

Additional provisions relating to restraint of trade were enacted in Chapter 56 of the 1935 Statutes as Section 498A of the Criminal Code. This section, providing against engaging in certain policies of selling goods at low prices for purposes of destroying competition or of eliminating competitors, and against specified types of price discrimination, came into force on Sept. 1, 1935.

Combine Cases in 1934-35.—Court cases arising from an investigation in 1933 into an alleged combine of importers of British anthracite coal were completed in 1935 after being carried to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council by a group of five coal companies convicted in December, 1933, of operating a combine in violation of the Combines Investigation Act. Ten firms, all located in the province of Quebec, were convicted under the Combines Investigation Act and on charges of conspiring in violation of Section 498 of the Criminal Code to unduly limit facilities for transporting, supplying, storing and dealing in coal and coke and of similar action to unduly prevent or lessen competition in the purchase and sale of these fuels. One company was acquitted on all charges. The accused firms were tried in two groups. The appeal of the first group from their convictions was dismissed in October, 1934, by the Quebec Court of Appeals. Application by this group for leave to appeal to the Privy Council was heard in the spring of 1935 and was refused by judgment of the Privy Council delivered in June, 1935. The second group were tried in the Court of King's Bench at the city of Quebec after the judgment of the Quebec Court of Appeals and were found guilty of similar offences. An appeal from the latter convictions was dismissed by the Quebec Court of Appeals in June, 1935. Fines imposed on the ten convicted members of the combine totalled \$43,500.

Throughout the period under review inquiries into a number of cases which normally would have been investigated under the Combines Investigation Act were made by the Parliamentary Committee on Price Spreads and Mass Buying, appointed in February, 1934, and by the Royal Commission on Price Spreads which succeeded it after the prorogation of Parliament in June, 1934. Investigation under the Combines Investigation Act included an inquiry into an alleged combine of gasoline refiners and distributors and an inquiry into an alleged combine of manufacturers of rubber footwear. Subsequently an investigation into certain aspects of the latter case was made by the Price Spreads Commission.

As in previous years, various less extensive investigations were made in connection with complaints referring to alleged practices in particular manufacturing and distributive industries, including questions of price agreements among manufacturers or dealers, exclusive dealing arrangements, the withholding of supplies for various reasons, resale price maintenance, price discrimination and other trade practices alleged to be unfair to particular individuals or groups or injurious to the public.

Section 14.—Mothers' Allowances.

Six of the nine provinces of Canada provide for the payment of allowances to mothers who are widowed or without adequate means of support. The province of Manitoba was the first to make such provision in 1916, and the example has been followed by the other western provinces and by Ontario and Nova Scotia. The Mothers' Allowances Act, 1930, of New Brunswick has not been proclaimed in effect.

All the Mothers' Allowances Acts stipulate that the mother must be a resident of the province at the time of making application and a widow or, in all provinces but New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, a wife, whose husband is physically or men-