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Penniless Man Without a Country Completes Six Months on Ferryboat

By GRAHAM JENKINS
HONG KONG (Reuters)—Michael Patrick O'Brien, the man without a country, has completed six months of boredom as a prisoner of international red tape.

O'Brien has spent the last half-year shuttling endlessly between Hong Kong and Macau aboard the ferry Lee Hong.

Since he has no citizenship papers, he has been refused per-

mission to land at either the British or Portuguese ports along the China coast. And since the ferry doesn't call anywhere else, he can't get off.

He claims American citizenship, but the United States state department holds that he was born in Hungary, never took out U.S. citizenship papers and was once ordered to be deported from the U.S. because of convictions for burglary and assault.

What he wants is to get to Brazil or Argentina, but his appeals to the International Refugee Organization have so far been in vain.

O'Brien has been in the public eye several times since Sept. 13, when he made his first trip on the Lee Hong. Today he said he is discouraged and disillusioned and wants no more publicity.

He recently described his life as "100 per cent worse than prison life." At 47, his digestive system has begun to trouble him and he complains that he is unable to get sufficient exercise, though he walks around the deck mainly. He has begun ordering specially-prepared dishes from a dairy farm in Hong Kong.

Under international shipping conventions, his welfare is the responsibility of the steamship line which operates the ferry.

Before September, O'Brien worked in Shanghai as an engineer. He has a wife and a son there. He left Shanghai and stowed away aboard the ferry in Macau to seek work in this British colony.

O'Brien is penniless, but occasionally receives donations from friends and sympathizers.

MUTINEERS SENT TO PRISON

COPENHAGEN (Reuters)—Six Danish soldiers who mutinied last month against extension of military conscription from 12 to 18 months have been sentenced to prison terms. Pte. Johannes Andersen, named as the ringleader, was given 10 months, the longest sentence.

Man Who Confesses Murder Can, by Law, be Convicted

OTTAWA (C)—A man who confesses to murder can be convicted on that confession alone, the Supreme Court of Canada has ruled.

There is no law, it added, which says that a jury must be cautioned by the judge of the "danger" of convicting solely on the basis of the confession when there is no corroborating evidence.

It made the ruling in a six-to-one majority judgment rejecting the appeal of James Kelsey, 29, of Welland, Ont., sentenced to be hanged April 14 for the slaying of a Welland taxi-driver, Sam Delibiasch.

The taxi-driver's body, stabbed and beaten, was found Dec. 17, 1949, on a lonely road near Welland. His empty cab was found in Toronto. Kelsey was picked up two years later when a friend to whom he allegedly confessed the crime tipped police.

Kelsey, in a written confession to police which he later retracted, involved his brother, Lloyd, in the crime. Lloyd Kelsey was tried and acquitted but James Kelsey was convicted.

James Maloney of Toronto, defence counsel, appealed to Canada's highest court on the grounds that the trial judge erred in law on two points:

● He allegedly failed to em-

phasize sufficiently to the jury the theory of the defence that Kelsey deliberately lied in his confession because of a morbid desire for notoriety.

● He didn't warn the jury of the danger of convicting a man solely on the basis of his confession when there was no corroborating evidence.

Six of the seven Supreme Court benchers hearing the appeal decided there was nothing in the evidence which showed any great conflict with Kelsey's admission. As for the argument the trial judge must warn the jury of the danger of convicting a man solely on his confession, "no authorities or precedents in point were quoted on behalf of the appellant, nor was it possible to find anyone to support this contention."

B.C. Protests Construction Of Pipeline

VICTORIA (C)—Mines Minister Robert Sommers said Tuesday the B.C. government is "preparing a protest" to Ottawa in an effort to stop construction of the oil pipeline from Sumas, B.C., to Ferndale, Wash.

Mr. Sommers said he was referring to the proposed spur line that will branch off Trans-Mountain Oil Company pipeline from Edmonton to Vancouver. A \$35,000,000 refinery is to be built at Ferndale.

Mr. Sommers said the provincial government can do nothing directly to stop construction of the spur line. The matter comes within the jurisdiction of the federal transport department.

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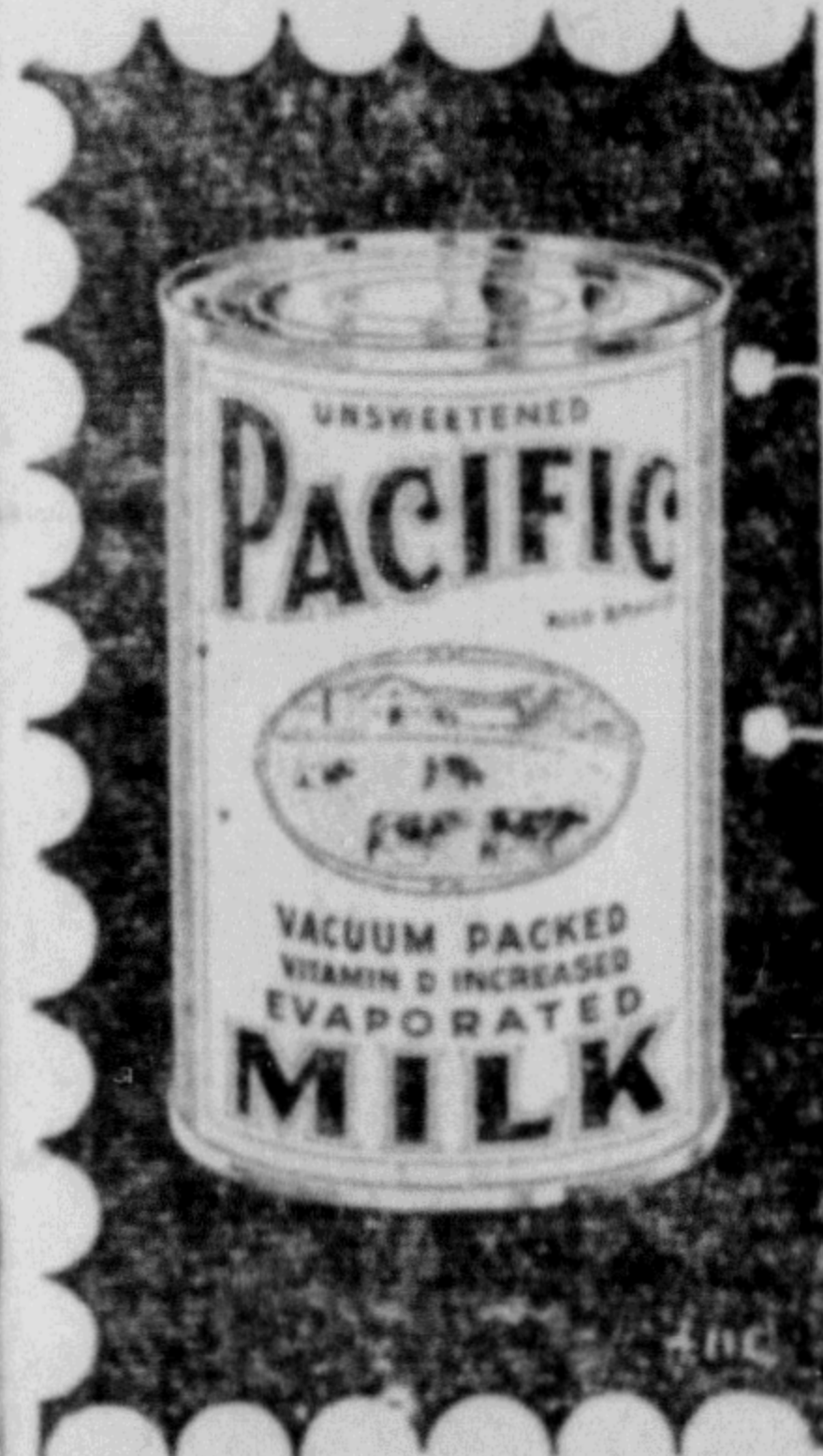
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"FRANCIS GOES TO WEST POINT" is Universal-International's third comedy hit in the popular talking mule series. Donald O'Connor is starred in the new release and Alice Kelley, left, and Lori Nelson head the large supporting cast. Donald wins a West Point appointment when he frustrates an attempt by saboteurs to destroy an atom plant. The show opens at the Capitol tomorrow.

CALGARY (C)—Sugarfoot Anderson, star end of the Calgary Stampede's Football Club, has taken to the stage. The big Negro player was assigned the role of "Blossom" in the Calgary Civic Theatre's spring production of "The Hasty Heart."

MONTREAL (C)—The festival of St. Patrick was marked by a pontifical mass in St. Patrick's Church here on Sunday, March 15. Canada's newest cardinal, Paul Emile Cardinal Leger, celebrated the mass and also delivered the sermon.



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EDISON TO BE REMEMBERED

(Continued from page 8)

made the Edison house the focal point of the centenary celebrations—but Henry Ford took it complete with lilac bushes to Dearborn, Mich. Now there is only a sign marking the site.

Reeve Howard Palmer said he would like to include some of the incidents old-timers talk about and hopes many of Vienna's former residents will return for the celebrations.



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Malkin's Best, Fancy, 12-oz.

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Choice, 15-oz.

PEARS, Malkin's Best 2 47c

Bartlett, Fancy, 15-oz.

PINEAPPLE Libby's, 2 67c

Sliced, 20-oz.

STRAWBERRIES 2 53c

Aylmer, Choice, 15-oz.

PEACHES, Halves, 2 43c

Royal City, Choice, 15-oz.

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