



Recent Cases . . .

R. v. Moses

Illegal Sale of Drugs—Woman Undercover Agent traps Elusive Narcotics Pedlar

DURING the last few months of 1953 the illegal drug trafficking business had been going badly for Kenneth Moses. His peddling organization had fallen apart with the recent arrests of three of his best men—not to mention the loss in drugs and money involved in each instance. As a result of these unforeseen misfortunes and the fact that his girl friend, Norene Wardrop, was the only one left he could trust, he decided that with her assistance he would peddle his narcotics directly to the addicts himself.

Members of the RCMP Drug Squad in Edmonton were pleased to receive this information concerning Moses, as it had long been known that he was the chief supplier of narcotics in the Edmonton area and all previous attempts to obtain sufficient evidence against him had failed. Immediate action was taken by the Police to cultivate new contacts in order to keep abreast of this latest development, and one investigator was successful in obtaining the services of a female undercover agent who was anxious to assist in any way possible to obtain the evidence necessary to convict Moses. This woman, a recent arrival in Edmonton, was considered suitable for the job because of her disreputable appearance and willingness to carry out any instructions with little regard for her personal safety. Before arrangements could be made to have the informant contact the pedlar, considerable time was given to schooling her in the vernacular and manners

of a common street-walker, and the habits of drug addicts. For her own protection she was warned against allowing anyone to give her a "fix"; her excuse would be that being afraid of detection, she wished to avoid as much as possible associations with addicts and would administer the drugs to herself in the privacy of her own room. Arrangements were also completed for her to communicate at any time of the day or night with the Police investigator.

The time had now come to introduce the agent to the underworld characters who, it was hoped, would lead her to Kenneth Moses, so on Mar. 17, 1954 she was sent into a low-class cafe in Edmonton with instructions to strike up a suitable conversation with an addict who had been previously pointed out. Everything seemed to go well and after spending the whole afternoon with the addict the woman reported that she had made a good impression and arrangements had been made for her to make a "purchase" that evening. Later while she did not meet Moses personally, she witnessed a "buy" made on her behalf and turned over a capsule, which proved to be heroin, to the Police.

The agent was given a further supply of marked money and during the course of the next three or four days was successful in contacting Moses several times and making a "purchase". In each case a capsule of heroin was safely delivered to the investigator. In one attempt to