

launched a cross appeal not only against the sentence imposed on Young but against those imposed on McQueen and Posner, holding that in view of the large amount of narcotics involved in the case and because there was no evidence that either Young or McQueen was an addict he believed a more substantial sentence should have been given.

The appeal was heard at Victoria, B.C., on Oct. 2, 1945, before C. H. O'Halloran, C.J., and H. I. Bird and H. B. Robertson, JJ. McQueen was represented by C. L. McAlpine of Vancouver.

On October 12 the court granted the Crown's cross appeal against McQueen

and Young by increasing the original sentences from three to five years' imprisonment, but dismissed that in the case of Posner on the grounds that the notice of appeal had not been served within the proper statutory limitation.

On October 15 the prisoners appeared before Judge J. O. Wilson and jury at the assizes in Vancouver to answer to the charge under the Opium and Narcotic Drug Act. It was decided by Crown counsel that in view of the appeal court's decision in the conspiracy charges, he would not go ahead with the drug charges. He therefore requested leave to enter a stay of proceedings which was granted.

### R. v. Teale

#### *Murder—Crime Detection Laboratory—Court Lauds Investigators*

In mid-afternoon of Nov. 17, 1944, a farmer notified the R.C.M.P. at Melfort, Sask., that there was a dead man in an automobile which was parked near Naisberry corner, an intersection on the market road north of Naisberry, Sask. He had noticed the car on the edge of the road at 2.30 p.m., but had given no further thought to it until nearly an hour later when, while driving back along the same road, he saw it again in exactly the same position and place and thinking something might be wrong stopped to investigate.

The body was identified as that of Alexander John Vansickle, a 65-year-old farmer of the district. The coroner, in his preliminary examination of it, believing lacerations on the face and neck to have been caused by the head striking inside fittings of the car, attributed death to heart failure. Police investigation next day, however, established that the deceased had been shot in the neck and in the back; two expended .22 calibre rifle bullets—one found on the seat of the car, the other adhering to one of two blood-stained blankets which had served as a seat covering—indicated the type of weapon that had been used.

News of the crime spread quickly and several people came forward and volunteered information, chiefly regarding Vansickle's movements up to when he was last seen alive, through which it was possible to fix the time of the murder as being shortly before 1 p.m. of November 17. About this same time a young man in R.C.A.F. uniform was seen crossing a field in the vicinity of Naisberry corner, and following this lead the investigators questioned a number of airmen in Melfort one of whom was Ernest William Teale. This young man who had sergeant chevrons on his tunic asked why he was being interviewed, and upon being told the reason promised to help the police all he could.

In the evening of that day (November 18), a farmer named Percy Price called at the R.C.M.P. detachment office and stated that at about 1 o'clock on the afternoon of the murder he had stopped his truck a few miles out and picked up a young airman carrying a dunnage bag and driven him into Melfort. On his way out of the building after making this report Price passed the airman of whom he had just been talking, so he turned and followed him into the police office