

an eight-day remand were each sentenced to seven years' imprisonment in Dorchester Penitentiary.

It is of interest to note that Bougie and Gerard intentionally set out upon a career of crime. On the night of April 1 Bougie called on Gerard, who was employed as mechanic in a Montreal garage, to get his truck repaired. There after deciding to throw in their lots together, Bougie stole \$350 from the cash register in the garage's stock-room, and each of them made off with a 1947 Buick automobile. The night watchman of the garage was asleep at the time, but just to make sure that he wouldn't wake up and start shooting at them as they drove away one of the thieves tiptoed over and slipped a revolver from the slumberer's pocket.

The accomplices headed for Quebec City and on the way Bougie's car went out of control and crashed into a ditch. The car was damaged, so the men left it behind and drove on together in the other one. In Quebec City they blew in most of their money on new clothes and, abandoning the second stolen car in a parking lot there, took the midnight train on April 6 for Riviere Du Loup, Que., the following morning continuing on to Edmundston, N.B. In the afternoon of the next day, the one preceding the day of the theatre robbery, Bougie stole from a street in Edmundston the automobile that had been used in their getaway.

A powerful factor in effecting the capture of the criminals was Mrs. Burtt's quick action, for it was only a few minutes from the time the stranger entered the deserted lobby and held her up until the police were notified. When the hold-up man pulled a gun from his coat pocket and demanded that she hand over the money and keep quiet, she replied, "It's not mine", in a desperate effort to stall for time.

"Stop talking and hand it over", he threatened. And when he raised the

weapon she wisely hesitated no longer, and passed the money through the wicket.

Thereupon the gunman fled. However, recovering from her shock and amazement, the ticket seller rushed out to the street in time to see the car pull away from the curb in the direction of the main highway leading to Saint John. Then she hurried back to her office and put in the alarm by telephone.

Often the police are hampered in their investigations because so much time is allowed to elapse before they are told that a crime has been committed. Because it emphasizes the point we tried to make earlier in this account, it is with satisfaction that we reprint and endorse the following editorial comment of the *Saint John Evening Times Globe*:

"Mrs. Kay Burtt has for years been the ticket seller and cashier at a Fredericton theatre. A couple of nights ago, when the lobby was empty, a man entered, held her up at the point of a gun, took \$134 from her, then dashed out again.

"Mrs. Burtt had the presence of mind and the courage to run after him. She saw him jump into a car with another man at the wheel. The machine sped off, Mrs. Burtt couldn't distinguish the numbers on the mud-covered licence plate, but she did get a good description of the vehicle—so good, in fact, that when she telephoned police a moment later, they were able to identify it as one which had been stolen at Edmundston.

"With the chase on, the alarm went out to police elsewhere in the province to watch roads leading away from Fredericton for this particular automobile. Less than three hours after the robbery, R.C.M.P. stopped the car at Westfield, arrested two men, found what was believed to be the gun used in the crime and the loot. The officers who took the alleged hold-up men into custody are to be commended, but the real credit belongs to Mrs. Burtt. If she had lost her head, or had not been quickwitted and observant, the story might have had a far less satisfactory ending."