

before Police Magistrate L. R. Jackson, K.C., and pleaded guilty to a charge of Acquiring Gasoline Ration Coupons, Oil Order No. 12, Wartime Prices and Trade Board Regulations. Defence counsel was F. Jackson; prosecuting counsel was W. S. Ross who discharged that office during all the hearings arising out of this case. Shiel was ordered to pay a fine of \$300 and costs or in default to serve six months in jail. The fine and costs were paid.

On June 8 Silkie appeared before the same court and, with J. H. Ogilvie, K.C., conducting the defence, pleaded guilty to: (1) Unlawfully Obtaining Gasoline Ration Coupons; (2) Selling Gasoline Ration Coupons, Oil Order No. 12, W.P.T.B. Regs. He was ordered to pay a fine of \$3,000 and costs or in default to serve one year in jail. He entered an appeal which in District Court, Edmonton, on September 24 before Judge L. Dubuc was upheld, the sentence being

altered to a fine of \$1,500 or in default to a term of one year in jail. Fine and costs were paid.

The facts of the case had been communicated to the British Columbia Provincial Police and that force had arrested Humen and turned him over to members of the R.C.M.P. on May 29. He was escorted back to Edmonton where, like his confederates, he appeared before Police Magistrate L. R. Jackson, his trial taking place on June 26 with N. D. Maclean, K.C., conducting the defence. Humen was convicted of Illegally Receiving Gasoline Coupons, Oil Controller Regulations, P.C. 8528, and ordered to pay a fine of \$2,000 and costs or in default to serve nine months in jail. He too entered an appeal and on October 12 Judge L. Dubuc reduced the fine to \$750 in default of which he was to serve nine months in jail. The fine and costs were paid.

R. v. McQueen et al

Conspiracy—Opium and Narcotic Drug Act—Questioned Document Examination—Precedent Established in Dealing with Recalcitrant Witness—Appeal—Sentences Increased

These prosecutions, in what has been labelled by the press as "the case of the narcotic slipper" because an innocent-looking pair of foot-wear was used to ship drugs from Toronto to Vancouver, mark the climax of one phase of investigative effort to check the illicit drug trade in this country.

Early in December, 1944, members of the R.C.M.P. Drug Squad at Vancouver, B.C., learned that Aaron "Butch" Posner of that city was trafficking in narcotics. His activities were kept under close observation and, when after making a trip to Toronto, Ont., he arrived back by plane on Jan. 11, 1945, it was believed that he brought some illicit drugs with him. Efforts to locate him were unsuccessful, but inquiries at the express offices on Jan. 14, 1945, disclosed that a package had been shipped from Toronto four days

previously, addressed to Mr. A. E. Young at a rooming house in down town Vancouver, and the investigators had reason to believe that Posner was the sender.

Examination of the package in the presence of express office officials revealed that it contained a pair of cheap brown leather slippers and in the toe of one was found a paper container made up of several wrappings inside which was slightly more than an ounce of brownish powder. A small sample of this powder was taken by the investigators for analysis, the remainder replaced in the slipper and the parcel restored to its original condition. Then a member of the narcotic squad, accompanying the regular delivery truck and clad in the cap and coat of an express company employee, delivered the parcel to the rooming house to which it had been addressed.