

In Parliament On November 7: The House of Commons voted 108 to 48 against a CCF proposal that union dues be made deductible for income tax purposes.

Justice Minister Garson tabled the controversial report on an alleged combine in the flour-milling industry. Eleven companies were named.

Trade Minister Howe said the flour-milling industry was told the Combines Investigation Act would not be invoked for acts performed during price control.

Opposition spokesmen criticized withholding the flour-milling report for 10 months. The Government received it December 29, 1948.

Flour Combine Alleged: Ottawa, November 7 (CP) -- F.A. McGregor's controversial combines report on the flour-milling industry today charged its 11 principal firms with 11 years of mutual price fixing and with "threats of reprisals" against small millers who wouldn't co-operate in "their designs."

Justice Minister Garson tabled in the Commons the 60,000-word document which provoked the resignation of Mr. McGregor, Commissioner of the Combines Investigation Act, because of "differences of opinion" with the Cabinet.

The Government does not plan to prosecute the industry on the charges made by Mr. McGregor. Those charges, involving firms representing 70 per cent of Canada's productive capacity in the flour-milling, contend, among other allegations;

"It is clearly established by the evidence that since at least 1936 there have been continuing efforts on the part of the principal milling companies to secure and maintain agreements amongst themselves and with others which would fix common prices for the sale of flour, rolled oats, millfeeds and coarse grains which they sold. These efforts were directed to having such agreements in effect in all markets in Canada in which the associate firms carried on business....

John Diefenbaker (PC--Lake Center) accused the Government of "flagrant disregard of Parliament" in withholding for 10 months the report of alleged price-fixing activities in the flour-milling industry.

He said that Justice Minister Garson had broken the law by not making public the report within the required 15 days after it was delivered to him by the Commissioner of the Combines Investigation Act.

All three opposition parties were highly indignant about the manner in which the Government handled the McGregor report on the milling industry, which alleged that 11 companies participated in a combine....

Canada Explores New Sales Markets: Ottawa, November 7 (Montreal Gazette) --

The contraction of sterling area markets against Canadian goods has spurred efforts by the Trade and Commerce Department to explore countries that really haven't been tapped, and Canada's salesmen are on the alert in far places..

"It is all a part of our policy of seeking to promote export business wherever it can be found," M.W. MacKenzie, Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce told The Gazette tonight.

"We are opening offices, for instance, in Madrid, the Spanish capital, and in the Philippines, and we are doing so because we believe we can sell more to those countries."....

Across Canada: The R.C.A.F. said last night, the Canadian Press reports from Churchill, Man., that poor flying weather forced postponement of an air search for an Arctic missionary and two Eskimos missing since October 21 when they set out in a motor-driven canoe to hunt for seals....The boosts in rental ceilings authorized by the Government in its relaxation of rental controls could affect some 4,000,000 Canadians it is estimated....The federal Government has just allotted well over half a million dollars from its national health grants to aid four hospitals to increase accommodation. The hospitals are in St. John's, Nfld., Quebec City, Haileybury, Ont., and Regina, Sask.