

As it was necessary to present evidence of numerous persons in the United States in connection with the proposed conspiracy charges, arrangements were made whereby evidence was taken before a Rogatory Commission in New York and Newark, N.J. This action was decided upon in view of the expense which would have been involved in bringing such witnesses to give evidence in the Montreal Courts.

Upon conclusion of the investigation, three residents of Montreal were charged, under Section 573 of the Criminal Code of Canada, with conspiracy to defraud the Department of National Revenue of an amount of approximately \$1,700,000.00. The accused appeared for Preliminary Hearing and, on October 22nd, 1934, were committed for trial, appearing the following December in the Court of King's Bench. After a lengthy trial the jury brought in a verdict as follows:

The instigator of the scheme was found guilty on all nine counts contained in the indictment. He was sentenced to serve a term of four years' imprisonment, together with fines amounting to \$500.00; in default of payment, to serve an additional term of imprisonment amounting to two years and three months.

One of the accused was convicted of eight of the charges. He was sentenced to a term of imprisonment similar to that imposed on the instigator. In addition, to pay a fine of \$300.00, or in default of payment, to serve a term of one year and three months, to commence at the date of the expiration of the previous sentence.

The third man was found guilty on four counts only. He was sentenced to serve a term of imprisonment for one year. In addition, to pay a fine of \$200.00, or in default of payment, to serve a term of one year and three months; sentences to run consecutively.

At the conclusion of the hearing, the presiding Judge commented very favourably upon the manner in which this case had been presented by members of the Force.

An appeal was entered by the defence and was heard by the Court of Appeals in Montreal on November 19th, 1935. Judgment was handed down on November 27th dismissing the appeal—the decision of the Judges being unanimous.

The defendants were granted leave to appeal in the Supreme Court of Canada and the case was argued at Ottawa on May 7th and 8th, 1936, judgment being handed down on May 27th dismissing the appeal and upholding the original sentences.

* * *

Information was received recently at one of our Detachments in Manitoba to the effect that the wife of a farmer in the district had been found brutally murdered. It was also reported that the husband was absent from the farm at the time and that the son, aged five, was missing. A patrol immediately left for the scene of the crime, where it was found that the woman had been killed, obvious indications disclosing that murder had been committed.