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in every instance where proceedings were not commenced, that the Government had failed in its duty, or through influence, had stifled enquiry, and from the charge, where proceedings were instituted, that the Government had been prompted by party or other considerations.

An investigation before a Board would admit of the parties, by conference during the course of the enquiry making such arrangement as in the opinion of the Board would remove all just cause of complaint, which result, if effected, could be reported by the Board in its findings to the Minister. In the event of such a settlement not being effected, the parties would still be liable to be proceeded against under the sections of the Criminal Code having to do with conspiracies in restraint of trade, and to the sections of the Customs Act giving the Governor in Council power to reduce or remove duties in cases where either of these enactments would be applicable.

The present is clearly a case in which the Government in any legislation it may introduce, should not hesitate to hide its light under a bushel. Any measure dealing with combines or trusts which purports to be merely an amendment to existing legislation, be it ever so valuable, will fail of making the impression on the public mind which a measure relating specifically to combines and mergers is certain to make. The opposition to be encountered will be as strong in the case of an amendment to existing Act as to an entirely new Act. The support on the other hand, to a separate measure will be infinitely more general.

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