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ACQUITTED OF THEFT
(Continued from page 1)

added: "You know how they do in a beer parlor, go away for a few minutes, then come back again."

"Then when did you leave, witness?"

"I had an appointment at 2:30, I left about 4:30 p.m."

"Did you see Vanderyagt again?" asked Mr. King.

"Yes, I saw him about 5:30 Sunday morning—he was loaded."

"This caper you were going to pull on Mr. Helgerson, did you think he was going to take it as a joke?"

"No—we intended to annoy him. He'd laugh at it afterwards," said McPhail.

Garnet Brush, a Queen Charlotte Island logger, said he also had been drinking at the table. He knew McPhail, he said, and both the accused. He also said there had been talk about a joke to be "pulled on Helgerson."

That evening, Brush said, he had gone to Swanson's place at the Inlander Rooms. There he had found "everybody."

"The room looked odd to me," he said, "there were things scat-

tered all over and everybody was having a big laugh. I stayed about five minutes."

A painter, George Hamilton, said he had been at the Swanson one-room apartment that evening and had seen Swanson and "another stranger" come into the room carrying "many suitcases."

Vanderyagt was in the room at the time, he said.

"The stuff was all over the place, it's not a very big room. I wondered what they were doing with so much luggage. They laughed and said it was a joke."

VARIETY OF ITEMS

Produced in court as exhibits by the crown, were the items alleged to have been stolen—eight black travellers' cases filled with dry goods articles, including men's furnishings, boxed towel sets, belts, ladies' hose, men's socks, ankle socks, suspenders, plastic smallwares, numerous other articles and a radio.

A salesman for the owners, James Morgan, first crown witness, identified all the articles and said in total they were valued at \$500.

Morgan said he had left eight of the 14 cases he had with him in Commercial Hotel sample room for storage. When he returned, Sunday, July 1, he found the cases missing and had been alarmed. Harold Helgerson, hotel manager, then phoned police.

Const. Robert Ross, RCMP, answered Helgerson's call shortly after he received it at 2 p.m. Sunday. At the hotel, witness said he inspected the sample room and found the window open.

Evidence from both Harold Helgerson, and his brother, Leslie, bar manager, said that guests or unauthorized persons were not allowed in either the sample room, or in the hallway behind it, but admitted that at times people could walk in by mistake.

The hotel manager said he knew both the accused for some time. He knew Vanderyagt for "about a year" and to Mr. Collins' question said he had been on "friendly" terms and knew him as one likely "to play practical pranks on people."

DRINKING PARTY

Mrs. Amy Kasper, proprietor of Inlander Rooms where the eight cases were later found, told a story of a "drunken party" and of a room "all topsy-turvy."

She said she entered the room of Mr. and Mrs. Swanson on Sunday afternoon and found nobody there.

"But the room was all topsy-turvy," she said. "It looked like a big drinking party had been going on. I saw the suitcases there and goods scattered all over the room. The radio was sitting on the dresser."

She had entered the room again, early next morning, in company with police, she said, who "took the stuff away."

On Sunday afternoon, after the theft had been reported, Sgt. L. A. Wales, RCMP, called Vanderyagt in for questioning, he said. Accused then had made an oral statement. He had said:

Macs Lead In Bowling

McMeekin's have taken the early season lead in the standing of the Ladies' Bowling League, A Division. They scored a clean sweep three game victory over Savoys after beating Stars 2 to 1 last week.

In "B" Division, McKay's made their second clean sweep of the season over Big Sisters after having done likewise to Rupert Radio last week.

High single game scorer in "A" Division this week was M. Kearley of Skeena Grocery with 319 while A. Pierce of Lyons had the high three game aggregate of 721.

In "B" Division T. Dell of Manson's had high single game of 238 and high three game aggregate of 591.

The team scores were:

"A" Division

McMeekin's—A. Ritchie 434, B. Emerson 431, C. Bellamy 424, L. McMeekin 392, B. Hardy 503. Totals 693, 726, 692.

Savoys—J. Arney 412, E. Knutson 277, P. Brown 452, B. McChesney 425, R. McCallum 343. Totals 669, 722, 680.

Dibb Printing—S. Hartwig 502, D. Dibb 401, A. Parker 442, J. Walker 534, K. Franks 228. Totals 867, 978, 852.

Lucky Strikes—E. Mosley 532, A. Whatman 461, B. Dunbar 690, A. Smith 431, M. Price 339. Totals 867, 841, 892.

Annettes—B. Windle 478, N. Stone 463, McMeekin 537, Smith 602, Dickens 586. Totals 789, 932, 945.

Rosa Lees—Nelson 533, McKinnon 521, A. McLean 577, N. Parsons 677, G. Maundrell 527. Totals 925, 951, 959.

Lyons—A. Pierce 721, P. Thompson 520, V. Anderson 381, J. Shenton 480, V. Wrathall 720. Totals 918, 1010, 894.

Cloverleafs—K. Johnson 428, M. Antone 455, O. Newton 519, N. Goddes 492, M. Penny 392. Totals 756, 729, 909.

Gordon & Anderson—B. Smith 443, S. Ramsay 455, I. Garner 495, L. Anderson 388, C. Barrie 511. Totals 835, 842, 831.

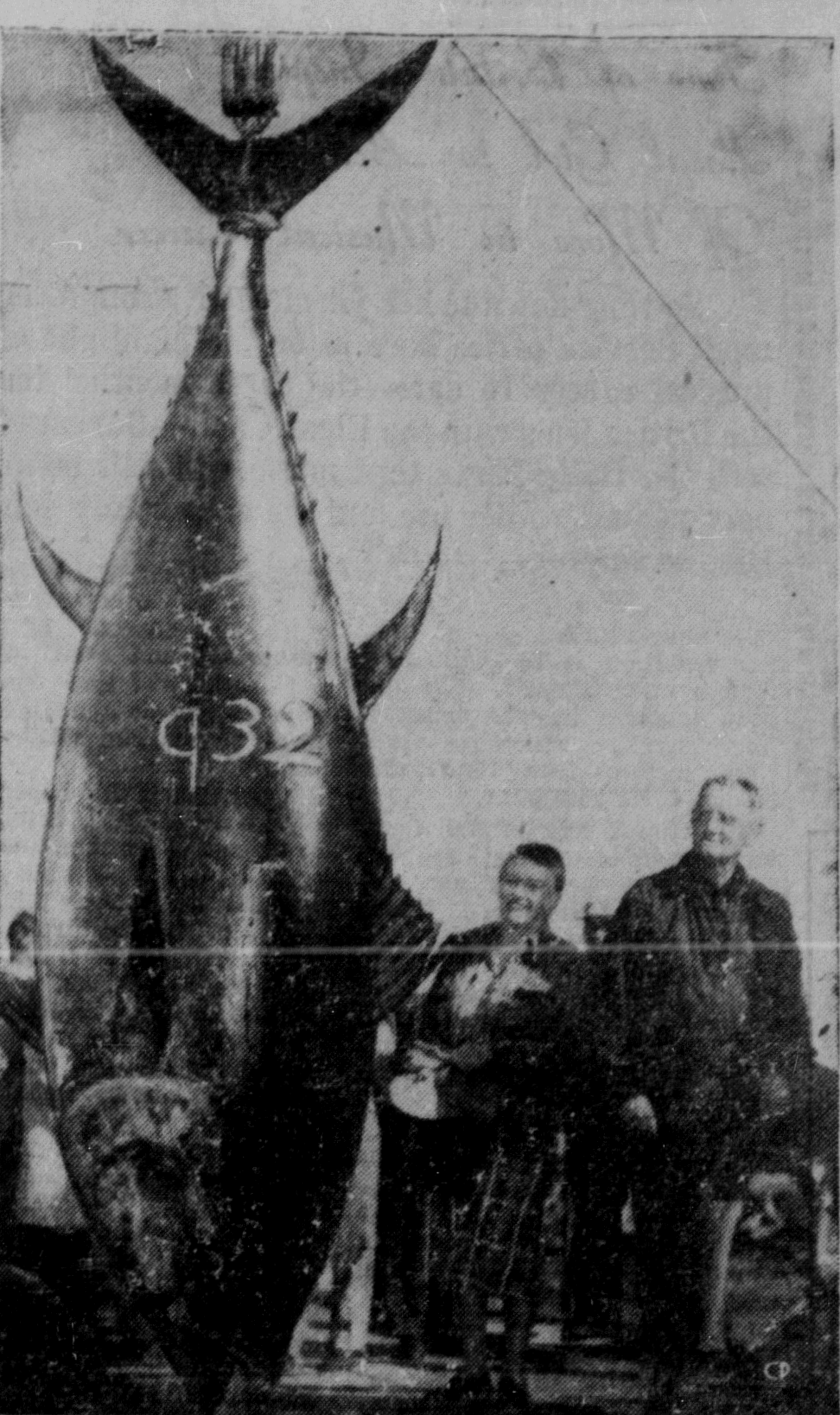
Skeena Grocery—W. Slater 391, E. Wasyk 342, M. Kearley 568, L. Lugin 510, M. Lewis 466. Totals 850, 699, 728.

Wrathall's—B. Peterson 409, M. Pett 373, R. Long 550, E. McNabb 343, D. Hamblin 352. Totals 770, 797, 841.

Stars—G. McIntyre 514, H. Furness 466, J. Dickens 470, K. Grimble 502, L. Keays 521. Totals 708, 893, 901.

"B" Division

Shenton's—D. Ardern 401, M. Shenton 588, J. Roford 345, I. Mc-



NOT ON THE TEAM—Harvey B. Teller, retired recreational director from San Francisco, hooked this 932-pound, near-record tuna at Wedgeport, N.S., on the eve of the International Tuna Tournament. This Nova Scotia Information Bureau photo shows Mr. Teller at left, with his wife, formerly of Westville, N.S., and the giant fish. Unfortunately, Mr. Teller was not on the U.S. team in the tournament, which didn't boast a fish in the first two days. (CP PHOTO)

Jack Fuller 82 on Sunday

F. J. Fuller of First Avenue, war veteran and local pioneer, will be eighty-two years of age on Sunday, September 23. He looks hale and hearty, says he feels well, and recalls earliest days in Prince Rupert. Mr. Fuller was born in England, and much of his long and active life was spent in Western Canada and Prince Rupert.

AGILE ANIMAL

The antelope of Central and South Africa is called a Springbok because of the long distances it can leap.

Coca-Cola adds zest to lunch

Prince Rupert Daily News
Friday, September 21, 1951

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What I say, I can't wish to have put in writing."

"It was all a big joke—it was supposed to have been a joke on Harold Helgerson," Vanderyagt had told Sgt. Wales. Accused further told the police sergeant he was a married man and was a painting contractor.

"He confessed that he had been involved in this case with two other men. There had been a lot of drinking, accused said then," recounted Sgt. Wales. "As a result of that conversation I placed him under arrest."

BIG JOKE

Defense Counsel Collins told the court he intended to prove that the "whole thing was a Dominion Day prank—just a big joke."

Mrs. Jane Ramsay, employee of Brown and Harvey, Prince Rupert solicitors, and court stenographer for the preliminary hearing of this case, said she recalled prosecuting counsel, T. W. Brown, KC, say after the preliminary, he "agreed it had all been a preposterous joke."

Crown Counsel King said he could not see how Mr. Brown's attitude could have undergone such a change—"and certainly the magistrate had no such feeling or this case wouldn't be here."

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