



Smoke

Buckingham

They're "Throat Easy"

A knock on the door aroused him. His visitor, a masked man with a rifle, speaking in French, demanded the money. When Dube denied having any, he was struck over the head with the rifle barrel and knocked down. He jumped up and ran outside, hoping to reach his neighbours and get help.

But the stranger overtook him on the road, knocked him down again and searched his pockets. In the struggle, Dube tore the mask loose, but owing to the darkness he was unable to recognize his attacker who dragged him back to the house and beat him mercilessly. The man fired two shots—one struck the floor perilously close to Dube's head—, pulled the shoes off Dube's feet, and departed. The complainant managed to reach one of his neighbours who phoned the R.C.M.P. Grand Falls Detachment. Dube, who was in a very serious condition from shock and wounds, was taken to the hospital for treatment shortly afterwards.

In the complainant's home the investigators found blood-stains on the walls and floor, and an empty 30.30 rifle shell which had a peculiar indentation on the cap indicating that the firing pin of the rifle was bent—that it did not strike the cap in the centre and left a flattened and worn-out appearance. At the spot where the outside struggle had taken place they found a large pool of blood. Near-by was a striped blue workman's cap of the type worn by railroad men, and two unexpended 30.30 cartridges.

A check-up of all registered 30.30 rifles in the vicinity failed to reveal any with a bent firing pin, but one man informed his interviewers that Thomas Damase Beaulieu, who bore a shady reputation and who had been a trouble-maker in the neighbourhood for several years, had a rifle of that calibre.

Questioned at his home, Beaulieu denied having a 30.30 rifle, and when shown the workman's cap said it wasn't his. His questioners noticed a pair of