

half a mile from the still site, and examination left no doubt in the minds of the investigators that the footprints had been made by the distinctive pair of steel-tipped boots Hawley was wearing. Back at the still, suspicion against him mounted; when he complained of being cold and was told to get his coat, he involuntarily picked up one of two coats from a nearby stump and it fitted him perfectly.

Charged with Possession of Still, s. 164 (e) Excise Act, Hawley appeared at New Waterford on Dec. 18, 1944, before Provincial Magistrate J. Smith McIvor and pleaded not guilty. The Crown, represented by F. A. Hamilton of Sydney, N.S., offered little evidence other than the dog master's testimony as to Prince's behaviour during the investigation up to the arrest. M. J. Hinchey, defence counsel, objected to the admission of this evidence, but His Worship overruled the objection and, after several adjournments, convicted the accused on Feb. 19, 1945. Pronouncement of sentence was re-

served until a week later when a fine of \$100 and costs was imposed or in default three months' imprisonment.

E. McK. Forbes, K.C., of Glace Bay, N.S., on behalf of the defence immediately served notice of appeal on the grounds that the court's finding was against the law and the weight of evidence; that the magistrate improperly admitted testimony regarding the dog's actions and gave undue consideration to that evidence.

The appeal was heard on Apr. 13, 1945, by way of trial *de novo* before Judge N. R. McArthur of the County Court at Sydney, N.S., who on May 1, 1945, confirmed the conviction.

On May 30 Hawley again appeared before Magistrate McIvor and pleaded guilty to Possession of Spirits, s. 169 Excise Act. A sentence identical to that passed for the previous charge was meted out, the terms of imprisonment to run consecutively. Both fines were defaulted.

R. v. Humen et al

Black Market—Gasoline Ration Coupons—Cooperation with British Columbia Police

In May, 1945, while inquiring into an alleged armed robbery, R.C.M.P. investigators in Edmonton, Alta., found two letters which indicated that William Humen of the same city, who had left for Vancouver on May 10, 1945, had been illicitly trafficking in gasoline ration coupons.

Suspicion also pointed to Leonard Silkier an Edmonton taxi driver who upon being questioned told the investigators that he had sold 1,000 sheets of coupons (four coupons to a sheet) to Humen for \$300, and that his source of supply was William Shiel, janitor of the building which housed the regional oil controller's offices in Edmonton. A search of Silkier's hotel room yielded 433 sheets of genuine gasoline ration coupons.

Shiel was next interviewed and he explained that he had salvaged the cou-

pons from the incinerator. His method was unique. The practice followed by the oil controller's office when destroying genuine coupons was for two members of the staff to take them to the basement, throw them into the incinerator and wait around long enough for them to burn up. As the sheets were being fed into the fire, Shiel would toss in large strips of heavy paper—ostensibly to cause a blaze but which acted instead as a damper and prevented the coupons which landed between the layers from getting burned or scorched. Once the officials had gone and he was alone, Shiel would rake out the paper and recover the undamaged coupons. These he subsequently sold to Silkier for ten cents a sheet, and Silkier in turn disposed of them to various garage men and car owners including Humen.

Shiel appeared on June 1 at Edmonton