R. v. Trinder

Fingerprints at Scene of Crime Costly to Young Offender

hen Stanley Gerald Trinder broke into the Doris Service Station at Willingdon, Alta., one night last September, he neglected to consider one important phase of police work that could lead to his apprehension, and this eventually cost him three years of his freedom.

It was 7.30 a.m. September 15 when the proprietor of the garage notified the RCMP detachment at Andrew, Alta., that someone had broken into his premises during the night and made off with \$166 worth of merchandise including a 300-pound safe containing \$35 in cash and business documents.

According to the garage lessee, he had returned with his wife from Edmonton shortly before 2 a.m.—the morning of the offence—to pick up a supply of cigarettes he had in his office, and at that time, everything was in perfect order. While he was inside, his wife, sitting in the car, recalled seeing a latemodel car pass the service station, but thought nothing of it at the time.

Police investigation disclosed latent

fingerprints on the shattered glass from a window in the service door which had been used to gain entry, and also on two filing cabinets that had been on top of the safe. These prints were lifted by Identification Branch members from Edmonton and preserved at division headquarters.

Thirteen days later—on September 28
—Trinder and three companions were arrested by an RCMP constable at Ryley, Alta., under suspicious circumstances. Trinder was taken to Edmonton in connection with other offences and finger-printed, and it was discovered that his prints corresponded to those found inside the garage at Willingdon. He readily admitted the offence when confronted with this evidence.

Appearing before Police Magistrate A. Simpson at Edmonton on Oct. 6, 1953, Trinder pleaded guilty to a charge of shop breaking and theft laid by the garage proprietor and was sentenced to serve a three-year term for his crime at the Prince Albert Penitentiary in Saskatchewan.

International Police Co-operation Leads to Early Arrest of Two Canadians Wanted for Murder in Buffalo, N.Y.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police led recently to the apprehension and subsequent conviction of two Canadians wanted for first degree murder in the American city.

Donald F. Hurd, 45, was shot and killed during a daring daylight hold-up of his Buffalo jewellery shop on Dec. 9, 1952 that netted the culprits nearly \$30,000 in jewels.

Believing the suspects to have slipped

into Canada, three Buffalo police officers visited the RCMP detachment at Hamilton the following day accompanied by two men who claimed they could identify the culprits. Members of the Hamilton City Police were also in attendance, and from the descriptions furnished by the two witnesses RCMP and Hamilton Police were able to name the suspects as Maurice O'Dell and Walter Griffen, both from southern Ontario.

Buffalo officers were briefed on the provisions of the Extradition Act. They