

previous to this the Bloor Hotel was robbed of bonds, etc., by Tom's gang, but Tom this time was not implicated. The ring leader was a chap named "Cribbie" on Barton Ave and he and his mob got away and the police never caught up with them for 3 months and when Tom got caught in the groceteria this mob sent money they'd got from the Hotel to bail Tom out and Tom asked for trial by Jury which doesn't set till Sept. However he's still going straight but this girl he goes with is a sister to this Cribbie and is married with her husband overseas. Now I've learned all this by four detectives coming here at 5.30 last night and one of them happened to mention Bloor Hotel robbery and as Kathleen told Mom and I about Tom being in a jam regarding some store on Bloor and my meeting Margaret and asking her about Tom and she said Tom was out on bail, but after seeing Tom several times on Bloor and read nothing connected with him in paper Mom and I thought it lies. Well I asked Detective who robbed the groceteria and he said a chap by the name of T.E. on St Clair and well Mel I nearly passed out. Well I asked to speak to this detective alone so others left and I told him Tom was my nephew and you were overseas, so he opened up and told me about Tom and how tough he was, but that he was still working and keeping steady company with this dame and he'd been behaving O.K. I asked if he'd get sent down and he said "certainly" and that Tom knew he would. They said they couldn't get anything on Tom in regard to Bloor Hotel but all these break-in gangs have this Jewish lawyer 'Harold Chaplain' and who lives on 114 Elm. He's a shyster, gets paid for his cases by kids pulling jobs to pay him. He phoned Mom up to go bail for Tom one time and Greg told him he'd come down to his home and he then got scared and left us alone. He bothers Pearl for money but gets nowhere. Now Mel I just hated to tell you about Tom but felt you'd think me sneaky. No one could feel worse about Tom than I do. I'll sign off now write later all my love Sis".

Now, coupled with that and long hours of duty, the fact that I wanted to go to France and couldn't, had a bearing in this case, in that I actually didn't know what I've been doing at times for the last 3-4 weeks, and up to that time I had a good record, was a very strict disciplinarian and the man that stood here and made those terrible accusations he made, has lied. I've never attempted at any time to bribe anyone. I went in to that place to see if I could help him and I went there and offered to be of any service I could because he was one of my men. I think now I've said enough, I think also I've explained my case and if anything I have said can be taken into consideration in your finding of this case, I will most deeply appreciate it.

NO CROSS-EXAMINATION

IN THE OPINION OF THE COURT IT IS UNNECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH RP 83(B)

CHARACTER WITNESS

Capt E. WHITE, Cdn Fire Services Officer, CMH, having been duly sworn, states:

I've now known the accused for quite some time. I've been on this job just about 2 years going around all the units checking on the fire service, therefore BOW comes under my jurisdiction. I first met the accused about 18 months ago when I came down here. He was introduced to me as the fire Sjt IC of the Fire Section. Thereafter every 3 months about I endeavoured to make an inspection and on every occasion contacted the accused and in my opinion of all the fire Sjts under my command I can say that the accused is by far the best. The fire risk is very high at BOW and there are at least two fires a week; these have always been caught because there is good fire protection laid on there. The accused has now 18 men with him and their duty is nothing else but that, and also, their duty is very important. I can only say the reason Sjt Eldridge is there is because he is the best man for the most important job.

NO CROSS-EXAMINATION

IN THE OPINION OF THE COURT IT IS UNNECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH RP 83(B)