

DAILY AIRMAIL BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OTTAWA - CANADA

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Thursday, November 3, 1949.

In Parliament On November 2: Justice Minister Garson said legislation will be introduced to plug loopholes in the Combines Investigation Act.

Wilfrid Lacroix (Lib. -- Quebec - Montmorency) urged the Government to ease the income tax burden on farmers.

Robert Fair (SC-Battle River) said exorbitant freight rates on oil products should be removed.

The Senate passed a bill abolishing appeals to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

Privy Council Appeals Bill Passed: Ottawa, November 2 (CP) -- The Senate today passed a bill which will make the Supreme Court of Canada supreme in fact as well as in name.

The Bill, which abolishes appeals to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in London and makes the Canadian Supreme Court the final court of appeal, passed on division, without a recorded vote. None of the Senators speaking in the debate opposed it in principle, although some Progressive Conservatives urged that it be delayed.

The Bill moved through second reading--approval in principle--today after Senator Salter Hayden (L. Ontario) concluded the debate. He urged its passage as a mark of Canada's nationhood.

The Senate declined the offer of Senator Wishart Robertson, Government Leader, to refer the Bill to committee, and passed the historic measure through third reading. It now awaits Royal assent and publication in the Canada Gazette to become law.

To Strengthen Combines Act: Ottawa, November 2 (CP) -- Justice Minister Garson, roused by an Opposition member's charge that combines are being allowed to operate under the benevolent eye of the Government, told the Commons today he plans to plug some of the loop holes in the Combines Investigation Act.

Mr. Garson stepped into continued debate on the 1949-50 budget after R.R. Knight (CCF-Saskatoon City) said that because of the weakness of the present anti-combines legislation "commercial highwaymen" are able to carry on their "nefarious trade under the benevolent eye of this Government."

The Minister reviewed the Government's unsuccessful case against an alleged dental combine and indicated that amendments to the Combines Investigation Act are being made as a result of the judment rendered.

To "Canadianize" Navy: Ottawa, November 2 (CP) -- A full effort to "Canadianize" the Royal Canadian Navy was promised the Commons today by Defence Minister Claxton, as the Navy's senior officers went into annual conference with a sweeping commission report on the service before them.

There were no indications that any heads are going to fall over the three-man commission's numerous criticisms, its rap at "pallid" imitation of the Royal Navy and its stress on a broad demand "that the navy be more Canadian."