

W.J. Matthews, counsel for the Transport Department, said the President was purposely being given a free hand so he could "get things done."

He promised to bring the Committee's amendment to the attention of the Minister of Transport, Mr. Chevrier, along with another question about the possibility of dealing with competitive foreign shipping through tolls to be charged on shipping using the seaway.

In regard to tolls, Mr. Matthews warned that "we should be careful not to do anything to arouse the Americans." It was Canada's hope that the U.S. would still decide on joint construction of the seaway, though the legislation was based on the presumption Canada would proceed alone.

The Committee sent the bills back to the Senate where the amendment will be considered.

Loan Support For Prairie Grain Farmers: Ottawa, December 14 (CP) -- The Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Howe, proposed in the House of Commons tonight that the federal Government underwrite special loans to Prairie grain farmers, granting a 25-per-cent guarantee on loans to be limited to \$1,000 to any one farmer.

The Government's guarantee will cover any loans made by banks to farmers with grain still on their farms and fields during the current crop year.

It is a move designed to aid those farmers who have been hit financially by the transportation and storage crisis which hampered movement of Western grain to market, and also those whose harvesting has been delayed by bad weather.

Mr. Howe's statement on the Government's guarantee was made in introducing a resolution to set aside \$5,000,000 to cover any losses by the Government which may result from the guarantees to the banks.

Mr. Claxton To Visit Troops In Korea: Ottawa, December 16 (CP) -- The Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton, in a message broadcast to Canada's forces in Korea, told them tonight they are writing "a new chapter in Canadian history."

"While you are fighting for peace, any fighting is still fighting; and being in Korea is no picnic, as I will no doubt find out for myself when I visit you in a few weeks' time," the Minister said.

Mr. Claxton is to fly to Korea two days after Christmas to inspect the Canadian forces.

His message was broadcast over the trans-Canada network of the CBC on the first anniversary of the landing in Korea of the 2nd Battalion of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry.

Across Canada: The Parliamentary session is expected to be brought to a conclusion this week....A membership meeting of the Street Railwaymen's Union (A.F.L.-T.L.C.) today rejected a conciliation board report on the Union's wage dispute with the Toronto Transportation Commission. The members also voted to empower the union's executive board to call for a strike vote when it deemed one necessary....Air Force Headquarters at Ottawa yesterday that airmen stationed in the U.K. have been urged not to arrange for their families to join them until suitable housing has been located....The federal Government on December 14 announced salary and pay increases, retroactive to December 1, for members of the armed forces, the Civil Service and the R.C.M.P. Ranging from about four to 14 per cent, the increases go to approximately 164,000 persons in those three branches of Government service and add roughly \$40,000,000 a year to the existing Government payroll of about \$515,000,000....Ways of easing the impact of freight-rate increases on long-distance shippers -- such as those of the Prairies and the Maritimes -- are being studied by the Board of Transport Commissioners, its head said on December 14.