

asked for breakfast. While eating, they told their host they were plain-clothes policemen and that they were looking for the murderers of two of their comrades. All three carried revolvers. One wore a policeman's belt with cartridge pouch, and another displayed a large hunting knife. Some time after they had left, Peraluk reported the visit to Pelly RCMP Detachment but the impersonators were nowhere to be found.

The trail of the suspects now led to Preeceville, some fifty miles west of Arran, where they had stopped at a service station for gas and oil. Since police cars were unmarked in those days there was no way of identifying them as such. That evening the trio attended a Saturday country dance in neighboring Ketchikan. This led Metcalfe to believe the killers were still in the area, perhaps moving along the many country back roads where the car was not easily spotted. In ordering all border area detachments to take part in the search he warned members to exercise the utmost care when approaching and stopping cars. He knew the quarry. He had seen the blood-soaked bodies of the victims.

Good advice, "Hutch" Hutchinson and I agreed as we set out on the manhunt from nearby Calder Detachment. But how do you go about heeding it? The moment you signal a car to stop you become a potential target.

Monday night, three days after the killings, Thomas Staples, gateman at the east entrance to Banff National Park, phoned the Banff RCMP Detachment and reported that three suspicious-looking men in a Manitoba licensed car had just sought entrance to the park, but had turned around and left when he asked them a few routine questions.

While a police patrol consisting of Sergeant Tom Wallace, Constables Grey Campbell, G. E. "Nipper" Coombe, and C. C. "Scotty" Harrison

was preparing to leave, a second call came from Staples reporting the armed robbery of a Calgary couple a few miles east of the park gate. C. T. Scott, a travelling salesman, and his wife were on their way to Banff when a man waving a flashlight signalled them to stop. Three men were standing beside a car with a Manitoba license plate that was parked on the side of the highway.

One of them asked Scott if he would let them have some gas. He told them they were welcome to some if they had some way of getting it out of his tank. Feeling somewhat uneasy, Scott had stuffed his wallet containing \$85 down the back of the car seat. One of the men suddenly produced a revolver and ordered the couple out of their car, demanding their money. Scott handed over all the money he had in his pocket — \$10. Another of the trio grabbed Mrs. Scott's purse.

One of the robbers said, "What'll we do with them?" The Scotts spent some terrifying moments while the trio conferred in a foreign language. Eventually they were allowed to drive away.

Police cars were now converging on the area from surrounding detachments but the first to make contact with the killers was the Banff detail. They came upon a car with bright headlights parked on the side of the road at a point near where the robbery had taken place a short time earlier. Wallace and Harrison, both in plain clothes, advanced to within a few yards of the car where they were met by a fusillade of gunshots.

Although both were struck down by bullets, they were able to return the fire. Harrison crawled into the roadside ditch and kept on firing. He shot out both headlights, which were shining on Wallace who was staggering back to the police car for more ammunition.

Coombe and Campbell had by this time entered the gunfight, which con-