

complaining of a combine in the leather trade which had been existing two years previous. The combine was in the nature of a rebate being granted to firms who purchased only from members of the combine. Dr. Sproule states that the application was made to the Minister of Finance regarding this matter, that he "submitted the present law to an eminent legal authority and was advised that it would be difficult if not impossible either to break up the combine or to secure conviction under the law." The petition was supported by a copy of affidavit used by persons who joined the combine.

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Noté --

Sproule's amendment to be found in debate on second reading, ~~of~~ Hansard, April 20, 1889, p. 1936.

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In the Senate, June 26, 1890, the discussion turned largely on whether or not a clause should be inserted exempting trade unions from the provisions of the Act, namely, "nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to combinations of employees for their own reasonable protection."

Sir Mackenzie Bowell and Mr. Power did not think this clause should be inserted, but Mr. Mills held out strongly in its favour and it was included. The word "unlawful" was stricken out and the words "unduly" and "unreasonable" were