

public through limiting production, fixing or enhancing prices, limiting competition or otherwise restraining trade. Organizations of this nature are defined by the Act as 'combines' and participation in the formation or operation of a combine is an indictable offence. In line with recommendations contained in a final report by the Committee to Study Combines Legislation, certain amendments effective Nov. 1, 1952, revised the administrative organization by delegating the functions formerly exercised by the Commissioner of the Combines Investigation Act to an agency for investigation and research and a board of three members to appraise the evidence obtained in investigations and report thereon. The former Commissioner of the Combines Investigation Act became the new Director of Investigation and Research, with authority to initiate investigations respecting practices alleged to be offences under the Combines Investigation Act or under Sect. 498 or 498A of the Criminal Code which concern offences related to those covered by the Combines Investigation Act. The board is known as the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission and the following persons have been appointed as members: C. Rhodes Smith, Q.C., Chairman, formerly Attorney-General of Manitoba; Guy Favreau, a member of the Quebec Bar; and A. S. Whiteley, an economist who served as Deputy Commissioner under the Combines Investigation Act. Other amendments removed limitations on possible fines and permitted the courts to prohibit continuation or repetition of an offence. Amendments made to the Combines Investigation Act in 1951 adopted recommendations contained in the interim report of the Committee to Study Combines Legislation which prohibit the practice of resale price maintenance.

The report to the Minister of Justice of an investigation into the manufacture, distribution and sale of matches in Canada, submitted in December 1949, alleged that a combine by way of merger, trust or monopoly existed in the wooden match industry in Canada. Four formal charges were preferred under the Combines Investigation Act. The trial of the first charge concluded at Montreal in May 1951 with the five corporation defendants being convicted and fined a total of \$85,000 and costs. The accused appealed the conviction and sentence to the Quebec Court of Queen's Bench (Appeal Side), the appeal to be heard in January 1953, and decision is now (December 1953) pending. The other three charges are in abeyance pending the appeal.

In a report of a special commissioner made in November 1948, a combine was alleged to exist in the bread-baking industry in the Provinces of Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. Prosecution was instituted and on Oct. 2, 1951, six bakery corporations charged were found guilty, as charged under Sect. 498 of the Criminal Code, with total penalties of \$30,000 and costs being imposed. The case was concluded in January 1953 when the costs and expenses which the convicted parties had been ordered to pay in addition to the fines were determined by the court in the amount of \$19,402, and the appeals which the parties had asserted against their conviction and sentence were dismissed for want of prosecution.

A report was submitted to the Minister of Justice on May 21, 1952, alleging the existence of combines in six divisions of the rubber industry. Prosecution was instituted and on Apr. 8, 1953, five companies pleaded guilty, at which time an application was made on behalf of the Crown for an order prohibiting the continuation or repetition of the offence or the doing of specified acts or things directed towards the continuation or repetition of the offence. Judgment in regard to