

industry in Canada. Four formal charges were preferred under the Combines Investigation Act. The trial of the first charge concluded at Montreal, Que., 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), but the appeal was dismissed Nov. 30, 1953. Application by the accused for leave to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada was refused on Dec. 22, 1953. The remaining three charges have been withdrawn.

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. In 1953, prosecutions were instituted under Sect. 498 of the Criminal Code in regard to three divisions of the industry, namely mechanical rubber goods, tires and tubes and rubber footwear. Each of the accused pleaded guilty and fines totalling \$220,000 and costs were imposed. In the mechanical case an application was also made on behalf of the Crown for an order prohibiting the continuation or repetition of the offence. The order was granted by the trial judge and upheld with a variation by the Ontario Court of Appeal Apr. 26, 1954. The application of the accused for leave to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada was granted in January 1955 and the hearing of the appeal is pending. Applications for similar orders in the other two cases are in abeyance pending the appeal in the mechanical case.

In a report submitted to the Minister of Justice in October 1952, a combine was alleged to exist in the fine paper industry. Prosecution was instituted in 1953 in the Supreme Court of Ontario and on June 4, 1954, seven manufacturers, twenty-one incorporated fine paper merchants, one individual fine paper merchant and one trade association secretary were found guilty as charged under Sect. 498 of the Criminal Code and subsequently were fined a total of \$242,000. The Court granted an order of prohibition pursuant to Sect. 31 of the Combines Investigation Act against the accused but directed that the order will not come into effect until the appeal in the mechanical rubber goods case has been disposed of and, if the appeal is allowed on constitutional grounds the order will not come into effect at all. The accused have appealed the conviction and sentence to the Ontario Court of Appeal.

On Jan. 22, 1953, a report was submitted to the Minister of Justice alleging that, at the time of commencement of the inquiry in 1949, a combine existed in connection with the distribution and sale of coarse papers in and around Vancouver. A prosecution under Sect. 498 was instituted in February 1954 against seven wholesale companies and three manufacturers. Following a preliminary hearing in Vancouver, the accused were committed for trial, in August 1954. At the commencement of the trial in the Supreme Court of British Columbia on Oct. 25, 1954, the seven wholesale companies and one manufacturer pleaded guilty. The trial of the two remaining manufacturers is now in progress.

In a report made to the Minister of Justice in November 1953, a combine was alleged to exist in connection with the distribution and sale of electrical wire and cable products in Canada and nine manufacturers and the selling organization of one of them were named as parties to the alleged combine. In 1954, prosecution was instituted under Sect. 498 of the Criminal Code against nine manufacturing companies and the sales company of one of them. The trial in the Supreme Court of Ontario commenced at Toronto on Jan. 10, 1955.

In May 1953, the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission submitted its first report to the Minister of Justice. This report dealt with two alleged attempts by certain officials of the Montreal District Office of a manufacturer of soap products