

difficulty; a third man, trying to flee, was brought down, wounded in the leg, by a Mountie who first fired two warning shots in the air—by which time, presumably, the running fugitive was anything but a close target.

“The whole episode bespeaks cool thinking and fast action on the part of the bank manager and the police. And we hope that the consequences are duly noted by the underworld in metropolitan cities who, emboldened by recent successful robbery coups in other parts of

the Dominion, have evidently been glancing this way with the thought that the pickings down here look ripe, plump and tempting—a region where, they may have thought, it is possible to cash in on the element of surprise because bank breaks are an almost unheard-of occurrence. We hope they realize, too, that lawbreakers rarely have an easy time trying to make their escape across our countryside even if they do succeed in the actual hold-up or break. It is much harder than losing themselves in the melting pot of a big city.”

R. v. Tierney and Casey

Customs Act—Goods Not Declared at Port of Entry Sold by Tender

In the early hours of Jan. 30, 1948, word was received at the R.C.M.P. Grande Prairie, Alta., Detachment that American cigarettes had been sold to the operators of a taxi stand by two strangers and that an attempt to sell 30 cartons elsewhere in the town had failed. Investigation disclosed that Robert Tierney and Thomas Casey, both of Independence, Mo., U.S.A., and registered at a local hotel, answered the taxi drivers' description of the men who had sold the cigarettes.

Believing the guilty parties would have a motor vehicle of some kind, the investigators set out to locate it and presently on a side street came across a two-ton truck bearing an Alaska licence. A seal marked “C.P.R. In bond, Canadian Customs No. 172” was clamped to a chain and lock on the rear door. Examination of the truck led to the discovery of 30 cartons of American cigarettes in the tool box, also that the rear door had been tampered with. It was apparent that by taking off one nut which held the chain in place and loosening another access to the goods inside the truck was possible, and the investigators were suspicious that this had been done.

Tierney and Casey, inquiry showed, were bound for Alaska over the Alaska Highway with the truck load of supplies in bond consigned to Tierney. They surrendered the car keys to the police along with the “In Transit Highway Manifest” they had received upon entering Canada at Coutts, Alta. No cigarettes were listed on the manifest so the truck was impounded and taken to the R.C.M.P. detachment.

Tierney admitted selling cigarettes to the taxi-stand operators, also that he had gained access to the merchandise in the truck in the manner surmised by the police. Further, he admitted that he and his partner had 400 lbs. of fresh frozen pork and about 100 cartons of cigarettes which they hadn't declared when they crossed the border. The pork and some of the cigarettes belonged to Casey.

The accused elected summary trial and on February 2 pleaded guilty before Police Magistrate A. E. Galway at Grande Prairie to Possession of Goods Unlawfully Imported into Canada, s. 217 (3) Customs Act. Each was fined \$200 and costs or in default to serve one year in gaol. The fines and costs were paid. In addition, Tierney in February paid a penalty of \$800 imposed against his