

Royal visit; gift by federal government

1. The Secretary of State for External Affairs, referring to discussion at the meeting of August 22nd, 1951, mentioned that one of A. Y. Jackson's best landscapes, now on loan to the National Gallery, could be purchased and presented to Their Royal Highnesses as a gift from the Canadian government. A decision should be reached soon as to whether this type of gift was deemed to be appropriate.

2. The Prime Minister felt it might be agreed in principle that the gift take the form of a representative Canadian painting and that the actual choice of the painting be decided upon later after further consideration of the matter by the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, perhaps in consultation with Mr. Vincent Massey.

3. The Cabinet, after discussion, agreed that the gift of the Canadian government to Their Royal Highnesses take the form of a representative Canadian painting; the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, perhaps in consultation with Mr. Vincent Massey, to consider and report further on the actual choice of the painting.

Speech from the Throne; opening of special session*

4. The Prime Minister, referring to discussion at the meeting of October 3rd, 1951, submitted and read a redraft of the Speech from the Throne for the opening of the forthcoming special session of Parliament.

5. Mr. St-Laurent drew particular attention to the paragraph in the Speech referring to measures adopted by the government to combat inflation and to the interim report submitted by the Special Committee appointed during the Summer of 1950 to consider and report on the general adequacy of the anti-combine legislation. The Speech, as presently drafted, indicated that the government would, during the course of the special session, introduce legislation to implement the committee's recommendations in respect of the fixing of resale prices by agreement between suppliers and distributors. The present combines legislation prohibited price fixing by agreement between a group of producers or a group

* See also "Extended Record" attached .

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