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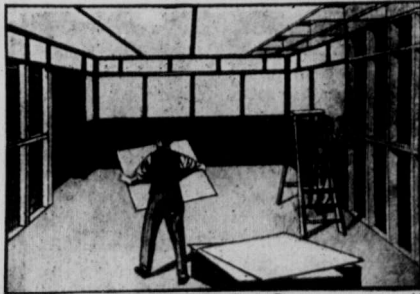
We have no heavy expenses, do not have to provide dividends and earnings for an army of shareholders, but sell you direct at manufacturers' cost.

Save Your Money

by sending your order or list of material required before buying. What we have done for others we can do for you.

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VANCOUVER - B.C.

Reference: Merchants Bank of Canada



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"The Accused Shall Enjoy—"

Continued from Page 7

back of the yards. "They'll 'roll' a man for two dollars. Hang around the saloons, you know, to 'frisk' small change off drunks. It's a good time to make an example of one of them. We'll show them that they can't fool with the Federal law and count on some ward politician to get them off with a small fine. Better advise him to plead guilty, old man. Maybe two years would be all right. I think the judge would take our recommendation. We won't discuss anything less."

Mulraney's brother called at my office in the afternoon. He was an honest-faced young fellow who worked hard for his living. He didn't heap any praise upon brother Jack, altho he was quite sure that he had not intended to commit a crime.

"Jack's never been very steady," he admitted. "But he never got mixed up in anything bad. I wish you'd do what you can for him. I haven't got any money, but I'll do anything you say to help. No, I don't think I'd better try to get any one to testify to his reputation. He hasn't worked very regular. Father Michael, the priest, you know, he's rather down on Jack. It wouldn't help much. Mother's pretty sick. We haven't told her. She don't see Jack sometimes for a month or so. She don't think anything about not hearing from him."

Altogether, my client did not grow as an object of sympathy. Yet, somehow—perhaps it was my youth—the demand of the law seemed monstrous. Two years in the Federal penitentiary for five dollars!

"This isn't a crime," I insisted angrily to the Assistant District Attorney. "It's just a case of sheer stupidity—the fool attempt of a very ignorant man to get a little easy money. I don't know what that postal clerk meant by not warning him. It looks like a mean attempt on his part to trap a man into crime. But Mulraney says that Cleary hasn't anything against him and has always been friendly. It's at least half the fault of the Government, anyhow. Why doesn't the Post Office Department print in red ink on its money orders, 'Cashing this order by a person not entitled thereto is a crime?'"

"Do you think that Mulraney would have understood that?" inquired Walker, with a grin.

"Perhaps not," I admitted. "But at least the Government should try to warn ignorant people. The order itself looks like money. I can see how Mulraney was led astray."

"Oh, I suppose there should be some warning," said the prosecutor. "We get quite a number of these cases. A good deal of it is ignorance. When we think the man is really innocent, we go light on him. But the postal inspector says Mulraney's a bad egg, and my chief's business is to convict if the inspector says a man is crooked."

I told my client the discouraging results of my investigations. It was late in the afternoon before the day fixed for his trial. He had been brought over to the marshal's office from the county jail where he was confined at night.

"It looks like, Take two years or fight, Mulraney," was my summing up. "There isn't but just one point on which to fight—if the Court will let me argue on that."

"It's a jury case, ain't it?" he asked.

"I hear there's always a chance with a jury."

"You've been talking with men who are going to be tried in the State courts," I explained. "The judge hasn't much to say there. The jury can do as it pleases. I could make a strong plea to a jury if this were a State case. But it isn't. In the Federal courts the judge really tries the case. The jury has the final say, but the judge tells them what he thinks they ought to do. You see, he instructs them orally—just talks to them. The jurymen have more respect for the judge than in the State courts because of the very fact that the judge has more power. The judge will be against us in this, and that will probably carry the jury. It's a slim chance, but I'll make the fight if you say so."

There was a long silence. Mulraney looked down into the busy streets eight stories below, where the work-released crowds were swarming toward the street cars. Some hurried along at a cheerful pace, but the greater part of the little figures moved sluggishly in the sullen heat that still oppressed the city. Yet they were free and going home.

To be concluded next week

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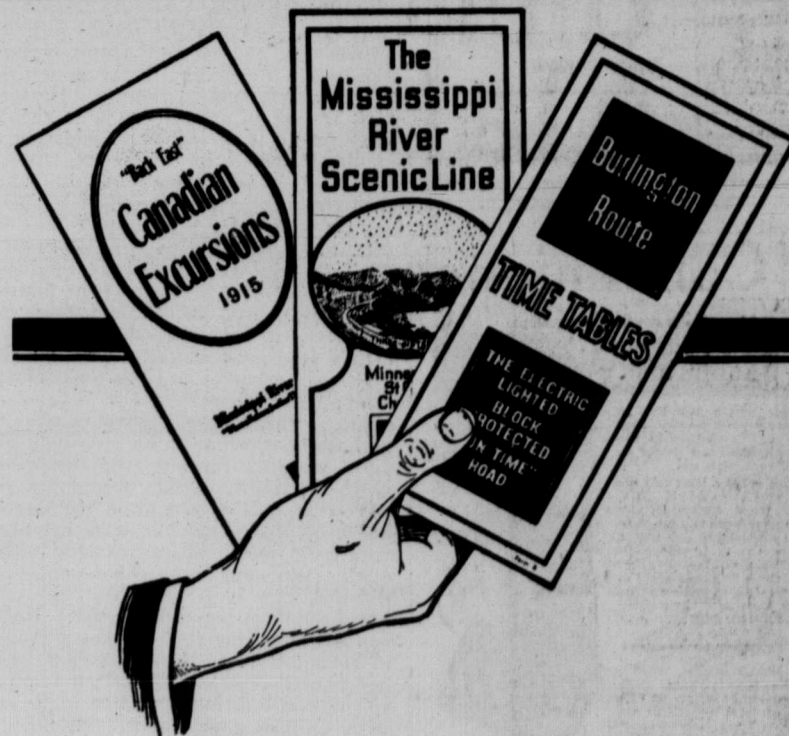
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