

TRUTH AND JUSTICE BROUGHT TO LIGHT



Truth



Justice

After half a century in the dim recesses of a Canadian Government warehouse, Truth and Justice have finally been returned to the light of day. In mid-August, the two ten-foot bronze statues were erected on pedestals on either side of the front steps leading into the Supreme Court Building in Ottawa.

Several times during the placement of the statues, officials of the Department of Public Works wondered if Truth and Justice would ever hold their rightful positions. Delay followed delay as workmen toiled all day and into the early morning hours to complete their task.

The problems started when a truck bearing 21 tons of white granite from Beebe Plain, Quebec, broke down and arrived in Ottawa 12 hours late. Then holes that had been drilled in the pedestal to take the anchor bolts of the sculptures were found to be improperly placed and redrilling caused a further delay.

Problems continued. A huge tempered lifting-pin bent like a stick of soft liquorice when a crane attempted to hoist the first pedestal into position. Meanwhile, Truth and Justice waited patiently gazing up into the night sky lying chained across the backs of two trucks. At last, 47 years and 24 hours late, they were hoisted to their pedestals, where they now stand looking tranquilly out over the lawn of the Supreme Court.

ORIGIN OF THE WORK

Originally, the two figures were to have been part of a memorial to King Edward VII. In 1912, the Department of Public Works awarded a prize of \$35,000 to the sculptor, the late Walter S. Allward of Toronto, for the memorial. Truth and Justice, cast in plaster in 1920, were the only part of the memorial ever completed.