10.—The clause as it stood emphasised the disabilities of a person who, after an irregular enrolment, has served for six months. We have amended the clause so that no emphasis is laid either on disabilities or on privileges.

Clause 12.—We have provided in sub-clause (3) that the attestation of an enrolled person shall be authenticated by the signature of the person attested as well as the signature of the attesting officer.

Clause 19.—In regard to sub-clause (iii) of clause (i), we felt uncertain of the precise scope of the words "and of other public money", and we consider that forfeitures should be confined to arrears of pay and allowances. We have, accordingly, deleted these words.

Chapter VI.—The personnel of the Indian Air Force is to be Indian, but the officers composing a court-martial may be either Indian or European, as they may be drawn from any of His Majesty's naval, land or air forces. We discussed at some length the proposal that an Indian accused should be given a right to claim to be tried by Indians, but came to the conclusion that such a provision is not practicable, at least for some years to come. It will take some time before any officer of the Indian Air Force will be qualified to sit on a courtmartial. Even after they are qualified, they will

NEW DELHI; The 8th March, 1932. not be numerous, and it might involve incommensurate delay, inconvenience and expense to give an accused a right to demand that only officers from other forces who are Indians should sit on the court-martial. We think it sufficient for the present to record a recommendation that as far as possible officers sitting on a court-martial trying an Indian accused should be Indians.

 \bigcirc

Clause 81.—We have made a small draftinig amendment in sub-clause (1), in order to place it beyond dispute that the option given in this clause lies with the prescribed air force authority.

Clause 84.—We have made a small amendment here in order to draw the attention of the convening officer to the need for appointing only persons with wide experience of court-martials as judge-advocates, in cases where no officer of the department of the Judge Advocate General is available.

Clause 98.—This clause relates to evidence which may be adduced in a court-martial after the accused is convicted, relating to his previous convictions and general character. The clause as originally drafted would appear to admit evidence relating to a man's private life, and to that extent we think it is too wide. We have amended the clause, therefore, in order to admit only evidence relating to previous convictions, and to a man's character as an officer or airman.

Clause 105.—We have made a small drafting amendment.

3. The Bill was published in the Gazette of India, dated the 6th February, 1932.

4. We think that the Bill has not been so altered as to require re-publication, and we recommend that it be passed as now amended.

H. S. GOUR.

- G. M. YOUNG.
- HENRY GIDNEY.

LAL CHAND.

SOHAN SINGH.

ARTHUR MOORE.

COWASJI JEHANGIR (JUNIOR).

GAYA PRASAD SINGH.

SANT SINGH.

ZIA UDDIN AHMAD.

[As amended by the Select Committee.]

(Words printed in italics indicate the amendment; suggested by the Committee.)

THE INDIAN AIR FORCE BILL.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

PRELIMINARY.

SECTIONS.

- I. Short title and commoncement.
- 2. Persons subject to this Act.
- 3. Special provision as to rank in certain cases.
- 4. Commanding officer of certain persons.
- 5. Officers to exercise powers in certain cases.
- 6. Definitions.

CHAPTER II.

ENROLMENT, ATTESTATION, DISMISSAL, DISCHARGE AND REDUCTION.

- 7. Procedure before enrolling officer.
- 8. Enrolment.
- 9. Conditions for enrolment.
- 10. Presumption of enrolment in certain cases.
- 11. Persons to be attested.
- 12. Mode of attestation.
- 13. Dismissal by Governor General in Council.
- 14. Dismissal by the Air Officer Commanding or prescribed officer.
- 15. Discharge.
- 16. Certificate to person dismissed or discharged.
- 17. Discharge and dismissal out of India.
- 18. Reduction.

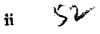
CHAPTER III.

PUNISHMENTS AND PENAL DEDUCTIONS.

- 19. Punishments.
- 20. Power to award lower punishments.
- 21. Field punishment.
- 22. Combination of punishments.
- 23. Reduction of non-commissioned officers and warrant officers to ranks.
- 24. Retention in the ranks of person convicted on active service.
- 25. Minor punishments.
- 26. Deductions from pay and allowances.
- 27. Deductions from public money other than pay
- 28. Remission of deductions.
- 29. Provision for dependants of prisoners of war.
- 30. Unauthorised deductions forbidden.

CHAPTER IV.

- AIR FORCE OFFENCES.
- 81. Service offences punishable with death.
- 32. Service offences punishable with long imprisonment.
- 23. Service offences punishable more severely if com mitted on active service.
- Service offences punishable with short imprisonment.
- 35. Mutiny.
- 36. Insubordination punishable with long imprisonment.



Sportons.

- 37. Insubordination punishable more severaly if committed on active service.
- 38. Insubordination punishable with short imprisonment.
- 39. Desortion.
- 40. Fraudulent enlistment.
- 41. Connivance at desertion.
- 42. Absence from duty without leave.
- 43. Scandalous conduct of officer.
- 44. Scandalous conduct punishable with long imprisonment.
- 45. Scandalous conduct punishable with short imprisonment.
- 46. Intoxication.
- 47. Permitting escape of prisoner.
- 48. Irregular keeping in custody.
- 49. Escape from custody.
- 50. Offences relating to property.
- 51. False accusations and offences relating to documents.
- 52. False answers on enrolment.
- 53. Offences relating to courts-martial.
- 54. Offences relating to aircraft.
- 55. Miscellaneous air force offences.
- 56. Attempts.
- 57. Abetment.
- 58. Civil offences.

CHAPTER V.

ARREST AND PROCEEDINGS REFORE TRIAL.

- 59. Custody of offenders.
- 60. Arrest by civil authorities.
- 61. Capture of desertors.
- 62. Inquiry on absence without leave.
- 63. Provost-marshals.
- 64. Duties and powers.

CHAPTER VI.

CONSTITUTION, JURISDICTION AND FOWERS OF COURTS-MARTIAL.

- 65. Kinds of courts-martial.
- 66. Power to convene general courts-martial.
- 67. Power to convene district courts-martial.
- 68. Limitation of powers of convening authorities.
- 69. Convening of field general courts-martial.
- 70. Composition of general courts-martial.
- 71. Composition of district courts-martial.
- 72. Composition of field general courts-martial.
- 73. Dissolution of courts-martial.
- 74. Jurisdiction and powers of courts-martial generally.
- 75. Jurisdiction and powers of general and field general courts martial.
- 76. Jurisdiction and powers of district courtsmartial.
- 77. Prohibition of second trial.
- 78. Limitation of trial.
- 79. Place of trial.
- 80. Order in case of concurrent jurisdiction of criminal court and court-martial.
- 81. Power of criminal court to require delivery of offender.
- 82. Trial by court-martial no bar to subsequent trial by criminal court.

£

CHAPTER VII.

iii

57

PROCEDURE OF COURTS-MARTIAL.

SECTIONS.

- 83. President.
- 84. Judge Advocate.
- 85. Challenges.
- 86. Voting of members.
- 87. Oaths of president and members.
- 88. Oaths of witnesses.
- 89. The summoning of witnesses and production of documents.
- 90. Commissions to obtain evidence.
- 91. Conviction of one offence permissible on charge of another.
- 92. General rule as to evidence.
- 93. Judicial notice.
- 94. Presumption as to signatures.
- 95. Enrolment paper as byidence.
- 96. Presumption as to certain documents.
- 97. Reference by accused to Government officer.
- 98. Evidence of previous convictions and service character.
- 99. Order for custody and disposal of property peads ing trial in certain cases.

CHAPTER VIII.

CONFIRMATION, REVISION, PARDON AND REMISSION OF SENTENCES.

- 100. Finding and sentence invalid without confirmation.
- 101. Power to confirm finding and sentence of general court-martial.
- 102. Power to confirm finding and sentence of district court-martial.
- 103. Limitation of powers of confirming authorities.
- 104. Confirmation of finding and sentence of field general court-martial.
- 105. Power of confirming authority to mitigate, remit or commute sentences.
- 106. Confirmation of finding and sentence on board ship.
- 107. Revision of finding or sentence.
- 108. Substitution of valid for invalid sentence.
- 109. Provision where accused is a lunstic.
- 110. Pardons and remissions.

CHAPTER IX.

EXECUTION OF SENTENCES AND DIB-POSAL OF PROPERTY.

- 111. Sentence of death.
- 112. Commencement of sentence of imprisonment.
- 113. Execution of sentence of imprisonment.
- 114. Execution of sentence of imprisonment in special cases.
- 115. Execution of sentence of detention.
- 116. Communication of certain orders to civil prison officers.
- 117. Offenders sentenced to transportation how deals with until transported.
- 118. Execution of sentence of fine.
- 119. Order for disposal of property regarding which offence committed.



CHAPTER X.

SPECIAL RULES BELATING TO PERSONS

AND PROPERTY.

SECTIONS.

- 120. Complaints against superior officers and airmen.
- Privileges of persons attending courts-martial 121.
- 122. Exemption from arrest for debt.
- 123. Property exempted from attachment.
- Application to reservists. 124.
- Priority of hearing by courts of cases in which 125. persons subject to this Act are concerned.
- Property of deceased persons and deserters. Meaning of deserter. 126.
- 127. Disposal of cortain property without production of probate, etc.
- Application to lunatios and persons missing on 128. active service. ١

+ CHAPTER XI.

SUPPLEMENTAL.

129. Power to make rules.

> -٠

- 130. Amendment of certain enactments.

THE SCHEDULE.

.

#1887 (A)LAD

.й.,

1 Ċ,

BILL

Ť0

Provide for the administration and discipline of the Indian Air Force.

WHEREAS it is intended to establish an Indian Air Force;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the administration and discipline of that Force and for purposes connected therewith :

It is hereby enacted as follows :---

CHAPTER I.

PRELIMINARY.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Indian Air Short title and com. Force Act, 1982. mencement.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Governor General in Council may, by notification in the Gazette of India, appoint.

- (a) officers and warrant officers of the Indian Air Force;
- (b) persons enrolled under this Act;
- (c) persons not otherwise subject to military or air force law, who, on active service, in camp, on the march, or at any frontier post specified by the Governor General in Council by notification in this behalf, are employed by, or are in the service of, or are followers of, or accompany any portion of, the Indian Air Force.

(2) Every person who has become subject to this Act under sub-section (1), clause (a) or (b), shall remain so subject until duly discharged or dismissed.

8. (1) The Governor General in Council may, by notification, direct

Special provision as to rank in certain cases. Act under section 2, sub-section (1), clause (c), shall be so subject as officers, warrant officers or non-commissioned officers, and may authorise

any officer to give a like direction with respect to any such person and to cancel such direction.

(2) All persons subject to this Act other than officers, warrant officers and non-commissioned officers shall, if they are not persons in respect of whom a notification or direction under sub-section (1) is in force, be deemed to be of a rank inferior to that of a non-commissioned officer.

4. Every person subject to this Act under sec-Commanding officer of tion 2, sub-section (1), certain persons. clause (c), shall, for the purposes of this Act, be deemed to be under the commanding officer of the corps, unit or detachment (if any) to which he is attached, and if he is not attached to any corps, unit or detachment, under the command of any officer who may for the time being be named as his commanding officer by the officer commanding the force with which such person may for the time being be serving, or of any other prescribed officer, or, if no such officer is named or prescribed, under the command of the said officer commanding the force :

Provided that an officer commanding a force shall not place a person under the command of an officer of official rank inferior to that of such person if there is present at the place where such person is any officer of higher rank under whose command he can be placed.

5. (1) Whenever persons subject to this Act Officers to exercise powers in certain cases. are serving whether within or without India under an officer not subject to this Act, the Governor General in Council may prescribe the officer by whom the powers which, under this Act, may be exercised by officers commanding units, shall, as regards such persons, be exercised.

(2) The Governor General in Council may confer such powers either absolutely or subject to such restrictions, reservations, exceptions and conditions as he may think fit.

6. In this Act, unless there is something repug-Definitions. nant in the subject or context,---

- "officer of the Indian Air Force" means a person commissioned, gazetted or in pay as an officer of the Indian Air Force;
- (2) "warrant officer" means a person appointed, gazetted or in pay as a warrant officer in the Indian Air Force;
- (3) "non-commissioned officer" means a person attested under this Act holding a non-commissioned rank in the Indian Air Force, and includes an acting noncommissioned officer;
- (4) "officer" means an officer of any of His Majesty's naval, military or air forces, but does not include a warrant officer or non-commissioned officer;
- (5) "airman" means any person subject to this Act other than an officer;
- (6) "commanding officer", used in relation to a person subject to this Act, means the officer for the time being in command of the unit or detachment to which such person belongs or is attached;
- (7) "superior officer", when used in relation to a person subject to this Act, includes a warrant officer and a non-commissioned officer; and, as regards persons placed under his orders, an officer, a warrant officer or non-commissioned officer of any of His Majesty's naval, military or air forces;
- (8) "corps" means any body of the Indian Air Force which is prescribed as a corps for the purposes of all or any of the provisions of this Act;
- (9) " unit" means any body of the Indian Air Force which is prescribed as a unit for the purposes of all or any of the provisions of this Act;
- (10) "enemy" includes all armed mutineers, armed rebels, armed rioters, pirates and any person in arms against whom it is the duty of a person subject to naval, military or air force law to act;

57

- (11) "active service", as applied to a person subject to this Act, means the time during which such person is attached to, or forms part of, a force which is engaged in operations against an enemy, or is engaged in warlike operations in, or is on the line of march to, a country or place wholly or partly occupied by an enemy, or is in military occupation of any foreign country, and includes, in respect of a person subject to this Act attached to or forming part of a force which is about to be or has recently been on such active service, such time as the Governor General in Council may, by notification in the Gazette of India, declare to be active service in respect of such force ;
- (12) "air force custody" means the arrest or confinement of a person according to the usages of His Majesty's military and air forces, and includes military custody;
- (13) "air force reward" includes any gratuity or annuity for long service or good conduct, any good conduct pay, good service pay or pension, and any other air force pecuniary reward;
- (14) "court-martial" means a court-martial held under this Act;
- (15) "criminal court" means a court of ordinary oriminal justice in British India, or established elsewhere by the authority of the Governor General in Council;
- (16) "offence" means any act or omission made punishable by any law for the time being in force;
- (17) "air force offence" means any act or omission made punishable by this Act;
- (18) "civil offence" means an offence which, if committed in British India, would be triable by a criminal court;
- (19) "His Majesty's naval forces" include the Indian Marine Service;
- (20) "notification" means a notification published in the Gazette of India;
- (21) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act; and
- (22) all words and expressions used herein and defined in the Indian Penal Code, XLV of and not hereinbefore defined, shall be deemed to have the meanings respectively attributed to them by that Code.

CHAPTER II.

ENBOLMENT, ATTESTATION, DISMISSAL, DISCHARGE AND REDUCTION.

7. Upon the appearance before the prescribed Procedure before enrolling officer. officer shall read and explain to him, or cause to be read and explained to him in his presence, the conditions of the service for which he is to be enrolled; and shall put to him the questions set forth in the prescribed form of enrolment, and shall, after having cautioned him that if he makes a false answer to any such question he will be liable to punishment under this Act, record or cause to be reach such question. 8. If, after complying with the provisions Enrolment. of section 7, the en-

that the person desirous of being enrolled fully understands the questions put to him and consents to the conditions of service, and if he perceives no impediment, he shall sign and shall cause the person to sign the enrolment paper, and the person shall be then deemed to be enrolled.

9. The enrolling officer shall not cause any per-Conditions for enrolment. son to sign the enrolment paper unless he is satisfied that such person is a subject of His Majesty or of a Prince or Chief in India, and—

- (a) is of unmixed Indian descent, or
- (b) if he is of mixed Indian and non-Indian descent, is domiciled in India, or
- (c) if he is of unmixed non-Indian Asiatic descent, is domiciled in India and his futher and grandfather were domiciled in India.

10. Every person who has for the space of six Presumption of enrolment in certain cases. rolls of any unit shall be deemed to have been duly enrolled, notwithstanding any illegality or irregularity in his enrolment.

11. The following persons shall be attested, Persons to be attested. namely :---

- (a) all persons enrolled as combatants;
- (b) all other enrolled persons prescribed by the Governor General in Council.

12. (1) When a person who is to be attested is Mode of attestation. reported fit for duty, or has completed the prescribed period of probation, an oath or affirmation shall be administered to him in the prescribed form by his commanding officer in front of his unit or such portion thereof as may be present, or by any other prescribed person.

(2) The form of oath or affirmation prescribed under this section shall contain a promise that the person to be attested will be faithful to His Majesty, his heirs and successors, and that he will serve in the Indian Air Force and go wherever he is ordered by air, land or sea, and that he will obey all commands of any officer set over him, even to the peril of his life.

(3) The fact of an enrolled person having taken the oath or affirmation directed by this section to be taken shall be entered on his enrolment paper, and authenticated by his signature and by the signature of the officer administering the oath or affirmation.

18. The Governor General in Council may at Dismissal by Governor General in Council. any time dismiss from the service any person subject to this Act.

14. The Air Officer Commanding His Majesty's Dismissal by the Air Officer Commanding or prescribed officer. Air Forces in India, or any prescribed officer, may at any time dismiss from the service any person subject to this Act other than an officer.

15. The prescribed authority may, in conformity Discharge. from the service any person subject to this Act. 16. Any enrolled person who is dismissed or Certificate to person dismissed or discharged. with a certificate setting forth—

5

- (a) the authority dismissing or discharging him;
- (b) the cause of his dismissal or discharge; and
- (c) the full period of his service in the Indian Air Force.

17. (1) Any enrolled person who is entitled Discharge and dismisse out of India. under the conditions of his enrolment to be dis-

charged, or whose discharge is ordered by competent authority, and who, when he is so entitled or ordered to be discharged, is serving out of India, and requests to be sent to India, shall, before being discharged, be sent to India with all convenient speed.

(2) Any person subject to this Act who is dismissed from the service and who, when he is so dismissed, is serving out of India, shall be sent to India with all convenient speed :

Provided that, where any such person is sentenced to dismissal combined with any other punishment, such other punishment, or, in the case of a sentence of imprisonment, a portion of such other punishment, may be inflicted before he is sent to India.

18. (1) The Air Officer Commanding His Majesty's Air Forces in India,

or any prescribed officer, may at any time reduce any warrant officer or any non-commissioned officer to a lower grade or to a lower rank or to the ranks, or any airman other than a warrant officer or non-commissioned officer to a lower class in the ranks.

(2) The commanding officer of an acting noncommissioned officer may order him to revert to his permanent grade as a non-commissioned officer or, if he has no permanent grade above the ranks, to the ranks.

CHAPTER III.

PUNISHMENTS AND PENAL DEDUCTIONS.

19. Punishments may be inflicted in respect of Punishments. offences committed by persons subject to this Act, and convicted by court-martial, according to the scale following, that is to say,—

- (a) death ;
- (b) imprisonment, which shall be of two degrees, namely :---
 - (i) long imprisonment, which shall be rigorous and for a term not less than three years and not exceeding fourteen years, and
 - (ii) short imprisonment which may be rigorous or simple, for a term not exceeding two years;
- (c) in the case of airmen, detention for a term not exceeding two years;
- (d) dismissal from the service ;
- (c) in the case of officers and warrant officers, suspension from rank, pay and allowances for a period not exceeding two months:

387(a) LAU

- (f) reduction, in the case of a warrant officer, or a non-commissioned officer, to a lower grade, or to a lower rank or to the ranks;
- (g) in the case of officers, warrant officers and non-commissioned officers, forfeiture of seniority of rank;
- (h) in the case of officers, warrant officers and non-commissioned officers, reprimand or severe reprimand;

ì

- (i) forfeitures and stoppages as follows, namely:--
 - (i) forfeiture of service for the purpose of promotion, increased pay, pension or any other prescribed purpose;
- (ii) forfeiture of any military or air force decoration or military or air force reward;
- (iii) forfeiture, in the case of a person sentenced to dismissal from the service, of all arrears of pay and allowances
 * * due to him at the time of such dismissal;
- (iv) stoppages of pay and allowances until any proved loss or damage occasioned by the offence of which he is convicted is made good;
- (v) on active service, forfeiture of pay and allowances for a period not exceeding three months.

20. Where in respect of any offence under this Act there is specified a particular punishment,

punishments. there may be awarded in respect of that offence instead of such particular punishment (but subject to the other provisions of this Act as to punishments and regard being had to the nature and degree of the offence) any one punishment lower in the above scale than the particular punishment.

21. (1) Where any person, subject to this Act Field punishment. and under the rank of warrant officer, on active

service is guilty of any offence, it shall be lawful for a court-martial to award for that offence any such punishment as may be prescribed as a field punishment. Field punishment shall be of the character of personal restraint or of hard labour but shall not be of a nature to cause injury to life or limb.

(2) Field punishment shall, for the purpose of commutation, be deemed to stand in the scale of punishments next below dismissal.

22. A sentence of a court-mar ial may award, in Combination of punishments. punishments specified in clauses (d), (f), (h) and

(i) of section 19. (j), (k) and (j)

23. A warrant officer or non-commis ioned officer Reduction of non-com. sentenced by court-marmissioned officers and tial to imprisonmen, detention, field punishment or dismissal from the service, shall be deemed to be reduced to the ranks.

24. When any enrolled person on active service Retention in the ranks has been sentenced by of person convicted on court matial to dismissal active service. or to imprisonment, whether combined with dismissal or not, the prescribed officer may direct that such person may be

retained to serve in the ranks, and where such person has been sentenced to imprisonment, such service shall be reckoned as part of his term of imprisonment.

25. (1) The Governor General in Council may prescribe the minor pun-ishments to which per-Minor punishments.

sons subject to this Act shall be liable without the intervention of a court-martial, and the officer or officers by whom, and the extent to which, such minor punishments may be awarded.

(2) Detention and, in the case of persons subject to this Act on active service, any prescribed field punishment may be specified as minor punishments:

Provided that-

- (a) the term of such detention or field punishment shall not exceed twenty-eight days ; and
- (b) detention or field punishment shall not be awarded to any person of or above the rank of non-commissioned officer, or who, when he committed the offence in respect of which it is awarded, was of or above such rank.

(3) The provisions of sections 77, 78 and 79 shall apply to the proceedings of officers empowered to award minor punishments under this section as if such officers were courts-martial.

26. (1) The following penal deductions may be made from the pay and Deductions from pay and allowances.

allowances of an officer of the Indian Air Force,

that is to say,-

- (a) all pay and allowances due to an officer who absents himself without leave or overstays the period for which leave of absence has been granted to him, unless a satisfactory explanation has been given to h s commanding officer and has been approved by the Governor General in Council;
- (b) any sum required to make good such compensation for any expenses, loss, damage or destruction occasioned by the commission of any offence as may be determined by the court-martial by whom he is convicted of such offence ;
- (c) any sum required to make good the pay of any officer or airman which he has unlawfully retained or unlawfully refused to pay;
- (d) any sum required to make good any loss, damage or destruction of public or service property which, after due investigation, appears to the Governor General in Council to have been occasioned by any wrongful act or negligence on the part of the officer.

(2) The following penal deductions may be made from the pay and allowances of an airman, that is to say,

(a) all pay and allowances for every day of absence either on desertion or without lea e or as a prisoner of war, and for every day of imprisonment or detention awarded by a criminal court, a courtmart al or an officer exercising authority under section 25, or of field punishment, awarded by a court-martial or such officer

62

- (c) all pay and allowances for every day on which he is in hospital on account of sickness certified by the medical officer attending on him to have been caused by an offence under this Act committed by him;
- (d) for every day on which he is in hospital on account of sickness certified by the medical officer attending on him to have been caused by his own misconduct or imprudence, such sum as may be prescribed;
- (e) all pay and allowances ordered by a courtmartial to be suspended or forfeited;
- (f) any sum ordered by a court-martial to be stopped;
- (g) any sum required to make good such compensation for any expenses caused by him, or for any loss of or damage or destruction done by him to any arms, ammunition, equipment, clothing, instruments, service necessaries, or military decoration, or to any buildings or property, as may be awarded by his commanding officer;
- (h) any sum required to pay a fine awarded by a criminal court, a court-martial exercising jurisdiction under section 58 or an officer exercising authority under section 25:

Provided that the total deductions from the pay and allowances of a person subject to this Act made under clauses (e) to (g), both inclusive, shall not (except in the case of a person sentenced to dismissal) exceed in any one month one-half of his pay and allowances for that month.

Explanation.—For the purposes of clauses (a) and (b)—

- (i) no person shall be treated as absent, imprisoned, or detained, unless the absence, imprisonment, or detention has lasted six hours or upwards, except where the absence prevented the absentee from fulfilling any air force duty which was thereby thrown on some other person;
- (ii) a period of absence, imprisonment, or detention which commences before and ends after midnight may be reckoned as a da;
- (iii) the number of days shall be reckoned as from the time when the absence, imprisonment, or detention commences; and
- (iv) no period of less than twenty-four hours shall be reckoned as more than one day.

27. Any sum authorised by this Act to be deducted from the pay and allowances of any person may, without prejudice to any other mode of recovering the same, be deducted from any public money due to him other than a pension. 28. Any deduction fr m pay and allowances authorised by this Ast

Remission of deductions. manner and to such extent and by such authority as may from time to

time be prescribed. 29. In the case of all persons subject to this Act

Provision for dependants of prisoners of war, how h

being prisoners of war, whose pay and allowances have been forfeited under

section 26, but in respect of whom a remission has been made under section 28, it shall be lawful, notwithstanding any provision in any enactment or any rule of law to the contrary, for proper provision to be made by the prescribed authorities out of such pay and allowances for any dependants of such persons, and any such remission shall in that case be deemed to apply only to the balance thereafter remaining of such pay and allowances.

30. The pay of an officer or airman of the Indian Unauthorised deducdeducwithout any deduction

tions forbidden. authorised by this Act or by any other enactment for the time being in force or prescribed by the Governor General in Council.

CHAPTER IV.

AIR FORCE OFFENCES.

81. Any person subject to this Act who-

Service offences punishable with death.

- (a) shamefully abandons or delivers up any garrison, fortress, post, or guard committed to his charge, or which it is his duty to defend, or
- (b) shamefully casts away his arms, ammunition or tools in the presence of the enemy, or
- (c) treacherously holds correspondence with or gives intelligence to the enemy, or treacherously or through cowardice sends a flag of truce to the enemy, or
- (d) assists the enemy with arms ammunition, or supplies, or knowingly harbours or protects an enemy not being a prisoner, or
- (e) having been made a prisoner of war, voluntarily serves with or voluntarily aids the enemy, or
- (f) voluntarily does when on active service any act calculated to imperil the success of His Majesty's Forces or any part thereof, or
- (g) treacherously or shamefully causes the capture or destruction by the enemy of any of His Majesty's alreaft, or
- (h) treacherously gives any false air signal or alters or interferes with any air signal, or
- (i) when ordered by his superior officer or otherwise inder orders to carry out any warlike operation in the air, treacher ously or shamefully fails to use his utmost exertions to carry such orders into effect,

shall be punishable with death. 387 (A)LAD 82. Any person subject to this Act who, on Service offences punish. active service,--able with long imprison-

10

ment.

- (a) without orders from his superior officer leaves the ranks in order to secure prisoners or horses, or on pretence of taking wounded men to the rear, or
- (b) without orders from his superior officer wilfully destroys or damages any property, or
- (c) is taken prisoner by want of due precaution or through disobedience of orders or wilful neglect of duty, or, having been taken prisoner, fails to rejoin His Majesty's service when able to do so, or
- (d) without due authority either holds correspondence with, or gives intelligence, or sends a flag of truce to the enemy, or
- (e) by word of mouth, or in writing, or by signals, or otherwise spreads reports calculated to create unnecessary alarm or despondency, or
- (f) in action, or previously to going into action, uses words calculated to create alarm or despondency, or
- (g) negligently causes the capture or destruction by the enemy of any of His Majesty's aircraft, or
- (h) when ordered by his superior officer or otherwise under orders to carry out any warlike operation in the air, negligently or through other default fails to use his utmost exertions to carry such orders into effect, or
- (i) misbehaves before the enemy in such manner as to show cowardice,

shall be punishable with long imprisonment.

83. (1) Any person subject to this Act who Service offences punish. able more severely if committed on active service. to receive it, or treacherously gives a watchword different from what he received, shall, if he commits the offence on active service, be punishable with death, and, if he commits the offence not on active service, with short imprisonment.

(2) Any person subject to this Act who-

- (a) without due authority alters or interferes with any air signal, or
- (b) forces a safeguard, or
- (c) forces or strikes a sentinel, or
- (d) breaks into any house or other place in search of plunder, or
- (e) being an airman acting as sentinel, sleeps or is intoxicated, or
- (f) without ord rs from his superior officer leaves his guard, piquet, patrol or post, or
- (g) by discharging fire arms, making signals, using words, or by any means whatever, intentionally occasions false alarms, or
- (h) being an airman acting as sentinel, leaves his post before he is regularly relieved,

shall, if he commits the offence on active service, be punishable with long imprisonment and, if he commits the offence not on active service, with short imprisonment.

mont.

- (a) by discharging fire arms, making signals, using words, or by any mean; whatever, negligently occasions false alarms, or
- (b) makes known the watchword to any person not entitled to receive it, or, without good and sufficient cause, gives a watchword different from what he received, or
- (c) impedes the provost-marshal or any assistant provost-marshal or any officer or non-commissioned officer or other person legally exercising authority under or on behalf of the provost-marshal, or, when called on, refuses to assist in the execution of his duty the provost-marshal, the assistant provost-marshal, or any such officer, non-commissioned officer or other person, or
- (d) uses criminal force to or commits an assault on any person bringing provisions or supplies to the forces, or commits any offence against the property or person of any inhabitant of or resident in the country in which he is serving, or
- (e) irregularly detains or appropriates to his own unit or detachment any provisions or supplies proceeding to the forces, contrary to orders issued in that respect,
- shall be punishable with short imprisonment.
- 85. Any person subject to this Act who-Mutiny.
 - (a) begins, incites, causes or conspires with any other persons to cause any mutiny in any of His Majesty's naval, military or air forces, or
 - (b) joins in, or, being present, does not use his utmost endeavours to suppress, any such mutiny, or
 - (c) knowing or having reason to believe in the existence of any such mutiny, or of any intention to commit such mutiny, or of any such conspiracy, does not without delay give information thereof to his commanding or other superior officer,
- shall be punishable with death.
 - 36. Any person subject to this Act who-

Insubordination pun-ishable with long im-

prisonment.

- (a) uses oriminal force to or assaults his supericr officer, being in the execution of his office, or
- (b) disobeys in such manner as to show wilful defiance of authority any lawful command given personally by his supe-rior officer in the execution of his office,

shall be punishable with long imprisonment.

87. Any person subject to this Act who-

Insubordination punish-

able more severely in committed on active ser-

vice.

- (a) uses criminal force to or assaults his superior officer, or
- (b) uses threatening or insubordinate language to his superior officer, or
- (c) disobeys any lawful command given by his superior officer,

shall, if he commits the offence on active service, be punishable with long imprisonment, and, if he commits the offence not on active service; with short imprisonment.

en . And gan doub of a · 38. Any person subject to this Act who-

Insubordination punishable with short im-

prisonment.

- (a) being concerned in any quarrel, affray or disorder, refuse; to obey any officer (though of inferior rank) who orders him into arrest, or uses criminal force to or assaults any such officer, or
- (b) uses criminal force to or assaults any person, whether subject to this Act or not, in whose custody he is placed, whether he is or is not his superior officer, or
- (c) resists an escort whose duty it is to apprehend him or to have him in charge, or
- (d) being an airman, breaks out of barracks, camp or quarters, or
- (e) neglects to obey any general, local or other orders (not being orders in the nature of a rule or regulation published for the general information and guidance of the Indian Air Force),

shall be punishable with short imprisonment.

39. Any person subject to this Act who deserts or attempts to desert the Desertion. service shall, if he commits the offence when on active service or under orders for active service, be punishable with long imprisonment, and, if he commits the offence under any other circumstances, with short imprisonment.

40. Any person subject to this Act who, when belonging to the Indian Fraudulent enlistment. Air Force, without having obtained a regular discharge therefrom, or otherwise fulfilled the conditions enabling him to enlist, enrol or enter, enrols himself, or enlists in or enters any other of His Majesty's air forces, or any of His Majesty's military or naval forces, or re-enrols himself in the Indian Air Force, shall be deemed to be guilty of fraudulent enlistment, and shall be punishable with short imprisonment.

41. Any person subject to this Act who, being Connivance at desertion. cognisant of any deser-tion of a person subject to this Act, does not forthwith give notice to his commanding officer, or take any steps in his power to cause the deserter or intending deserter to be apprehended, shall be punishable with short imprisonment.

42. Any person subject to this Act who-Absence from duty without leave.

- (a) absents himself without leave, or
- (b) fails to appear at the time fixed at a parade or place appointed for exercise or duty, or goes from thence without leave before he is relieved, or without necessity quits his duty or duties, or
- (c) being an airman, when in camp or garrison or elsewhere, is found beyond any limits fixed or in any place prohibited by any general, local or other order, without a pass or written leave from his superior officer, or

(d) being an airman, without leave from his superior officer, or without due cause, absents himself from any school when duly ordered to attend there,

shall be punishable with short imprisonment.

43. Any officer or warrant officer subject to this Act who behaves in a. Scandalous conduct of officer. manner unbecoming his position and character shall, notwithstanding anything contained in section 20, be dismissed from the service.

44. Any person subject to this Act who-

Scandalous conduct punishable with long im-

prisonment.

- - (a) steals any property of Government, or dishonestly misappropriates or converts to his own use any property of Government entrusted to him, or
 - (b) dishonestly receives or retains any property in respect of which an offence under clause (a) has been committed, knowing or having reason to believe it to have been stolen or dishonestly misappropriated or converted, or
 - (c) wilfully destroys or damages any property of Government entrusted to him, or
 - (d) steals any property of any air force mess, band or institution, or of any person subject to this Act or serving with or attached to the Indian Air Force, or dishonestly misappropriates or converts to his own use any such property entrusted to him, or
 - (e) dishonestly receives or retains any property in respect of which an offence under clause (d) has been committed, knowing or having reason to believe it to have been stolen or dishonestly misappropriated or converted,

shall be punishable with long imprisonment.

45. Any person subject to this Act who---

Scandalous conduct punishable with short im-

prisonment.

- (a) does any act, not otherwise specified in this Act, with intent to defraud, or to cause wrongful gain to one person or wrongful loss to another person, or
- (b) malingers or feigns or produces disease or infirmity himself, or intentionally delays his cure or aggravates his disease or infirmity, or
- (c) with intent to render himself or any other person unfit for service, voluntarily, causes hurt to himself or any other person. or
- (d) commits any offence of a cruel, indecent or unnatural kind, or attempts to commit any such offence and does any act towards its commission,

shall be punishable with short imprisonment.

46. Any person subject to this Act who is found in a state of intoxication, whether on duty or not on Intoxication.

duty, shall be punishable, if an officer, with dismissal from the service, and, if an airman, with short imprisonment : 246 LAD

2 Provided that where the offence of being intoxicated is committed by an airman not on active service or on duty, the sentence imposed shall not exceed detention for a period of six months.

47. Any person subject to this Act who-Permitting escape of prisoner.

- (a) when in command of a guard, piquet, patrol or post, releases without proper authority, whether voluntarily or otherwise, any person committed to his charge, or
- (b) voluntarily or negligently allows to escape any person who is committed to his charge, or whom it is his duty to keep or guard,

shall be punishable, if he has acted voluntarily, with long imprisonment, and, if he has not acted voluntarily, with short imprisonment.

sustody.

(a) unnecessarily detains a person in arrest or

- confinement without bringing him to trial or fails to bring his case before the proper authority for investigation, or
- (b) having committed a person to the custody of any officer, non-commissioned officer, provost-marshal, or assistant provostmarshal, fails without reasonable cause to deliver at the time of such committal, or as soon as practicable, and in any case within twenty-four hours thereafter, to the officer, non-commissioned officer, provost-marshal, or assistant provostmarshal, into whose custody the person is committed, an account in writing signed by himself of the offences with which the person so committed is charged, or
- (c) being in command of the guard, does not as soon as he is relieved from his guard or duty, or if he is not sooner relieved, within twenty-four hours after a person is committed to his charge, give in writing to the officer to whom he may be ordered t, report that person's name and offence so fir as known to him, and the name and rank of the officer or other person by whom he was charged, accompanied, if he has received the account as above in this section mentioned, by that account,

shall be punishable with short imprisonment.

49. Any person subject to this Act, who, being Escape from custody. in lawful custody, escapes or attempts to escape, shall be punishable with short imprisonment.

perty.

- (a) commits extortion, or without proper authority exacts from any person carriage, porterage or provisions, or
- (b) in time of peace, commits house-breaking for the purpose of plundering, or plunders, destroys or damages any field, garden or other property, or
- (c) voluntarily or negligently kills, injures, makes away with, ill-treats or loses any animal used in the public service, or

- (d) makes away with, or is concerned in making away with, any arms, ammunition, equipments, instruments, tools,
 - clothing or service necessaries issued to him or required to be maintained by him, or
 - (e) loses by neglect anything mentioned in clause (d), or
 - (f) wilfully damages anything mentioned in clause (d) or any property belonging to Government, or to any air force mess, band or institution, or to any person subject to air force law, or serving with, or attached to the Indian Air Force, or
 - (g) sells, pawns, destroys or defaces any medal or decoration granted to him,
- shall be punishable with short imprisonment.

51. Any person subject to this Act who-

False accusations and offences relating to docu-

ments.

- (a) makes a false accusation against any person subject to this Act, knowing such accusation to be false, or
- (b) in making any complaint under section 120, knowingly makes any false statement affecting the character of any person subject to this Act, or knowingly and wilfully suppresses any material fact, or
- (c) obtains or attempts to obtain for himself or for any other person any pension, allowance or other advantage or privilege by a statement which is false, and which he either knows or believes to be false or does not believe to be true, or by making or using a false entry in any document or by making any document containing a false statement, or by omitting to make a true entry or document containing a true statement, or
- (d) knowingly furnishes a false return or report of the number or state of any men under his command or charge, or of any money, arms, ammunition, clothing, equipments, stores or other property in his charge, whether belonging to such men or to Government or to any person in or attached to the Indian Air Force, or who, wilfully or negligently, omits or refuses to make or send any return or report of the matters aforesaid,

shall be punishable with short imprisonment.

52. Any person having become subject to this False answers on enrol- Act who is discovered ent. to have made a wilfully False answers on enrolment. false answer to any question set forth in the prescribed form of enrolment which has been put to him by the enrolling officer shall be punishable with short imprisonment.

53. Any person subject to this Act who-Offences relating to courts-martial.

(a) when duly summoned to attend as a witness before a court-martial, intentionally omits to attend or refuses to be sworn or affirmed or to answer any question, or to produce or deliver up any document or other thing which he may have been duly warned and called upon to produce or deliver up, or

- (b) intentionally offers any insult or causes any interruption or disturbance to, or uses any menacing or disrespectful word, sign or gesture, or is insubordinate or violent in the presence of, a courtmartial while sitting, or
- (c) having been duly sworn or affirmed before any court-martial or other court or officer authorised by this Act to administer an oath or affirmation, makes any statement which is false, and which he either knows or believes to be false or does not believe to be true,
- shall be punishable with short imprisonment.

54. Any person subject to this Act who-

Offences relating to

- aircraft.
 - (a) voluntarily or negligently damages, destroys or loses any of His Majesty's aircraft or aircraft material, or
 - (b) is guilty of any act or omission likely to cause such damage, destruction or loss, or
 - (c) is guilty of any act or omission (whether voluntary or otherwise) which causes damage to or destruction of any public property by fire, or
 - (d) without lawful authority disposes of any of His Majesty's aircraft or aircraft material, or
 - (e) is guilty of any act or omission in flying or in the use of any aircraft, or in relation to any aircraft or aircraft material which causes or is likely to cause loss of life or bodily injury to any person, or
 - (f) during a state of war voluntarily and without proper occasion or negligently causes the sequestration, by or under the authority of a neutral State, or the destruction in a neutral State of any of His Majesty's aircraft,

shall be punishable, if he has acted voluntarily, with long imprisonment, and, if he has not acted voluntarily, with short imprisonment.

55. Any person subject to this Act who-

Miscellaneous air force

offences.

- (a) strikes or otherwise ill-treats any person subject to this Act being his subordinate in rank or position, or
- (b) being in command at any post or on the march and receiving a complaint that any one under his command has beaten or otherwise maltreated or oppressed any person, or has disturbed any fair or market, or committed any riot or trespass, fails to have due reparation made to the injured person or to report the case to the proper authority, or
- (c) by defiling any place of worship, or otherwise, intentionally insults the religion or wounds th³ religious feelings of any person, or
- (d) attempts to commit suicide and does any act towards the commission of such offence, or
- (e) being below the rank of warrant officer, when off duty, appears, without proper authority, in or about camp or cantonments, or in or about, or when going to

or returning from, any town or lazar, carrying a sword, bludgeon or other offensive weapon, or

- (f) directly or indirectly accepts or obtains, or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain, for himself or for any other person, any gratification as a motive or reward for procuring the enrolment of any person, or leave of absence, promotion or any other advantage or indulgence for any person in the service, or
- (g) is guilty of any act or omission which, though not specified in this Act, is prejudicial to good order and air force discipline,

shall be punishable with short imprisonment.

56. Any person subject to this Act who attempts Attempts. to commit an air force offence or to cause such an offence to be committed, and in such attempt does any act towards the commission of the offence may, where no express provision is made by this Act for the punishment of such attempt, be punished with the punishment provided in this Act for such offence.

57. Any person subject to this Act who abets Abetment. the commission of any air force offence, or of any offence punishable under the Army Act, the

Air Force Act or the Indian Army Act, the Air Force Act or the Indian Army Act, 1911, VIII of 191 such offence being of the same nature as any air force offence, shall be punishable with the punishment provided in this Act for such air force offence.

- 58. (1) Any person subject to this Act who at Civil offences. any place in or beyond

civil offences. British India commits any civil offence shall be deemed to be guilty of an air force offence, and, if charged therewith under this section, shall be liable to be tried by court-martial and to be punished as follows, that is to say :---

(a) if the offence is one which would be punishable under the law of British India with death or with transportation, he shall be liable to suffer any punishment, other than whipping, assigned for the offence by the law of British India; and

1.1

È

i,

(b) in other cases, he shall be liable to suffer any punishment, other than whipping, assigned for the offence by the law of British India, or such punishment as might be awarded to him in pursuance of this Act in respect of an act prejudicial to good order and air force discipline :

Provided that a person subject to this Act who, at any place in British India or at any place in which the Governor General in Council exercises powers and jurisdiction by virtue of the Indian (Foreign Jurisdiction) Order in Council, 1902, and while not on active service, commits an offence of murder or culpable homicide against a person not subject to this Act or an offence of rape, shall not be deemed to be guilty of an air force offence and shall not be tried by courtmartial.

(2) The powers of a court-martial to charge and to punish any person under this section shall not be affected by reason of the civil offence with which such person is charged being also an air force offence.

LAD

,

CHAPTER V.

ARREST AND PROCEEDINGS BEFORE TRIAL.

59. (1) Any person subject to this Act who is charged with an offence Custody of offenders. may be taken into air force custody.

(2) Any such person may be ordered into air force custody by any superior officer.

(3) The charge against every person taken into air force custody shall, without unnecessary delay, be investigated by the proper authority, and as soon as may be, either proceedings shall be taken for punishing the offence, or such person shall be discharged from custody.

60. Whenever any person subject to this Act, Arrest by civil authorities. offence under this Act, is within the jurisdiction of any Magistrate or policeofficer, such Magistrate or officer shall aid in the apprehension and delivery to air force custody of such person upon receipt of a written application to that effect signed by his commanding officer.

61. (1) Whenever any person subject to this Capture of deserters. Act deserts, his commanding officer shall give written information of the desertion to such civil authorities as, in his opinion, may be able to afford assistance towards the capture of the deserter; and such authorities shall thereupon take steps for the apprehension of the said deserter in like manner as if he were a person for whose apprehension a warrant had been issued by a Magistrate, and shall deliver the deserter, when apprehended, to air force custody.

(2) Any police-officer may arrest without warrant any person reasonably believed to be subject to this Act and to be travelling without authority, and shall bring him without delay before the nearest Magistrate, to be dealt with according to law.

62. (1) When any person subject to the Act has been absent without Inquiry on absence due authority from his without leave. duty for a period of twenty-one days, a court of inquiry shall, as soon as practicable, be assembled and, upon oath or affirmation administered in the prescribed manner, shall inquire respecting the absence of the person, and the deficiency, if any, of property of the Government entrusted to his care, or of his arms, ammunition, equipments, instruments, clothing or necessaries; and, if satisfied of the fact of such absence without due authority or other sufficient cause, the court shall declare such absence and the period thereof, and the aid deficiency, if any; and the commanding officer of the unit to which the person belongs shall enter in the court-martial book of the unit a record of the declaration.

(2) If the person declared absent does not afterwards surrender, or is not apprehended, he shall, for the purposes of this Act, be deemed to be a deserter.

63. For the prompt and instant epr ssion of Provost-marshal. or on the march, provost marshals may be appointed by the Air Officer Commanding His Majesty's Air Forces in India; and the powers and duties (f such provost-marshals shall be 18gulated according to the established custom of war and the rules of the service.

64. The duties of a provost-marshal so ap-

Duties and powers. pointed are to take charge of persons in air force custody, to preserve good order and disoipline and to prevent breaches thereof by persons subject to this Act.

He may at any time arrest and detain for trial any person subject to this Act who commits an offence and may also carry into effect any punishments to be inflicted in pursuance of the sentence of a court-martial.

CHAPTER VI.

CONSTITUTION, JURISDICTION AND POWERS OF COURTS-MAETIAL.

65. For the purposes of this Act there shall be Kinds of courts-martial. Kinds of courtsmartial, that is to say,-

(1) general courts-martial;

- (2) district courts-martial; and
- (3) field general courts-martial.

66. A general court-martial may be convened by the Governor General in Council, or by any officer empowered in this behalf by warrant of the Governor General in Council.

67. A district court-martial may be convened by any authority having power to convene district courts-martial.

ral court-martial, or by any officer empowered in this behalf by warrant of any such authority.

68. A warrant issued under section 66 or sec-Limitation of powers of convening authorities. tion 67 may contain such restrictions, reservations

authority issuing it may think fit.

69. The following authorities shall have power to convene a field general

courts-martial.

- (a) an authority empowered in this behalf by an order of the Governor General in Council;
- (b) on active service, the commanding officer of the forces in the field, or any officer empowered by him in this behalf;
- (c) the commanding officer of any detached portion of the Indian Air Force on active service, when, in his opinion, it is not practicable, with due regard to discipline or the exigencies of the service, that an offence should be tried by a general courtmartial, and circumstances prevent a reference to higher authority.

70. A general court-martial shall consist of not Composition of general courts-martial. but then there whele commission during not

less than three whole years and of whom not less than four must be of a rank not below that of a flight lieutenant. 71. A district court-martial shall consist of Composition of district not less than three courts-martial. officers.

72. A field general court-martial shall consist of Composition of field not less than three general courts-martial. officers.

73. (1) If a court-martial after the commencement of a trial is reduced below the smallest number of officers of which

it is by this Act required to consist, it shall be dissolved.

(2) If, on account of the illness of the accused before the finding, it is impossible to continue the trial, a court-martial shall be dissolved.

(3) Where a court-martial is dissolved under this section, the accused may be tried again.

- (a) jurisdiction to try and to punish all air force offences, and all civil offences committed by persons subject to this Act;
 - (b) exclusive jurisdiction to try all air force offences which are not also civil offences; and
 - (c) exclusive power to award the punishments specified in this Act.

75. A general or field general court-martial shall Jurisdiction and powers have power to try any of general and field general courts-martial. Act for any offence made punishable therein, and to pass any sentence authorised by this Act.

76. A district court-martial shall have power to try any person subject to

Jurisdiction and powers of district courts-martial.

made punishable therein, and to pass any sentence authorised by this Act other than a sentence of death or imprisonment for a term exceeding two years.

77. When any person subject to this Aot has Prohibition of second been acquitted or contrial. victed of an offence by a court-martial or by a criminal court, or has been summarily dealt with for an offence under section 25, he shall not be liable to be tried again for the same offence by a court-martial.

78. No trial by court-martial of any person subject to this Act for any

offence (other than an offence of mutiny, desertion or fraudulent enlistment) shall be commenced after the expiration of three years from the date of such offence, and no such trial for an offence of desertion (other than desertion on active service) or of fraudulent enlistment shall be commenced if the person in question has, subsequently to the commission of the offence, served continuously in an exemplary manner for not less than three years with any portion of His Majesty's regular forces.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this section "mutiny" means any of the offences specified in section 35.

79. Any person subject to this Act who commits any offence against it may

Place of trial. be tried and punished for such offence in any place whatever.

80. When a criminal court and a court-martial

Order in case of concurrent jurisdiction of crimartial. of the prescribed air force authority to decide before which court the proceedings shall be instituted, and, if that authority decides that they shall be instituted before a court-martial, to direct that the accused person shall be detained in air force custody.

(2) In every such case the said authority shall either deliver over the offender in compliance with the requisition or shall forthwith refer the question as to the court before which the proceedings are to be instituted for the determination of the Governor General in Council, whose order upon such reference shall be final.

82. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 26 of the General

Trial by court-martial no bar to subsequent trial by criminal court. Clauses Act, 1897, or in **X of 1897.** Section 403 of the Code of

Criminal Procedure, 1898, V of 1898. counted by a court-martial

a person convicted or acquitted by a court-martial may be afterwards tried by a criminal court for the same offence or on the same facts.

(2) If a person sentenced by a court-martial in pursuance of this Act to punishment for an offence is afterwards tried by a criminal court for the same offence or on the same facts, that court shall, in awarding punishment, have regard to the air force punishment he may already have undergone.

CHAPTER VII.

PROCEDURE OF COURTS-MARTIAL.

83. At every court-martial the senior member President. shall sit as president.

84. Every general court-martial shall, and every district court-martial

Judge Advocate. may, be attended by a judge advocate, who shall

be either an officer belonging to the department of the Judge Advocate General in India, or, if no such officer is available, a *fit* person appointed by the convening officer.

85. (1) At all trials by courts-martial, as soon as

Challonges. the court is assembled, the names of the president and members shall be read over to the accused, who shall thereupon be asked whether he objects to being tried by any officer sitting on the court.

(2) If the accused objects to any such officer, his objection, and also the reply thereto of the officer objected to, shall be heard and recorded, and the remaining officers of the court shall, in the absence of the challenged officer, decide on the objection.

(3) If the objection is allowed by one-half or more of the votes of the officers entitled to vote, the objection shall be allowed, and the member objected to shall retire, and his vacancy may be filled in the prescribed manner by another officer, subject to the same right of the accused to object.

22

(4) When no challenge is made, or when challenge has been made and disallowed, or the place of every officer successfully challenged has been filled by another officer to whom no objection is made or allowed, the court shall proceed with the trial.

86. (1) Every decision of a court-martial shall be passed by an absolute majority of votes; and

where there is an equality of votes, as to either finding or sentence, the decision shall be in favour of the accused :

Provided that no sentence of death shall be passed without the concurrence of two-thirds at the least of the members of the court.

(2) In matters other than a challenge or the finding or sentence, the president shall have a casting vote.

87. An oath or affirmation in the prescribed Oaths of president and form shall be administermembers. ed to every member of every court-martial and to the judge advocate at the beginning of the trial.

88. Every person giving evidence at a court-Oaths of witnesses. martial shall be examined on oath or affirmation, and shall be duly sworn or affirmed in the prescribed form.

89. (1) The convening officer, the president of The summoning of the court, the judge adwitnesses and production vocate, or the commandof documents. ing officer of the accused person, may, by summons under his hand, require the attendance before the court, at a time and place to be mentioned in the summons, of any person either to give evidence or to produce any document or other thing.

(2) In the case of a witness amenable to air force or military authority, the summons shall be sent to the officer commanding the corps, unit, department or detachment to which i e belongs, and such officer shall serve it upon him accordingly.

(3) In the case of any other witness, the summons shall be sent to the Magistrate within whose jurisdiction he may be or reside, and such Magistrate shall give effect to the summons as if the witness were required in the court of such Magistrate.

(4) When a witness is required to produce any particular document or other thing in his possession or power, the summons shall describe it with reasonable precision.

(5) Nothing in this section shall be deemed to affect the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, sections 123 and 124, or to apply to any document in the custody o' the postal or telegraph authorities.

(6) If any document in such custody is, in the opinion of any District Magistrate, Chief Presidency Magistrate, High Court or Court of Session, wanted for the purpose of any court-martial, such Magistrate or Court may require the postal or telegraph authorities, as the case may be, to deliver such document to such person as such Magistrate or Court may direct.

ŝ

\$

I of 1872.

. a. C.

(7) If any such document is, in the opinion of any other Magistrate or of any Commissioner of Police or District Superintendent of Police, wanted for any such purpose, he may require the postal or telegraph authorities, as the case may be, to cause search to be made for and to detain such document pending the orders of any such District Magistrate, Chief Presidency Magistrate or Court.

90. (1) Whenever, in the course of a trial by Commissions to obtain court-martial, it appears evidence. to the court that the examination of a witness is necessary for the ends of justice, and that the attendance of such witness cannot be procured without an amount of delay, expense or inconvenience which, in the circumstances of the case, would be unreasonable, such court may address the Judge Advocate General in order that a commission to take the evidence of such witness may be issued.

(2) The Judge Advocate General may then, if he thinks necessary, issue a commission to any Presidency Magistrate, District Magistrate or Magistrate of the first class, within the local limits of whose jurisdiction such witness resides, to take the evidence of such witness.

(3) When the witness resides in the territories of any prince or chief in India in which there is an official representing the British Indian Govern-ment, the commission may be issued to such official.

(4) The Magistrate or official to whom the commission is issued, or, if he is the District Magistrate, he or such Magistrate of the first class as he appoints in this behalf, shall proceed to the place where the witness is or shall summon the witness before him and shall take down his evidence in the same manner, and may for this purpose exercise the same powers, as in trials of warrant-cases under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898.

(5) Where the commission is issued to such official as is mentioned in sub-section (3), he may delegate his powers and duties under the commission to any official subordinate to him whose powers are not less than those of a Magistrate of the first class in British India.

(6) When the witness resides out of India, the commission may be issued to any British consular officer, British Magistrate or other British official competent to administer an oath or affirmation in the place where such witness resides.

(7) The prosecutor and the accused person in any case in which a commission is issued may respectively forward any interrogatories in writing which the court may think relevant to the issue, and the Magistrate or official to whom the commission is issued shall examine the witness upon such interrogatories.

(8) The prosecutor and the accused person may appear before such Magistrate or official by pleader or, except in the case of an accused person in custody, in person, and may examine, cross-examine and re-examine (as the case may be) the said witness.

(9) After any commission issued under this section has been duly executed, it shall be returned, together with the deposition of the witness examined thereunder, to the Judge Advocate General.

(10) On receipt of a commission and deposition returned under sub-section (9), the Judge Advocate General shall forward the same to the court at whose instance the commission was issued or,

Ű 3

V of 1898.

if such court has been dissolved, to any other court convened for the trial of the accused person; and the commission, the return thereto and the deposition shall be open to the inspection of the prosecutor and the accused person, and may, subject to all just exceptions, be read in evidence in the case by either the prosecutor or the accused, and shall form part of the proceedings of the court.

(11) In every case in which a commission is issued under this section the trial may be adjourned for a specified time reasonably sufficient for the execution and return of the commission.

Explanation.—In this section, the expression "Judge Advocate General" means the Judge Advocate General in India and includes a Deputy Judge Advocate General.

91. (1) A person charged before a court-martial Conviction of one off. with desertion may be ence permissible on charge of another. ing to desert or of being absent without leave.

(2) A person charged before a court-martial with attempting to desert may be found guilty of desertion or of being absent without leave.

(3) A person charged before a court-martial with using criminal force may be found guilty of assault.

(4) A person charged before a court-martial with using threatening language may be found guilty of using insubordinate language.

(5) A person charged before a court-martial with any of the offences specified in clause (a), clause (b), clause (d) or clause (e) of section 44 may be found guilty of any other of these offences with which he might have been charged.

(6) A person charged before a court-martial with an offence punishable under section 58 may be found guilty of any other offence of which he might have been found guilty if the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, were applicable.

(7) A person charged before a court-martial with any other offence under this Aot may, on failure of proof of an offence having been committed in circumstances involving a more severe punishment, be found guilty of the same offence as having been committed in circumstances involving a less severe punishment.

(S) A person charged before a court-martial with any offence under this Act may be found guilty of having attempted to commit or of abetment of that offence although the attempt or abetment is not separately charged.

92. The Indian Evidence Act, 1872, shall, sub-General rule as to evi-ject to the provisions of dence. this Act, apply to all proceedings before a court-martial.

93. A court-martial may take judicial notice of Judicial notice. or air force knowledge of the members.

94. In any proceeding under this Act, any application, certificate, war-

Presumption as to signatures. signed by an officer in the civil, military or air force service of the Government shall, on production, be presumed to have been duly signed by the person and in the character by whom and in which it purports to have been signed, until the contrary is shown.

V of 1898.

I of 1872.

t

i

96. (1) A letter, return or other document Presumption as to certain documents. respecting the service of any person in, or the

officer having the custody of the enrolment paper.

dismissal or discharge of any person from, any portion of His Majesty's Forces, or respecting the circumstance of any person not having served in, or belonged to, any portion of His Majesty's Forces, if purporting to be signed by or on behalf of the Governor General in Council or the Commander-in-Chief in India or by any prescribed officer, shall be evidence of the facts stated in such letter, return or other document.

(2) An Army List, Air Force List or Gazette purporting to be published by authority shall be evidence of the status and rank of the officers or warrant officers therein mentioned, and of any appointment held by such officers or warrant officers and of the corps, unit, battalion, arm, branch or department of the service to which such officers or warrant officers belong.

(3) Where a record is made in any service book. in pursuance of this Act or of any rules made thereunder or otherwise in pursuance of air forceduty, and purports to be signed by the commanding officer or by the officer whose duty it is to make such record, such record shall be evidenceof the facts thereby stated.

(4) A copy of any record in any service book purporting to be certified to be a true copy by the officer having the custody of such book shall be evidence of such record.

(5) Where any person subject to this Act is being tried on a charge of desartion or of absence without leave, and such person has surrendered himself into the custody of, or has been apprehended by, a provost-marshal, assistant provestmarshal or other officer, or any portion of His Majesty's Forces, a certificate purporting to be signed by such provost-marshal, assistant provost-marshal or other officer, or by the commanding officer of that portion of His Majesty's Forces and stating the fact, date and place of such surrender or apprehension, shall be evidence of the matters so stated.

(6) When any person subject to this Act is being tried on a charge of desertion or of absence without leave, and such person has surrendered himself into the custody of, or has been apprehended by, a police-officer not below the rank of an officer in charge of a police-station, a certificate purporting to be signed by such police-officer and stating the fact, date and place of such surrender or apprehension, shall be evidence of the matters stated.

(7) Any document purporting to be a report under the hand of any Chemical Examiner or Assistant Chemical Examiner to Government upon any matter or thing duly submitted to him for examination or analysis and report may be used as evidence in any proceeding under this Act.

1

97. (1) If at any trial for desertion, absence Reference by accused without leave, over-government officer. staying leave or not reto Government officer.

joining when warned for service, the person tried states in his defence any sufficient or reasonable excuse for his unauthorised absence, and refers in support thereof to any officer in the civil, military or air force service of Government, or if it appears that any such officer is likely to prove or disprove the said statement in the defence, the court shall address such officer and adjourn until his reply is received.

(2) The written reply of any officer so referred to shall, if signed by him, be received in evidence and have the same effect as if made on oath before the court.

(3) If the court is dissolved before the receipt of such reply, or if the court omits to comply with the provisions of this section, the convening officer may, at his discretion, annul the proceed-ings and order a fresh trial by the same or another court-martial.

98. (1) When any person subject to this Act has Evidence of previous been convicted by a convictions and service court-martial of any character. offence, such courtmartial may inquire into, and receive and record evidence of, any previous convictions of such person, either by a court-martial established under this Act or any other enactment or by a criminal court, and may further inquire into and record the service character of such person * * *

(2) Evidence received under this section may be either oral or in the shape of entries in, or certified extracts from, court-martial books or other official records; and it shall not be necessary to give notice before trial to the person tried that evidence as to his previous convictions or service character will be received.

99. When any property regarding which any Order for custody and offence appears to have disposal of property pend- been committed, or which ing trial in certain cases. appears to have been used for the commission of any offence, is produced before a court martial during a trial, the court may make such order as it thinks fit for the proper custody of such property pending the conclusion of the trial, and if the property is subject to speedy or natural decay may, after recording such evidence as it thinks necessary order it to be sold or otherwise disposed of.

CHAPTER VIII.

CONFIRMATION, REVISION, PARDON AND REMIS-SION OF SENTENCES.

100. No finding or sentence of a general or Finding and sentence invalid without confirmation.

district court-martial shall be valid except so far as it may be confirmed as provided by this Act.

101. The findings and sentences of general courts-Power to confirm find. martial may be confirmed ing and sentence of gene-by the Governor General in Council or by any officer empowered in this behalf by warrant of the Governor General in Council.

• 102. The findings and sentences of district Power to confirm find. courts-martial may be ing and sentence of dis- confirmed by any authotrict court-martial.

rity aving power to con-.vone a general court-martial, or by any officer empowered in this behalf by warrant of any such authority.

108. A warrant issued under section 101 or

Limitation of powers of confirming authorities.

section 102 may contain such restrictions, reservations or conditions as

the authority issuing it may think fit. 104. (1) Save as provided in sub-sections (2) Confirmation of finding and (3), a finding and sentence of field gesentence of a field geneand neral court-martial. ral court-martial shall not require to be confirmed, and may be carried out forthwith.

(2) The finding and sentence of a field general court-martial sha'l require to be confirmed -

- (a) in the case of the trial of an officer,
- (b) in the case of a sentence of death or of imprisonment for a term exceeding two years, and
- (c) in any other case if so ordered by the convening authority.

(3) Such finding and sentence may be confirmed by the convening authority or, if the convening authority so directs, by an authority superior to the convening authority.

105. Subject to such restrictions as may be Power of confirming contained in any war-authority to mitigate, rant issued under section remit or commute sen-101 or section 102 a contonces. tonces. firming authority may, if it confirms the sentence of a court-martial, mitigate or remit the punishment thereby awarded, or commute that punishment for any punishment or punishments lower in the scale laid down in section 19.

106. When any person subject to this Act is Confirmation of finding tried and sentenced by and sentence on board court-martial while on ship. board ship, the finding and sentence so far as not confirmed and executed on hourd ship may be confirmed and executed in like manner as if such person had been tried at the port of disembarkation.

107. (1) Any finding or sentence of a court-mar-

tial which requires con-Revision of finding or firmation may be once sentence. revised by order of the confirming authority; and on such revision, the court, if so directed by the confirming authority, may take additional evidence.

(2) The court, on revision, shall consist of the same officers as were present when the original decision was passed, unless any of those officers are unavoidably absent.

(3) In case of such unavoidable absence the cause thereof shall be duly certified in the proceedings, and the court shall proceed with the revision, provided that, if a general court-martial, it still consists of five officers, or, if a district courtmartial, of three officers.

103. Where a sentence passed by a court-martial which has been confirmed,

Substitution of valid for invalid sentence. confirmation, is found for

any reason to be invalid, the authority which would have had powe: under section 110 to commute

.

the punishment awarded by the sentence if it had been valid may pass a valid sentence :

Provided that the punishment awarded by the sentence so passed shall not be higher in the scale of punishments than, or in excess of, the punishment awarded by the invalid sentence.

109. (1) Whenever, in the course of a trial by court-martial, it appears to the court that the per-

son charged is of unsound mind and consequently incapable of making his defence, or that such person committed the act alleged, but was by reason of unsoundness of mind incapable of knowing the nature of the act or that it was wrong or contrary to law, the court shall record a finding accordingly, and the president of the ccurt shall forthwith report the case to the confirming authority, or, in the case of a field general court-martial, to the prescribed officer.

(2) A confirming authority to whom a case is reported under sub section (1) may, if it does not confirm the finding, take steps to have the accused person tried by the same or another court-martial for the offence with which he was originally charged.

(3) A prescribed officer to whom a case is reported under (ub-section (1) and a confirming authority confirming a finding in any case so reported to it shall order the accused person to be kept in custody in the prescribed manner, and, where the confirming authority is not itself the Governor General in Council, shall report the case for the orders of the Governor General in Council.

(4) On receipt of a report under sub-section (1) or sub-section (3), the Governor General in Council may order the accused person to be detained in a lunatic asylum or other suitable place of safe custody.

(5) Where an accused person, having been found by reason of unsoundness of mind to be incapable of making his defence, is in custody or under detention, the prescribed officer may--

- (a) if such person is in custody under subsection (3), on the report of a medical officer that he is capable of making his defence, or
- (b) if such person is detained under subsection (4), on a certificate such as is referred to in section 473 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898,

take steps to have such person tried by the same or another court-martial for the offence with which he was originally charged or, provided that the offence is a civil offence, by a criminal court.

[1898.

(6) A copy of every order made by the prescribed officer under sub-section (5) shall forthwith be sent to the Governor General in Council.

110. (1) When any person subject to this Act Pardons and remis- has been convicted by a sicas. court-martial of any offence, the Governor General in Council or the prescribed officer may-

- (a) either without conditions or upon any conditions which the person sentenced accepts, pardon the person or remit the whole or any part of the punishment awarded; or
- (b) mitigate the punishment awarded, or commute such punishment for any less punishment or punishments mentioned in this Act.

(2) If any cond tion on which a person has been pardoned or a punishment has been remitted is, in the opinion of the authority which granted the pardon or remitted the punishment, not fulfilled, such authority may cancel the pardon or remission, and thereupon the sentence of the court shall be carried into effect as if such pardon had not been granted or such punishment had not been re-

29

Provided that in the case of a person sentenced to imprisonment, such person shall undergo only the unexpired portion of his sentence.

(3) When under the provisions of section 23 a non-commissioned officer s deemed to be reduced to the ranks, such reduction shall, for the purposes of this section, be treated as a punishment awarded by sentence of a court-martial.

CHAPTER IX.

EXECUTION OF SENTENCES AND DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY.

111. In awarding a sentence of death a courtmartial shall, in its dis-

Sentence of death. cretion, direct that the offender shall suffer death by being hanged by the neck until he be dead, or shall suffer death by being shot to death.

112. Whenever any person is sentenced under this Act to imprisonment,

Commencement of senthe term of his sentence tence of imprisonment. shall, whether it has been revised or not, be reckoned to commence on the day on which the original proceedings were signed by the president.

118. Whenever any sentence of imprisonment

Execution of sentence of imprisonment.

is passed under this Act, or whenever any sentence so passed is commuted to

imprisonment, the commanding officer of the person under sentence, or such other officer as may be prescribed, shall forward a warrant in the prescribed form to the officer in charge of the civil prison in which such person is to be confined, and shall forward him to such prison with the warrant:

Provided that, in the case of a sentence of imprisonment for a period not exceeding three months, the confirming authority, or, in the case of a sentence which does not require confirmation, the court, may direct that the sentence shall be carried out by confinement in air force custody:

Provided further that on active service a sentence of imprisonment may be carried out by confinement in such place as the officer commanding the forces in the field may, from time to time, appoint.

114. Whenever, in the opinion of the Air Officer Commanding His Ma-jesty's Air Forces in Execution of sentence of imprisonment in special India, any sentence or portion of a sentence of imprisonment cannot, for special reasons, conveniently be carried out in accordance with the provisions of section 113, such officer may direct that such sentence or portion of sentence shall be carried out by confinement in any civil prison or other fit place.

115. When any sentence of detention is passed Execution of sentence of detention. **i**8

under this Act, or when any sentence so passed commuted to detention, the punishment shall be carried out by detaining the offender in any military or air force detention barracks, detention cells or other military or air force custody.

116. Whenever an order is duly made under this Communication of certain orders to civil prison officers. Act setting aside or varying any sentence, order or warrant under which any person is confined in a civil prison, a warrant in accordance with such order shall be forwarded by the prescribed officer to the officer in charge of the prison in which such person is confined.

117. Where a sentence of transportation is Offenders sentenced to imposed by court-martial transportation how dealt under section 58, the with until transported. offender, until he is transported, shall be dealt with in the same manner as if he had been sentenced to rigorous imprisonment, and shall be deemed to have been undergoing his sentence of transportation during the torm of his imprisonment.

118. When a sentence of fine is imposed by a Execution of sentence of fine. India or not, a copy of such sentence, signed and certified by the president of the court or the officer holding the trial, as the case may be, may be sent to any Magistrate in British India, and such Magistrate shall thereupon cause the fine to be recovered in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, for the levy of fines as if it was a sentence of fine imposed by such Magistrate.

119. (1) After the conclusion of a trial before Order for disposal of any court-martial, the property regarding which court or the authority offence committed. confirming its finding or sentence or any authority superior to such authority, or, in the case of a finding or sentence which does not require confirmation, the officer commanding the unit within which the trial was held, may make such order as it or he thinks fit for the disposal by destruction, confiscation, delivery to any person claiming to be entitled to possession thereof, or otherwise, of any property or document produced before the court or in its custody, or regarding which any offence appears to have been committed or which has been used for the commission of any offence.

(2) Where any order has been made under subsection (1) in respect of property regarding which an offence appears to have been committed, a copy of such order signed and certified by the authority making the same may, whether the trial was held within British India or not, be sent to a Magistrate in any presidency-town or district in which such property for the time being is, and such Magistrate shall thereupon cause the order to be carried into effect as if it was an order passed by such Magistrate under the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898.

Explanation.—In this section the term "property" includes, in the case of property regarding which an offence appears to have been committed not only such property as has been originally in the possession or under the control of any party but also any property into or for which the same may have been converted or exchanged, and anything acquired by such conversion or exchange whether immediately or otherwise.

Vol 1898.

V of 1898.

CHAPTER X.

SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY.

120. (1) If an officer of the Indian Air Force thinks himself wronged Complaints against suby his commanding offiperior officers and airmen. cer, or other superior officer, and on due application made to his commanding officer does not receive the redress to which he may consider himself entitled, he may complain to the Governor General in Council in order to obtain justice.

(2) If any airman thinks himself wronged in any matter by any officer other than the officer under whose command or ordors he is serving, or by any airman, he may complain thereof to the officer under whose command or orders he is serving, and if he thinks himself wronged by the officer under whose command or orders he is serving, either in respect of his complaint not being redressed or in respect of any other matter, he may complain thereof to his commanding officer, and if he thinks himself wronged by his commanding officer, either in respect of his complaint not being redressed or in respect of any other matter, he may complain thereof to the prescribed officer; and every officer to whom a complaint is made in pursuance of this section shall cause such complaint to be inquired into, and shall, if on inquiry he is satisfied of the justice of the complaint so made, take such steps as may be necessary for giving full redress to the complainant in respect of the matter complained of.

121. (1) No president or member of a courtmartial, no judge advo-Privileges of persons cate, no party to any attending courts martial. preceeding Lefero a courtmartial, or his legal practitioner or agent, and no witness acting in obedience to a summons to attend a court-martial, shall, while proceeding to, attending on or returning from a court-martial, be liable to arrest under civil or revenue process.

(2) If any such person is arrested under any such process, he may be discharged by order of the court-martial.

122. (1) No officer or person enrolled in the Indian Air Force shall be Exemption from arrest liable to be arrested for for debt. debt under any process issued by, or by the authority of, any civil or revenue court or revenue-officer.

(2) The judge of any such court may examine into any complaint made by such person or his superior officer of the arrest of such person contrary to the provisions of this section, and may, by warrant under his hand, discharge the person, and award reasonable costs to the complainant, who may recover those costs in like manner as he might have recovered costs awarded to him by a decree against the person obtaining the process.

(3) For the recovery of such costs no fee shall be payable to the court by the complainant.

123. Neither the arms, clothes, equipment, accoutrements or neces-Property exempted

from attachment.

saries of any person subject to this Act, nor any

animal used by him for the discharge of his duty, shall be seized, nor shall the pay and allowances of any such person or any part thereof be attached, by direction of any civil or revenue court or any revenue-officer, in satisfaction of any decree or order enforceable against him.

.

Application to reservists

124. Every person belonging to the Indian Air Force Reserve shall, when called out for or engaged upon or return-

ing from training or service, be entitled to all the privileges accorded by sections 122 and 123 to a person subject to this Act.

125. (1) On the presentation to any court by or Priority of hearing by on behalf of any person sourts of cases in which subject to this Act of a persons subject to this Act are concerned. certificate, from the proper air force authority, of leave of absouce having been granted to or applied for by him for the purpose of prosecuting or defending any suit or other proceeding in such court, the court shall, on the application of such per-son, arrange, so far as may be possible, for the hearing and final disposal of such suit or other proceeding within the period of the leave so granted or applied for.

(2) The certificate from the proper air force authority shall state the first and last day of the leave or intended leave, and set forth a description of the case with respect to which the leave was granted or applied for.

(3) No fee shall be payable to the court in respect of the presentation of any such certificate, or in respect of any application by or on behalf of any such person for priority for the hearing of his Case.

(4) Where the court is unable to arrange for the hearing and final disposal of the suit or other proceeding within the period of such leave or intended leave as aforesaid, it shall record its reasons for having been unable to do so, and shall cause a copy thereof to be furnished to such person on his application without any payment whatever by him in respect either of the application for such copy or of the copy itself.

(5) If in any case a question arises as to the proper air force authority qualified to grant such certificate as aforesaid, such question shall be at once referred by the court to an officer commanding a unit, whose decision shall be final.

126. The following rules are enacted respecting the disposal of the pro-Property of deceased perty of every person sub-ject to this Act who dies persons and deserters.

or deserts :--

- (1) The commanding officer of the unit to which the deceased person or deserter belonged shall secure all the moveable property belonging to the deceased or deserter that is in camp or quarters, and cause an inventory thereof to be made, and draw any pay and allowances due to such person.
- (2) In the case of a deceased person who has left in a Government savings bank (in cluding any post office savings bank, however named) a deposit not exceeding one thousand rupees, the commanding officer may, if he thinks fit, require the secretary or other proper official of the bank to pay the deposit to him forthwith, notwithstanding anything in any de-partmental rules, and after the payment thereof in accordance with such requi-sition, no person shall have any right in respect of the deposit except as hereinafter provided.

- (3) In the case of a deceased person whose representative is on the spot and has given security for the payment of the service or other debts in camp or quarters (if any) of the deceased, the commanding officer shall deliver over any property received under clauses (1) and (2) to that representative.
- (4) In the case of a deceased person whose estate is not dealt with under clause (3), and in the case of any deserter, the commanding officer shall cause the moveable property to be sold by public auction, and shall pay the service and other debts in camp or quarters (if any), and, in the case of a deceased person, the expenses of his funeral ceremonies, from the proceeds of the sale and from any pay and allowances drawn under clause (1) and from the amount of the deposit (if any) received undor clause (2).
- (5) The surplus, if any, shall, in the case of a deceased person, be paid to his representative (if any), or, in the event of no claim to such surplus being established within twelve months after the death, be remitted to the prescribed person.
- (6) In the case of a deserter, the surplus (if any) shall be forthwith remitted to the prescribed person and shall, on the expiry of three years from the date of his desertion, be forfeited to His Majesty, unless the deserter shall in the meantime have surrendered or been apprehended.

Explanation.--A person shall be deemed to be Meaning of deserter. a deserter within the meaning of this section who has without authority been absent from duty for a period of twenty-one days and has not subsequently surrendered or been apprehended.

127. Property deliverable and money payable Disposal of certain pro- to the representative of a deceased person under section 126 may, if the without production erty of probate, etc. total value or amount thereof does not exceed one thousand rupees, and if the prescribed person thinks fit, be delivered or paid to any person appearing to him to be entitled to receive it or to administer the estate of the deceased, without requiring the production of any probate, letters of administration, certificate or other such conclusive evidence of title ; and such delivery or payment shall be a full discharge to those ordering or making the same and to the Secretary of State for India in Council from all further liability in respect of the property or money; but nothing in this section shall affect the rights of any executor or administrator or other representative, or of any creditor of a deceased person against any person to whom such delivery or payment has been made.

128. The provisions of section 126 shall, so far Application to lunatics and persons missing on active service. as they can be made applicable, apply in the case of a person subject to this Act becoming in-

sane or who, being on active service, is officially reported missing :

Provided that, in the case of a person so reported missing, no action shall be taken under sub-sections (2) to (5), inclusive, of the said section, until one year has elapsed from the date of such report.

LAD

CHAPTER XI.

SUPPLEMENTAL.

129. (1) The Governor General in Council Power to make rules. may make rules for the purpose of carrying into

effect the provisions of this Act.

(2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for-

- (a) the discharge from the service of persons subject to this Act;
- (b) the specification of the punishments which may be awarded as field punishments under sections 21 and 25;
- (c) the assembly and procedure of courts of inquiry, and the administration of oaths or affirmations by such courts;
- (d) the convening and constituting of courtsmartial;
- (e) the adjournment, dissolution and sittings of courts-martial;
- (f) the procedure to be observed in trials by courts-martial;
- (g) the confirmation and revision of the findings and sentences of courts-martial;
- (h) the carrying into effect sentences of courtemartial;
- (i) the forms of orders to be made under the provisions of this Act relating to courtsmartial and imprisonment;
- (j) the constitution of authorities to decide for what persons, to what amounts and in what manner, provision should be made for dependants under section 29, and the due carrying out of such decisions; and
- (k) any matter in this Act directed to be prescribed.

(3) All rules made under this Act shall be published in the Gazette of India, and, on such publication, shall have effect as if enacted in this Act.

130. The enactments specified in the Schedule

Amandment of certain the extent and in the manner mentioned in the

jourth column thereof.

THE SCHEDULE.

35

AMENDMENTS.

(See section 130.)

Year.	No.	Short title.	Amendments.
1860	XLV	The Indian Penal Code.	 (1) In the Explanation to section 131, for the words "or the Air Force Act "the words "the Air Force Act or the Indian Air Force Act, 1932" shall be substituted. (2) In section 139, for the words "or the Air Force Act " the words "the Air Force Act or the Indian Air Force Act, 1932"
1881	XI	The Municipal Taxation Act, 1881.	shall be substituted. In clause (a) of section 3, for the words "or the Air Force Act " the words "the Air Force Act or the Indian Air Force Act 1932" shall be sub- stituted.
1899	п	The Indian Stamp Act, 1899.	
1901	п	The Indian Tolla (Army) Act, 1901.	In clause (b) of section 2, after the words "Air Force Act" the words ", the Indian Air Force" shall be inserted.
[1912	IV	The Indian Lu- nacy Act, 1912.	In section 12, for the words "or the Air Force Act" the words "the Air Force Act or the Indian Air Force Act, 1982" shall be substituted.
1928	IV	The Indian Sol- diers (Litiga- tion) Act, 1925.	In clause (b) of section 2, after the figures "1911" the words and figures", or the Indian Air Force Act, 1932" shall be in- sected.

LAD



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEPARTMENT.

2

Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the administration and discipline of the Indian Air Force, with the Bill as amended.

•

•

.

.••

GIPD- 387(A) LAD-10 3-32-750.

.....