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(k) A decision would also have to be reached as to whether any mention of this legislation should be made in the Speech from the Throne. Perhaps the safest course of action would be not to do so, on the understanding that, if any questions were asked as to the government's intentions, it could be stated that the recommendations of the Royal Commission were under review and that, provided such review could be completed in time, the government might introduce a measure during the course of the session.

3. The Cabinet,-

(a) approved in principle the recommendations of the Special Cabinet Committee on the establishment of a Canadian Council for the Arts and agreed that draft legislation be prepared forthwith by the Department of Justice along the lines recommended by the Committee;

(b) agreed that the Minister of Finance should consider further, and report subsequently on the financial aspects both of the existing related assistance programmes and of this proposal; and,

(c) deferred for further consideration a decision as to whether the legislation would be introduced during the course of the coming session of Parliament, and, if so, as to whether any mention thereof should be made in the Speech from the Throne.

Parliament; date of opening of next session

4. The Prime Minister submitted certain proposals as to the date of the opening of the next session of Parliament and the choice of a mover and seconder of the Speech from the Throne.

The normal practice had been to have Parliament convene at 3:00 p.m. on a Thursday and to hear the mover and seconder of the Speech from the Throne the following day. The House was then usually adjourned until the following Monday to allow the Leader of the Opposition some time to prepare his statement on the Speech. He hoped it would be possible to have Parliament meet this year as early as possible in January, Unfortunately, Thursday, the 6th of January, was a religious holiday and it might not be felt appropriate

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Vol. 2656

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