

other forged ration documents and some rubber stamps, stamp pads and kindred material of the forger's stock-in-trade.

Similar incriminating accessories were seized from Comeau who in a confession of guilt divulged the names of different merchants to whom he had sold cheques to the value of 90,000 coupons.

Now aware of the situation the Ration Administration placed a freezing order on Dubuc's entire butter stock, amounting to some 10,000 lbs., and transferred it to the refrigerators of the Cooperative Federal through which it was re-routed into the legitimate market.

These developments proved to be the thin edge of the wedge in the investigation. One arrest led to another and signed confessions were obtained also from Dubuc, Collette, Sabourin, Houle and his brother Benoit, Tousignant and his brother Bernardin, Brouillette, Page, Marius Veillette and Henri Loranger, both of St. Thomas de Caxton, Egide Bergeron a creamery owner and operator of Louiseville, Que., Georges Bergeron, Repentigny, Que., Arsene Keroack creamery operator of Notre Dame de Standbridge, Que., Philippe Lebeau of Montreal, Georges Crevier butter merchant of Montreal, and others.

Charged with breaches of the W.P. T.B. Regs., order 464, in some instances under p.c. 8528 and in others p.c. 8528 and 4714, the accused came up for trial at different places. All pleaded guilty and were ordered to pay fines ranging

from \$7,000 and costs in the case of Dubuc to \$25 and costs. Comeau was sentenced to three months' imprisonment and a fine of \$2,000 and costs. In addition, he and Lariviere pleaded guilty to Uttering Forged Documents, s. 467 Cr. Code, Lariviere being sentenced to 23 days' imprisonment, Comeau to two months' imprisonment concurrent with the term imposed under the W.P.T.B. Regs. All fines and costs were paid with the exception of that, amounting to \$500, of Lariviere who in default served three months in jail.

Though no exact estimate can be given of the amount of butter and sugar diverted into the black market through the misuse of bank ration documents, bogus and genuine, in this case, described by the Court as a "black market of the blackest nature", the exhibits held by the investigators indicated that about a million and a half pounds of butter alone had definitely passed through other than lawful channels. Had not the activities of this crime been curtailed the entire system of the prices board in butter and sugar might have been jeopardized.

Many hours of painstaking effort were put in by those who tracked down and unravelled the threads of this complex investigation. In the light of the case's successful conclusion, one is moved to reflect on the truth of these words of Sir Walter Scott, especially as they apply to Dubuc: "Oh, what a tangled web we weave, when first we practice to deceive".

R. v. Juteau

Public Mischief—Common Law—Missing Persons

Down in Spryfield, N.S., a 16-year-old girl disappeared from her home on Mar. 29, 1947. The matter was reported to the R.C.M.P. and several leads were followed without result. There was no great concern for the young lady's safety, however, as it was believed that she had run away with her boy friend, Bernard Oakley, son of a neighbour farmer. But on April 25, a new angle of inquiry was

injected in the case when a man who identified himself as the girl's father, Ralph John Juteau, phoned the R.C.M.P. detachment at Halifax, N.S.

"You will find Bernard Oakley and Marie in the swamp", he announced. "I murdered both of them."

With that he closed off.

Juteau was located, questioned at length, and finally admitted that he was