



Asst. Commr. Z. T. Wood who commanded the Force in the Yukon.

Immediately Assistant Commissioner Wood wired Comptroller White again, this time requesting information about Constantin and Beaudoin. Colonel White dispatched Cst. A. Marcoux of the Dominion Police Force to Quebec. It was learned that Beaudoin, 23, of St. Evariste, Que., left Montreal June 4 in company with Constantin, 41, of Montreal, en route to Vancouver by train and then north to the Yukon. Constantin was also reported to be carrying about \$400 in cash, but it could not be determined the amount carried by the younger man.

As most voyagers to the Yukon entered by way of Skagway and Whitehorse, a wire was also sent to the NWMP detachment at the latter point from Dawson to see if there was any record of Leon Bouthillette having passed through. The reply narrowed the search down considerably. Five Frenchmen—Bouthillette, Constantin, Beaudoin, Forrest and Ladoceur—had left Whitehorse en route to Dawson June 16 in a small boat registered number 3744 by Constable Curry.

Inquiries moved back to Dawson and it was discovered that boats 3743, 3745

and 3746 had arrived safely, but no trace could be found of boat 3744. All river detachments of the Force were advised to search every nook and cove for the missing craft and on July 19, Cst. "Pat" Egan succeeded in locating it tied up at Klondike City near Dawson. Fastened to a stake, the boat appeared to have been abandoned there for some time in view of the amount of water in it. A spliced oar, tin cup, gunny sack marked "Rook Bros." and a small piece of rope were the only contents. The craft was towed back to Dawson, photographed and put in safekeeping in the detachment storage building.

Now the search began for the four men believed responsible for the murder of Leon Bouthillette—Alphonse Constantin, Guy Beaudoin, Peter Forrest and Louis Ladoceur. All NWMP personnel in the Dawson-Whitehorse areas were put to work on some phase of the case in addition to their regular duties, but certain men were detailed to work on the case full-time. Named in charge of the overall investigations under direct authority of Assistant Commissioner Wood and Inspector Routledge was Sgt. Frank Smith whose normal job was head of the Dawson Town Station Detachment. Sergeant Smith was extremely fortunate in having under his command on the town detail a man who understood and was thoroughly conversant in both English and French in the person of Cst. James Henry Burns. Constable Burns was immediately ordered to "hang up" his uniform for the time being and—dressed in civilian clothes—mingle with the French-speaking population in the Dawson area to see what he could uncover about the four men.

Cpl. John Storm Piper, who was to become one of the most successful detec-