

intimated that no formal charges had been drawn up against the pair at that time but that murder counts would be laid against them upon their return to Buffalo. The American investigators requested Hamilton Police to pick up the suspects on a nominal charge if possible, and then they would apply for extradition.

O'Dell and Griffen were arrested during the early morning of December 11 and booked for vagrancy. They were later identified by the witnesses and the same day appeared in Magistrate's Court and were remanded for one week. Date for the extradition hearing was set for Jan. 16, 1953. Proceedings, heard before Justice R. W. Treleaven of Hamilton lasted two days, during which time Mrs. Hurd, wife of the victim, testified that

O'Dell had fired the fatal shot. At the conclusion of the hearing, Mr. Treleaven ordered the men extradited to the U.S., but granted them 15 days to appeal his decision.

The appeal was turned down, however, and the two were taken to Buffalo on Feb. 9, 1953 under heavy escort. They were subsequently convicted of first degree murder and were executed at Sing Sing Prison, Ossining, N.Y., on Jan. 7, 1954.

The day prior to the execution, one of the doomed men, Griffen, authorized that his eyes be given to the Buffalo Eye Bank and Research Society, Inc., after his death. Certain types of blindness can now be cured by cornea transplants, and several convicted killers have donated their eyes for this purpose.

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Observant Hotel Men Lauded For Voicing Suspicions To Police Concerning Five Strangers

ON July 7, 1953, Martin Youngdahl of Oakes, North Dakota, U.S.A., had his 1953 Ford sedan stolen in Swift Current, Sask.

A member of the Redcliff, Alta., Town Police telephoned the RCMP detachment at Medicine Hat at 9.15 a.m. July 9, 1953 to advise that someone had broken into Bill's Repair Shop in Redcliff sometime during the night and committed a theft.

The opening ceremonies of the restored Saskatchewan Landing Bridge—destroyed by ice floes in April 1952—were conducted on July 9, 1953 with more than a dozen members of the RCMP on hand to aid in the officiation.

Except for the fact that only two days separated these incidents, there is little to indicate that the three could have been connected in any way. However, by delving a little deeper into the facts behind each, we find an interesting little yarn which was touched upon briefly in the last issue of *The Quarterly* in an

article entitled "The Saskatchewan Landing Bridge—A Sequel". Taking these incidents one by one from an investigation point of view, here's how the story evolved:

When Mr. Youngdahl notified the Swift Current City Police on July 7 that his vehicle had been stolen, members of that force quickly notified the RCMP detachment giving the particulars of the car including the North Dakota licence plate number. From the Swift Current Sub-Division in turn, a radio broadcast containing the details was issued to all parts of the province.

Two days later, Redcliff Town Police requested the assistance of the Force to investigate a break-in at Bill's Repair Shop in which six new mantel radios and \$2 in silver had been taken. Subsequently, this crime was reported to both the Medicine Hat City Police and Lethbridge Sub-Division of the Mounted Police.

Then at noon on July 9, shortly before the opening ceremonies at the new bridge