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Tuesday, December 18, 1951.

Seaway, Power Bills Pass Senate: Ottawa, December 18 (CP) -- The Senate yesterday gave final approval to the Government's St. Lawrence Seaway legislation, including an amendment made by its Transport Committee.

Senator Wishart Robertson, government leader, said the Government concurred in the amendment which provides more control over the powers of the President of the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority to be set up to construct and administer the navigation end of the project.

It provides that the powers of the President shall be set out in bylaws which will be subject to the approval of the Government. Previously the measure gave the President wide statutory authority.

Also endorsed was the companion bill approving an agreement between the federal Government and Ontario by which the Province will undertake power development along the international rapids section of the St. Lawrence in conjunction with an appropriate United States authority, presumably New York State.

Both bills are based on the assumption that Canada will proceed alone with the seaway project, but leave the door open for U.S. participation. They need only royal assent to become law.

Anti-Price Fixing Legislation Introduced: Ottawa, December 18 (CP) -- The Government today urged the Commons to approve legislation outlawing resale price maintenance, but the Progressive Conservative Party sought to kill the measure on the grounds that it would destroy small business.

The Minister of Justice, Mr. Garson, opening debate on second reading of the bill, made a 15,000-word speech in which he said that price maintenance forces the poorer class of consumer to pay higher prices than under free-price competition. His speech initiated what may become one of the hottest debates of the session.

Mr. E.D. Fulton (P.C.--Kamloops) introduced a motion that the legislation be given a six-month hoist -- parliamentary procedure to kill the legislation.

Mr. Fulton charged that the Government is not giving the little business man a fair chance, that it was trying to destroy him with legislation that favored "big business".

Consumers, said Mr. Garson, are looking for justice on the issue from Parliament and the Canadian Government. The public was largely unorganized and unprotected and they were asking questions why the Government, which does not control prices itself, allows "private control" of prices by manufacturers.

October Trade Deficit With U.S. \$27,400,000: Ottawa, December 17 (CP) -- Canada's foreign trade is undergoing tremendous expansion, but the big problem of countering the deficit in trade with the United States still remains.

Her adverse balance in trade with the U.S. during October totalled \$27,400,000 -- bringing the 10-month deficit for 1951 to \$457,200,000 -- the highest since the dollar problem days of 1947 -- a Bureau of Statistics report showed today.

Unlike 1950, when Canada experienced the rarity of three monthly favorable balances in her U.S. trading account, 1951, so far, has produced only deficits -- one month after another.

The main factor is a sharp increase in imports. Canada's purchases from the U.S. during October totalled \$238,300,000, pushing the 10-month total to a record \$2,385,200,000 -- higher than even the 12-month total of