

with the situation, and an indication of the serious view taken of this particular type of crime by the courts, may be gained from the exemplary sentences imposed in connection with a recent drug store hold-up in Vancouver.

In the morning of Apr. 9, 1945, three men entered the Kitsilano Drug Co. drug store in Vancouver, produced guns and announcing that it was a hold-up forced the druggist and his woman assistant to lie on the floor of the dispensary. One took approximately \$45 from the sub-post office, while another demanded the whereabouts of the narcotics. In their haste they succeeded in getting only a small quantity of powdered opium, though they took a drawer full of assorted medicines which they believed to be narcotics. They departed in a stolen car driven by a fourth man.

Ten minutes later the R.C.M.P. Vancouver Detachment was notified, but before any action could be taken another report was received regarding a collision between two automobiles on Burrard St. Four men had fled from the car responsible for the accident, and it was believed that they were the bandits.

R.C.M.P. investigators joined members of the City Police at the scene of the accident and learned that the car which had been struck was a Provincial Government vehicle whose sole occupant at the time was Game Warden R. King.

The Mounted Police and City Police cooperated in the ensuing search during which two suspects were picked up

several blocks from where the automobiles had collided. These two men, Victor Seibel and Peter Ogloff, were subsequently identified by King and others who had witnessed the accident as being two of the four who had been in the stolen car. The druggist and his assistant recognized Seibel as one of the three hold-up men.

Seibel and Ogloff appeared for trial in County Court on May 28, 1945, before Judge R. Sargent and were charged with: Possession of Opium, s. 4 (d), Opium and Narcotic Drug Act (jointly); Robbery with Violence, s. 446 (a), Cr. Code, and Theft of Auto, s. 377, Cr. Code. Defence counsel was H. Richmond, while the prosecution was conducted by W. E. Haskins of the firm of Wismer & Wismer on the first charge and by S. J. Remnant, city Crown prosecutor, on the last two charges. Both accused pleaded not guilty but were convicted.

Seibel was sentenced: on the first charge to six years' imprisonment and a fine of \$200 or in default to serve three additional months' imprisonment; on the second charge to six years' imprisonment and ten lashes, and on the last charge to six years' imprisonment. Ogloff was sentenced: on the first charge to three years' imprisonment and a fine of \$200 or in default to serve three additional months' imprisonment, and on the other two charges to three years' imprisonment. The terms of imprisonment in all cases were to run concurrently.

### Picture Credits

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