

Incidents of Death Night Recounted in Assize Trial

Crown Presents Evidence in Ryan Case

Thirteen witnesses were called and hours of testimony heard in three sessions of Supreme Court assizes yesterday and today in the trial of Harold Ryan, 31, of Simpson, settled to go into second day today.

Ryan is charged with the murder of Lorraine Tait, December 1950, at Port Simpson.

The 12-man jury, empaneled at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, has been ordered by Mr. Justice A. Macfarlane to be kept completely incommunicado.

Spectators crowded the public gallery as they strained to hear the low-voiced testimony of crown witnesses who, after the other, told a story of the circumstances surrounding the death of Miss Tait the night before last Christmas.

The accused, stocky and well-dressed, sat in the prisoner's box unmoved except for an occasional smile as he heard the evidence given against him, at times frowning and scarcely audible.

Crown Prosecutor "Gilbert" addressed the court, concluding the crown would prove Lorraine Tait, Ryan's common-law wife, came to her death on the night of December 1950, at Port Simpson, on Ryan's fishing boat, Westery.

Crown prosecutor said he would produce evidence which would show Miss Tait died as a result of a "very severe cut" to the back of her head; that there was a fight in the cabin of the boat Westery; that upon investigation police had found the boat a coke bottle which had blood stains on it; that imprints in the congealed blood were a fingerprint of the accused, and a few hairs, that of the deceased.

LAST WITNESS
The first witness called by the crown was Wilfred Knott, 22, fisherman of Port Simpson. Knott said he had known Lorraine Tait since he was a kid. Mr. Hog asked Knott to recount in detail how he had met and deceased and the accused in Prince Rupert on the afternoon of December 23, 1950.

Knott said he was looking for a boat to go back to Port Simpson. He met Miss Tait and Ryan at the Smiles Cafe at Cow Bay, and he had secured passage back to Ryan's boat, Westery, they left Prince Rupert between 3

and 4 p.m., he said. "Did you bring any liquor on the boat?" asked the prosecutor.

"Yes, I brought three bottles of rye whiskey and three bottles of wine on board," witness answered. There were only three of them on the boat—Knott, Miss Tait and Ryan—and they had done considerable drinking, he said.

"When we left the harbor we began drinking from Ryan's bottle. It was half full. It was rye. We finished it."

"Then I opened a bottle of wine and we finished it." Mr. Hog produced a photograph of Port Simpson harbor and showed it to Knott. He asked Knott to mark with a "Y" where the Westery had tied up.

MORE DRINKING
After the boat had docked (between 8 and 9 p.m.), Knott said there had been more drinking. Then Alfred Wesley came aboard, he said, and everybody had another two drinks.

Knott said Lorraine took off her sweater and gave it to Wesley. Then Wesley left.

"Did Lorraine try to stop him?" asked Mr. Hog.

"No," Knott said Lorraine had only a brassiere "on top." Otherwise she was clad in slacks.

The Eileen S, another fishboat, then tied up alongside the Westery, said the witness, after which he went home. The Eileen S belonged to Bob Sankey.

"Did you return to the boat after that?" prosecutor asked. He hadn't returned, witness said, until 4 a.m., when the police got him. Lorraine, he said, had looked happy, normal. He had noticed nothing unusual about her face or skin on her arms.

CROSS-EXAMINATION
Defence counsel T. W. Brown, in cross-examination, asked Knott: "Did you kiss Lorraine that afternoon?"

"No."

"Did you give any trouble to Ryan or Lorraine that day?"

"No."

"Did you get any money from Lorraine?"

"No."

Mr. Brown produced one full bottle of rye whiskey and two empty bottles. He showed Knott the full bottle and asked if it was his, or had been his. Witness denied ownership, also said empty bottles had not been his. None of his rye had been drunk on the boat. The rye whiskey belonged to Ryan; only the wine which was drunk was his.

Knott admitted in cross-examination he had docked Ryan to stop near an oil dock in Prince Rupert, before heading out, to pick up from the Eileen S, tied up there, a suitcase and six bottles of liquor.

LIED TWICE
The defence switched to another subject.

"Where were you when the body was pulled out?"

Knott answered he was at home drinking. To questions of Mr. Brown, Knott admitted he had lied twice when police had questioned him following death of Miss Tait.

(Continued on page 6)

Gordon Calderwood, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Calderwood, arrived in the city on the Prince Rupert yesterday from Vancouver where he has been attending the University of British Columbia and will spend the summer here.

Tonight's train, due from the East at 11:15 daylight time, is reported two hours and forty minutes late, owing to delayed connections at Red Pass. This would bring the train in at 11:55 a.m. but there is possibility that it might be later.

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NEW LOOK FOR WD's—New uniform will be worn by women members of the RCAF. The tailored suit, of air-force blue, is 9 1/2-ounce botany serge. The jacket has false pockets, and is worn with a six-gore skirt. Beige nylon stockings are worn with black oxfords; brown unlined gloves and an over-the-shoulder pocket in black leather are uniform issue. Other items include a blue raincoat with hood, and a greatcoat of Canadian Melton, similar to that worn by RCAF officers. (CP from National Defence)

Burns Lake Is Booming

BURNS LAKE—Aluminum Company of Canada is continuing to move heavy equipment into Northern British Columbia for road and tunnel building in the start of its \$550,000,000 power and aluminum plant project.

The activity is bringing an unprecedented volume of business to this village, 316 miles east of Prince Rupert.

A road contractor marched up to the desk of Burns Lake's only hotel a few days ago and reserved seven double rooms for four years. That was only a typical incident.

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(Subject to Change)

- THURSDAY - P.M.**
3:30—Listeners' Choice
4:30—20,000 Leagues Under the Sea
4:45—Stock Quotations
4:55—CBC News
5:00—Int. Comty.
5:10—Rawhide
5:30—The Buried Forces
5:45—"Canada at Work"
6:00—Supper Serenade
6:15—Tex Beneke & Orch.
6:30—Musical Varieties
7:00—CBC News
7:15—CBC News Roundup
7:30—Eventide
8:00—Radio Cartoons
8:35—Points of View
9:00—Musical Program
9:25—Vancouver Concert Orch.
10:00—CBC News
10:10—CBC News
10:15—Cases and Chases
10:30—Winnipeg Drama
11:00—Weather Report and Sign Off

FRIDAY - A.M.

- 7:00—Musical Clock
8:00—CBC News
8:10—Here's Bill Good
8:15—Morning Song
8:30—Morning Devotions
8:45—Little Concert
9:00—BBC News and Comy.
9:15—Music for Moderns
9:30—Sunrise Serenade
9:45—Your Music Appointment
9:55—Time Signal
10:10—Morning Visit
10:15—The Barry Wood Show
10:30—"Melody Time"
10:45—Musical Kitchen
11:00—Kindergarten of the Air
11:15—Roundup Time
11:30—Weather Forecast
11:31—Message Period
11:33—Rec. Int.
11:45—Scandinavian Melodies

FRIDAY - P.M.

- 12:00—Mid-Day Music
12:15—CBC News
12:25—Program Resume
12:30—B.C. Farm Broadcast
12:55—Rec. Int.
1:00—The Concert Hour
2:00—National School Bdest.
2:30—Records at Random
2:45—Needlepointers; Comy.
3:00—The Music Box
3:15—Don Messer & His Islanders
3:30—Listener's Choice

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ROYAL CAVA—When the Canadian cruiser Ontario called at Pago Pago, capital of American Samoa, natives held a traditional Royal Cava ceremony in honor of Commodore Hugh F. Pullen of Oakville, Ont., commanding officer. Here a Samoan offers the cava, a ceremonial drink, to Cmdr. C. G. King of Saskatoon. Others, left to right, are: Commodore Pullen; Cmdr. John Osborn, Vancouver; Cmdr. Douglas Elliott, Ottawa; Cmdr. Vernon Howland, Toronto and Victoria; Cmdr. H. D. McCormick, Ottawa; and Lt.-Cmdr. M. F. Oliver, Victoria. (CP from National Defence)

New Interior Air Service is Started

Central B. C. Airways Welcomed
At Terrace

TERRACE (Special to Daily News)—Central British Columbia Airways yesterday inaugurated the new air service between Prince George and Terrace and intervening points for which it was recently granted a charter.

The service will be daily except Sunday.

Under ideal weather conditions, Russ Baker, general manager of Central B. C. Airways and chief pilot, made a perfect landing with his twin-engine Anson transport at the Terrace airport at 12:50 noon to be given a hearty welcome by a reception committee consisting of civic, board of trade representatives and leading citizens.

Following luncheon, the members of the welcoming committee were taken on brief flights as far as the Kitimat area.

With Captain Baker at the controls, other crew members were Harry Taylor of Prince George, co-pilot, and Frank Coukter, superintendent of the northern division of Central B. C. Airways.

Passengers were Mrs. Russ Baker, Cecil Steele, MLA for Omineca, and Mrs. Steele; Mayor Garvin Dezell, Prince George; Wally West Prince George photographer, and Mr. Scott, president of the Smithers Junior Chamber of Commerce.

The plane had left Prince George at 9:20 a.m. and first call was at Vanderhoof, where half the town turned out and refreshments were served.

The craft then touched down at Smithers.

The reception committee here included Harry Phillip, vice-president of Terrace and District Board of Trade; C. J. Norring-

ton, past president; Duncan Kerr, secretary of the Associated Boards of Trade of Central British Columbia, and Arthur J. Harman, clerk of the village.

After the welcoming ceremonies including the taking of pictures, luncheon was served at the Motel. Twenty-two were present including Crawford Moore and William Thain of Prince Rupert, Harry Phillip proposed a toast to the success of Central B. C. Airways in the new operation to which Mr. Baker replied appreciatively.

After the local guest flights, the plane and party headed back to Prince George.

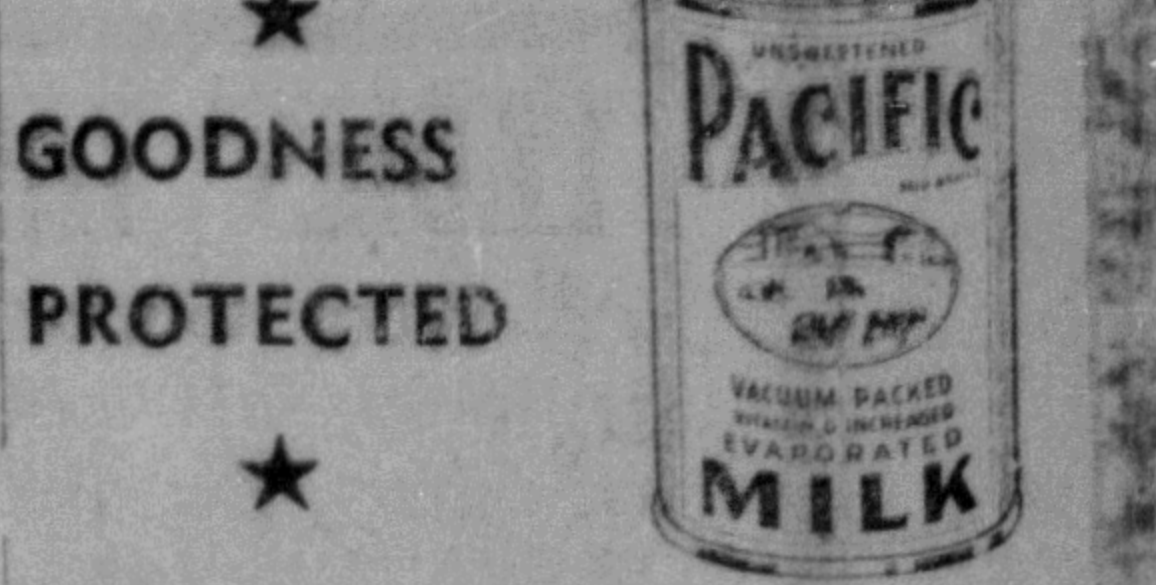
Miss Elliott Head, veteran of the RCAF Women's Division, will be in charge of the Central B. C. Airways office here.

Jack Breen arrived in the city on yesterday's plane from New Westminster and will be stationed here for the season with the International Fisheries Commission. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Breen, Fifth Avenue East.

LARGE ISLAND
The island of Borneo, discovered by the Portuguese in 1521, has a total of 284,000 square miles.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION
Chinese immigration to America started about 1849 and the first immigrants reached British Columbia before 1870.

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