

Wholesale Theft

REVEALED IN PROBE OF MONTREAL CUSTOM HOUSE.

The report of the investigations which have been recently made by the Department of Customs into the operation of the Montreal Customs House, will reveal that bolts of cloth, barrels and cases of liquor, boxes of jewelry, automobiles, and an incredible variety of other more or less easily saleable goods, have been carried out from Montreal Customs House, sometimes during the night, but often in broad daylight, without any clearance or any vestige of authority to do so, according to information obtained from parties having access to the Customs House and in a position to know.

It is recalled, in this respect, that during the recent election campaign speeches, R. L. Calder, K.C., declared that the Montreal Customs House was one of "the greatest clearing houses for stolen goods in Canada," and the statement did not provoke any public denial by the Department of Customs.

It was recently announced from Ottawa, that an officer loaned to the Department of Customs by the Finance Department, had been investigating the operation of the Customs House in Montreal, and inquiries pursued locally have elicited information as to the nature of the discoveries which were made by the investigators.

During the last few months, it is stated, these abuses seem to have grown, a fact which fits in rather well with the period during which the Ottawa officials have been investigating. Prior to that, and for five or six years at least, tales are told of the most remarkable disappearances of goods from the examining warehouse at the Customs House.

That things have, from time to time, disappeared while kept in bond has been frequently stated. As the parties who lost goods in the Customs House could not recover any compensation from the department, and could not sue the department in court without first obtaining the department's permission, there was no publicity given to these losses, but it is understood that the present investigation will show that they have been quite serious.

Tales are told amongst importing firms of a case of jewellery from which 70 watches disappeared overnight in the examining warehouse; of several shipments of cloth and textiles from which considerable portions disappeared while in customs; of truck loads of liquor taken out of the bonded warehouse in daylight; of stolen automobiles being sold out of the Customs House—and then seized and handed over to the interested insurance company.

The illicit automobile trade is the one in which, next perhaps to the liquor trade, the Customs House is credited with being most frequently employed as an accessory. One of the commercial tricks is to bring in a stolen automobile, have it seized by the Customs authorities for non-payment of duty, and then sell it. The vendor induces his client to believe the car is a regularly seized machine and is due to be sold by auction, as is done from time to time with cars seized in the course of smuggling raids. The vendor informs his client that thanks to a "pull" with someone in the Customs House, he can have the car sold by private treaty at a very low rate, instead of having to bid for it at the auction.

Then he takes his client to the Customs House, procures for him the bill for customs duty and expenses of seizure. The client pays the bill, thinking he is buying the car, receives a receipt for taxes, and thinks he has got a title to the car. The day after he has driven the car home, the man who has negotiated the business reports to the interested insurance company that the stolen car they are looking for is at a certain address, and procures a reward for the information. The victim has no alternative but to hand over the car when claimed by the insurance people, as his receipt for taxes is no evidence of having bought the car.

Many and varied are the systems that are said to have been employed to get liquor out of bonded warehouses by other than the strictly legitimate methods.

A Q.L.C. investigator tells of having found a door on a bonded liquor warehouse, in which the heavy padlock was fitted to a staple which was made in two pieces, held together by a little pin. The staple had evidently been specially manufactured for the purpose by the locksmith, and appeared to have been built into the door when the warehouse was built, or at least when that door was put on, with the preconceived idea of serving an unlawful purpose at some future date.

—Montreal Star.

STORE DEPARTMENT

WHOLE WHEAT FLOUR
Half Barrels and Barrels.
ROLLED OATS
Half Barrels and Barrels.
CANADIAN OATMEAL
Half Barrels
GOLD DUST TABLE CORN MEAL
Barrels and Sacks.
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WEATHER STRIPPING
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IN GOOD VARIETY.

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The "DAINTY" Box of 12 75c.
The "GOODWILL" Box of 12 1.00

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13c. 25c. 35c. 50c.

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NUTS, RAISINS, DATES, FIGS, CRYSTALLIZED
GINGER CHUNKS, CRYSTALLIZED FRUIT,
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CAKE:—Sultana, Cherry, Plain and Fruit.

Hughes
REGT

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FANCY BISCUITS
and
SHORTBREAD.

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To arrive by S. S. "SACHEM:"

CHUMS,
QUIVER
LITTLE FOLKS,
TINY TOTS,
BRITISH GIRLS' ANNUAL,
BRITISH BOYS' ANNUAL,
BO-PEEP,
CASSELL'S CHILDREN'S ANNUAL.
Send your orders now.

CHINA DEPARTMENT

When your friends call you'll need

COFFEE CUPS & SAUCERS

TUMBLERS, WINE GLASSES, GLASS JUGS,
SHERBET GLASSES, CHAMPAGNE GLASSES,
LIQUEUR GLASSES.



In the last story wasn't Danny Fox trying to get in dear Uncle Lucky's red-shingled house on the corner of Lettuce Avenue and Carrot Street? Of course, he was, and at the same time trying to make believe he was somebody else. But thanks to Little Miss Mousie, the old gentleman rabbit's tiny housekeeper, he hadn't fooled nice Uncle Lucky. No siree, not the least little bit.

"Who are you?" again asked the old gentleman rabbit, with a wink at Little Miss Mousie, and then in a whisper, "If I can only keep him standing outside for a few minutes longer, the good Policeman Dog will arrive, armed with his stout hickory stick and his silver badge."

"It's very cold out here," answered Danny Fox. "Besides, I'm afraid the bottle of liniment which I've brought with me to cure your rheumatism will be frozen."

"Tell me who you are?" replied Uncle Lucky. "Have you a calling card with you? If so, shove it under the door."

"My fingers are too cold to pick one out of my pocket," answered the sly old fox. Dear me, but he was a crafty old fellow. Mighty good thing Little Miss Mousie had told the old gentleman rabbit that the old fox robber

was standing outside. Well, I guess yes three times.

"Then tell me your name," answered Uncle Lucky, trying hard not to get impatient. And I would hardly blame him if he did grow angry. Who ever heard of a person refusing to give his name when calling. But, thanks to his good mother, the dear old gentleman rabbit had been taught when a boy to govern his temper. Would you mind trying to follow his example, dear little reader? It will please your loving mother. Yes, indeed.

"If you don't open the door mighty quick," snarled Danny Fox, "I'll break in,"

"Oh, dear," shivered Little Miss Mousie, growing pale at this dreadful threat.

"Be careful what you do," answered brave Uncle Lucky. "People who break into houses must reckon with the law."

"I don't care a snap for the law," growled Danny Fox, and the next minute crash! went one of the little side glass windows. Then thrusting his paw through the open space the crafty old fox felt around for the latch. But, Hurrah! for Little Miss Mousie.

Quick as a wink she brought down on the hairy paw a rolling pin. My, what a whack!

"Ouch!" yelled the old fox, pulling back his foot. The next minute a pair of handcuffs were slipped over both his front paws and the good Policeman Dog's voice shouted,



She brought down on the hairy paw a rolling pin. My what a whack!

"Now I have you, Danny Fox. I'll lock you up in the big jail box. Yes, there you'll stay until you are good. With nothing but bread and water for food."

"Well, well, well, you arrived just in time," laughed brave Uncle Lucky opening the door. "I must see that you get a gold medal. I don't know of any one in all Rabbitland who does as much good as you."

"Only doing my duty," answered the kind old dog, as he led Danny Fox away. And in the next story you shall hear what happened after that.

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THREE FLOWERS FACE POWDER
The Face Powder that is Different
Having the Particularly Desirable
Quality of Adhesiveness and per-
fumed with the Distinctive and
Appealing odor of Three Flowers
in All Popular Shades

Measuring Height by Electricity

A new instrument which measures altitude electrically, about eight times as accurately as the ordinary barometer, to a height of at least one mile, has been devised by Drs. Huguenard, Magnan and Planiol. French physicists, and was recently shown before the Paris Academy of Sciences, we

are told by Science Services' Daily Science News Bulletin (Washington). We read:

"The apparatus is based on the fact that a heated object cools off much more quickly in dense air than in very thin air or near-vacuum, because in a near-vacuum there is very little matter to conduct or convey the heat away. When once this balance is attained, the density of the surrounding atmosphere can be deduced. It is a well-known fact that the electrical resistance of the wire itself changes with the temperature. A variation in the density of the air will therefore cause a variation in the intensity of the electric current; and this fluctuation can be used to measure the altitude, since the density varies according to the distance above sea-level."

COUGHING!
Take half a teaspoon of
Minard's internally in mo-
lasses. Eases the throat,
stops the cough.

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"KING OF PAIN"
LINIMENT

AT THE SHOP WITH THE CUP & SAUCER SIGN.

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XMAS GIFTS

THE VERY LATEST IN
ENGLISH DECORATED POTTERY—
ROSE BOWLS,
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Attempt to Murder Charge

LAI'D AGAINST MONTREAL MAN
ALLEGED TO HAVE OPENED
GAS METER.

MONTREAL, Dec. 23.—Charged with attempting to murder his wife, his two children and two women boarders, by opening the gas meter in his home while they were asleep, Napoleon Decourcelles, 32, Everette Street, was ar-

raigned in the Police Court before Judge Cusson, who set preliminary inquiry for December 30.
The complaint was laid by Mrs. Germaine Decourcelles, who had almost completely recovered from the effects of the gas poisoning. She was the first of the five sleepers to awake. She managed to crawl from the house and raise the alarm. Detectives carried the other victims out, all of whom were unconscious.

Ask for Stafford's Ginger Wine.—dec26.1f

—By Bud Fisher

MUTT AND JEFF

JEFF, THE LION TAMERS ARE GONNA PLAY RED GRANGE'S FOOTBALL TEAM TODAY AND IF WE CAN STOP RED DEAD IN HIS TRACKS OUR NAMES WILL BE SPREAD ACROSS EVERY SPORTING PAGE IN THE COUNTRY!



ALL I CAN SAY IS THAT IF RED CROSSES OUR GOAL LINE IT WILL BE OVER MY DEAD BODY! ON WITH THE GAME.



IF HE BREAKS FROM THE FIELD I'M A TEN SECOND MAN AND I'LL TACKLE HIM FROM THE REAR WHILE YOU TACKLE HIM IN FRONT.



HERE COMES RED! THE FIRST SHOT OUT OF THE BOX! NOW TO COVER MYSELF WITH GLORY!



RED WHEN WE GET THROUGH WITH YOU YOUR REPUTATION WON'T BE WORTH A PLUGGED NICKEL!



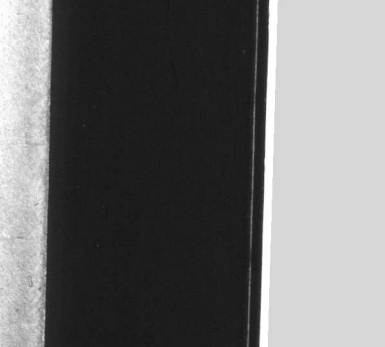
COME TO PAPA'S ARMS YOU 'PHANTOM GHOST'! TEE HEE!



ATTA BOY, JEFF, NAIL HIM!



CAUTION ME FOR BEING ROUGH, RED, BUT YOU'RE PLAYING WITH ME MEN TODAY!



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