

### Court Reserves Judgment In Witnesses-Quebec Case

By DON HANRIGHT  
OTTAWA (CP)—The Supreme Court of Canada has reserved judgment on the later round of the embittered battle that has been going on for years between the Jehovah's Witnesses and the Quebec authorities.

There was no indication of when the court will hand down its decision.

At stake this time is whether the Jehovah's have a legal cause of action in their efforts to have declared unconstitutional a 1954 Quebec statute which, they claim, was designed to stop their religious activities in that province.

Superior Court in Quebec ruled that the statute was constitutional. But when the Jehovah's Witnesses appealed, the Quebec Court of Queen's Bench ruled—without giving an opinion as to whether the law was constitutional—that the group had no legal cause of action because it had not been threatened.

There have been no arrests under the statute.

The USA law bans the public

or door-to-door distribution of religious literature that contains "abusive or insulting attacks against" other religious beliefs in Quebec or those who have such beliefs. Public speeches having the same effect also are prohibited.

This law was passed one year before the Supreme Court of Canada had ruled that the Jehovah's Witnesses in Quebec had a right to distribute their literature without prior censorship by municipal officials.

Now, the federal government—stressing that it is not taking sides—has intervened to ask that the Supreme Court declare the Quebec amendment beyond the constitutional jurisdiction of the province.

The federal justice department argues that the Quebec legislature, in defining a crime in the 1954 law, infringed on an exclusive constitutional right of Parliament. Only the federal Parliament has jurisdiction over criminal law, it says.

However, the Supreme Court in hearing the present appeal told Glen How of Toronto, the Jehovah's counsel, that it was concerned only with the question of whether the group had a cause for action.

Thus, the merits of the Jehovah's case against the law will not be decided in the instant, arrived by plane to visit pending judgment by the Supreme Court. Its decision will be confined to whether Quebec Court of Queen's Bench actually heard the case.

**BREADALBANE**

Mrs. Tom Wallis and small daughter Cheryl of North Bay, will not be divided in the instant, arrived by plane to visit pending judgment by the Supreme Court. Its decision will be confined to whether Quebec Court of Queen's Bench actually heard the case.

**Damper Placed On Wheat Deal**

WASHINGTON (AP)—A proposal to withhold financing by the Export-Import Bank has put at least a temporary damper on the proposed sale of U.S. wheat to the Soviet Union, commerce department officials said here.

A measure to put strict limits on insurance through the Export-Import Bank will be taken up by the Senate in about a week, it was proposed by Senator Carl Albert (D-S.D.).

Meanwhile, commerce department officials and grain dealers could offer no confirmation for rumors that the Soviet negotiators had decided to approach Canada in an effort to obtain the wheat.

**Mr. and Mrs. Robert Toombs and daughters Brenda, Lena and Tammy, of Saskatchewan, are spending a holiday at the home of Mrs. and Mrs. Harold Toombs.**

Mrs. Hazel Large, Gloria and Arthur of Charlottetown, attended the fifth anniversary services in Breadalbane United Church. They were dinner guests of Mrs. Hedley Woodside.

Boyd Somers, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Allan Somers is a patient in hospital at Halifax, where he is receiving treatment. All hope to see Boyd at home soon much improved in health.

Mrs. Stephen Ackland, Cornwall, will spend the winter months at the home of her daughter Mrs. Emmerson Murray and Mr. Murray.

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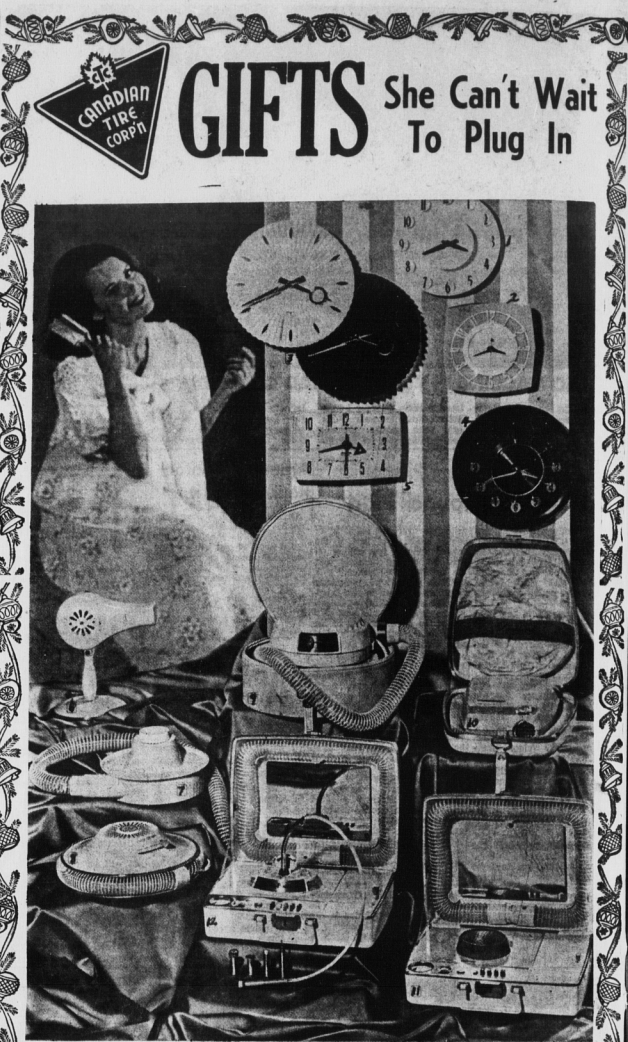
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