

to the jury, Mr. Justice McDonald stated that the jobber-broker combination maintained by the Nash Companies was the main issue in the trial. The trial concluded on Mar. 13, 1926, when the jury returned a verdict of guilty on five of the six counts against four individuals and four companies. A fine of \$25,000 and imprisonment for one day was imposed on each of the four individuals, and a similar fine on each of the companies. Appeal against the judgment was entered by the defence on the ground that they were improperly convicted and that corporations could not be guilty of conspiracy. A counter-appeal against the sentences was entered by the Crown, but both appeals were subsequently withdrawn. The Crown later dropped the charges under sec. 498 of the Criminal Code, which had been traversed to the full assizes, the defence having applied to have these tried by a judge without a jury.

The inquiry and prosecution have led to remedial measures on behalf of the growers of British Columbia. The province of British Columbia has passed an act to govern sales on consignment, with a view to the prevention of certain of the evils exposed in the Commissioner's report, and particularly the operation of jobber-owned brokerage houses. Similar legislation has been passed by Saskatchewan and is under consideration by the other western provinces. As a result the Nash Co. has disposed of its brokerage houses and is now operating solely as a jobbing concern.

The investigation by a commissioner into an alleged combine among coal dealers in Winnipeg and other western cities led to a report, on Feb. 28, 1925, to the effect that no combine within the meaning of the Act existed.

The investigation by the Registrar of the Combines Investigation Act into an alleged combine in the marketing of New Brunswick potatoes was followed by a report, on June 9, 1925, to the effect that a combine existed. The various agreements and arrangements between the members of two groups of shippers were reported as having the effect of unduly depressing the price to the New Brunswick grower of potatoes and injuring the farmers' co-operative movement. Unfair methods of competition were charged, including the payment of bribes to employees of competitors, and the interception of cable messages. The report and evidence were remitted to the Attorney-General of the Province of New Brunswick, but no action was taken as a result.

An investigation by the Registrar into an alleged combine of bread bakeries in Montreal resulted in a finding, on Mar. 26, 1926, that no combine existed within the meaning of the Act.

An investigation by a commissioner into an alleged combine in the distribution of fruits and vegetables produced in Ontario was concluded on July 31, 1926. The Commissioner reported that in his opinion there had been no contravention of the Act, but that the inquiry had disclosed certain marketing conditions and practices prejudicial to the interests of growers and consumers. The report was brought to the attention of the proper authorities, and as a result remedial legislation was enacted by the Ontario Legislature.

An investigation was conducted by the Registrar into the Proprietary Articles Trade Association, an organization of wholesale and retail druggists and manufacturers established to fix minimum resale prices of proprietary medicines and toilet articles. The first price-list of the association, issued on Aug. 28, 1926, included minimum wholesale and retail prices of more than six hundred articles. At that time the association was composed of 157 manufacturers, 28 wholesale druggists, and 2,732 retail druggists. The Registrar's report, which was made on Sept. 6, 1926, stated that through the operations of the association prices had been enhanced and were likely to be further enhanced to a substantial portion of the public, and