

The suspects insisted that they were innocent, but after a lengthy interrogation they finally confessed, and stated that they would plead guilty to: Stealing Motor Car at Oak Lake, Man., s. 377, Cr. Code; two charges, Breaking, Entering and Theft at Oak Lake, Sask., s. 460, Cr. Code; one charge, Breaking, Entering and Theft at Stornoway, Sask., s. 460, Cr. Code; one charge, Theft of Licence Plates at Stornoway, Sask., s. 386, Cr. Code; one charge, Breaking, Entering and Theft at Rama, Sask., s. 460, Cr. Code; one charge, Shop Breaking with Intent, at Margo, Sask., s. 461, Cr. Code; two charges, Breaking, Entering and Theft at Rose Valley, Sask., s. 460, Cr. Code; one charge, Breaking, Entering and Theft at Lac Vert, Sask., s. 460, Cr. Code.

Burachinski, the owner of the farm, also admitted being in possession of

goods well knowing them to have been stolen, which he had received from Bodnar and Hyland.

The accused appeared at Yorkton, Sask., before Police Magistrate S. H. Potter on September 8. Bodnar was convicted and sentenced to serve, in all, three years in the Saskatchewan Penitentiary; Hyland was sentenced to two years less one day in Regina Common Jail; Burachinski was sentenced to seven days in Prince Albert Jail, and ordered to pay a fine of \$200 or in default to serve an additional nine months in jail.

Had it not been for the police radio bulletin, and the alertness and cooperation of the young woman who notified the police where the wanted men were, there is every likelihood that these criminals would have eluded capture.

### R. v. Dennison

#### *National Mobilization Act—Conscientious Objector—Failure to Report— Refusal to Help Country in War Time*

When Oliver Dennison, a resident of South Hull, Quebec, underwent medical examination for military service he was classed in category 'A'. On the same date, Jan. 23, 1942, the Department of National War Services received a letter from him in which he stated he was a conscientious objector. His case was investigated, and on March 30, he was recognized by the Administrative Board as a *bona fide* conscientious objector. He was accordingly ordered to report for alternative service in forestry work at Petawawa on June 30.

When Dennison failed to comply, members of the R.C.M.P. made inquiries and learned that he had no intention of helping his country in any form of war work because his religious beliefs would not permit him. Investigation disclosed also that the whole family were strong conscientious objectors. The father stated that he would sooner see his son shot than have him take part in

the war or war effort—and, more specifically, "They can kill the body but they can't kill the soul. That belongs to God."

On September 2, Dennison appeared in Hull, Que., before District Magistrate D. H. Achim charged with Failing to Report s. 20, para. 9 (a), National War Services Regulations. He pleaded guilty and was ordered to pay a fine of \$50 and costs of \$8.55, or in default to serve one month in jail at hard labour. The fine was paid.

Before passing sentence, His Worship remarked that the accused had apparently read a lot in the Bible upon which he had placed his own interpretation. No-one in Canada, he said, wanted war, yet if Hitler were in this country he would not be much concerned about anyone's conscience or the body which contained it; although the authorities in Canada didn't force anyone to take