

COINAGE OFFENCES

section aforesaid, shall be guilty of felony, and, being convicted thereof, shall be liable, to be imprisoned for life, with or without hard labour.

42/1969
3rd Sch.

Other Matters

20. Where any coin shall be tendered as current gold or silver coin to any Government officer as such, who shall suspect the same to be diminished otherwise than by reasonable wear, or to be counterfeit, it shall be lawful for such officer to cut, break, bend, or deface such coin; and if any coin so cut, broken, bent, or defaced, shall appear to be diminished otherwise than by reasonable wearing, or to be counterfeit, the person tendering the same shall bear the loss thereof; but if the same shall be of due weight, and shall appear to be lawful coin, the officer cutting, breaking, bending or defacing the same is hereby required to receive the same at the rate it was coined for; and if any dispute shall arise whether the coin so cut, broken, bent, or defaced be diminished in manner aforesaid, or counterfeit, it shall be heard and finally determined in a summary manner by any Justice who is hereby empowered to examine upon oath as well the parties as any other person, in order to the decision of such dispute.

Coin suspected to be diminished or counterfeit may be cut.

21. If any person shall find or discover in any place whatever, or in the custody or possession of any person having the same without lawful authority or excuse, any false or counterfeit coin, resembling or apparently intended to resemble or pass for any current gold or silver or copper coin, or any instrument, tool, or engine whatsoever, adapted and intended for the counterfeiting of any such coin, or any filings, or clippings, or any gold or silver bullion, or any gold or silver in dust, solution, or otherwise, which shall have been produced or obtained by diminishing or lightening any current gold or silver coin, it shall be lawful for

Discovery and seizure of counterfeit coin and coining tools.

the person so finding or discovering, and he is hereby required to seize the same and to carry the same forthwith before some Justice; and where it shall be proved, on the oath of a credible witness before any Justice, that there is reasonable cause to suspect that any person has been concerned in counterfeiting current gold, silver, or copper coin, or has in his custody or possession any such false or counterfeit coin, or any instrument, tool, or engine whatsoever adapted and intended for the making or counterfeiting of any such coin, or any other machine used or intended to be used for making or counterfeiting any such coin, or any such filings, clippings, or bullion, or any such gold or silver in dust, solution, or otherwise as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for any Justice, by warrant under his hand, to cause any place whatsoever belonging to, or in the occupation, or under the control of such suspected person to be searched, either in the day or in the night; and if any such false or counterfeit coin, or any such instrument, tool, or engine, or any such machine, or any such filings, clippings, or bullion, or any such gold or silver in dust, solution or otherwise as aforesaid, shall be found in any place so searched, to cause the same to be seized and carried forthwith before some Justice; and whensoever any such false or counterfeit coin, or any such instrument, tool, or engine, or any such machine, or any such filings, clippings, or bullion, or any such gold, or silver in dust, solution, or otherwise as aforesaid, shall in any case whatsoever be seized and carried before a Justice, he shall, if necessary, cause the same to be secured for the purpose of being produced in evidence against any person who may be prosecuted for any offence against this Act; and all such false and counterfeit coin, and all instruments, tools and engines adapted and intended for the making or counterfeiting of coin, and all such machines, and all such filings, clippings, and bullion, and all such gold and silver in dust, solution, or otherwise as aforesaid, after they shall have been produced in evidence,

or when they shall have been seized, and shall not be required to be produced in evidence, shall forthwith be delivered up to the Crown Solicitor, or any person authorized by the Minister to receive the same.

22. Where any person shall tender, utter, or put off any false or counterfeit coin in one parish or jurisdiction, and shall also tender, utter, or put off any other false or counterfeit coin in any other parish or jurisdiction, either on the day of such first-mentioned tendering, uttering, or putting off, or within the space of ten days next ensuing, or where two or more persons, acting in concert in different parishes or jurisdictions shall commit any offence against this Act, every such offender may be dealt with, indicted, tried, and punished, and the offence laid and charged to have been committed in any one of the said parishes or jurisdiction, in the same manner in all respects as if the offence had been actually and wholly committed within such one parish or jurisdiction. Venue.

23. Every offence of falsely making or counterfeiting any coin, or buying, selling, receiving, paying, tendering, uttering, or putting off, or of offering to buy, sell, receive, pay, utter, or put off any false or counterfeit coin against the provisions of this Act shall be deemed to be complete, although the coin so made or counterfeited, or bought, sold, received, paid, tendered, uttered, or put off, or offered to be bought, sold, received, paid, uttered, or put off shall not be in a fit state to be uttered, or the counterfeiting thereof shall not be finished or perfected. Where the counterfeiting coin shall be complete.

24. It shall be lawful for any person whatsoever to apprehend any person who shall be found committing any indictable offence against this Act, and to convey or deliver him to some constable, in order to his being conveyed, as soon as reasonably may be, before a Justice or some other proper officer, to be dealt with according to law. Any person may apprehend any person committing any indictable offence.