

Five Airmen Taken Into Custody For Irregularities at Lachine

MONTREAL — Five airmen employed in the accounting department of the RCAF station at

suburban Lachine have been taken into custody for misappropriating \$4,500.

This official announcement came Tuesday night from RCAF headquarters in Ottawa, but reports here had the amount involved as high as \$20,000.

Air force officials here had little to say. Wing Cmdr. E. R. Johnston, officer commanding the station at Lachine, although admitting an irregularity, said he did not wish to make any comment at this stage.

Air Commodore A. C. Ripley, commanding officer of the air transport command, said a board of inquiry has been appointed, but he would not name the members.

Officials would not say how long the payroll padding system had been going on.

The official statement said: "A routine audit at the RCAF

station at Lachine has brought to light irregularities in the financial accounting system.

"Five airmen have been placed in custody pending completion of an investigation ordered by air force authorities.

"Investigation to date shows that approximately \$4,500 has been misappropriated, a large part of which has been recovered. Names of the personnel involved will not be released until charges have been laid."

Meanwhile, the Gazette says in a front-page story that an anonymous caller who said he worked in the accounting office of the Lachine station disclosed what was going on.

The informant, who claimed at least \$20,000 had been embezzled, said the system worked this way: "One of the five airmen found a loophole in the apparently fool-proof air force accounting system.

"The air force did away with the individual pay book accounting system and started a new sheet system.

"All they did was up the amount of each man's pay cheque. At the end of the day they would make up a half dozen or so extra cheques.

"These were made out in the names of fictitious wing commanders or air commodores. The officer in charge would not notice these additional cheques in the course of signing several thousand others."

One transport command official termed the case a "most peculiar deal" and one that might not have been spotted but for a twinge of conscience of one of the airmen.

He said the air force has a "pretty fine chaplain service" and apparently one of the men involved went to his chaplain when his conscience got the better of him.

Hibernia is the old classical name for Ireland used by the Romans.

**GEORGE DAWES
AUCTIONEER**

Phone Black: 846 and Red 127



A MANCHURIAN PONY, delivering CARE food packages to the In Ae Won Orphanage in Masan, Korea, patiently allows three of the young orphans to hitch a ride on his cart. CARE-Canada is now conducting a nation-wide campaign for contributions for CARE parcels for needy Korean war victims.

BLACKWOOD on Bridge

By EASLEY BLACKWOOD

Counting Can Save You From Helping the Enemy

There seems to be an awful stigma attached to the leading of a card which enables declarer to ruff in one hand while discarding from the other.

Often, when this comes up, there is nothing you can do about it. But there is nothing to be ashamed of. Declarer has just played the hand well.

Many times, however, as in today's deal, there IS something you can do. You can count.

Mrs. Keen led the queen of hearts and it was ducked all around. Next came the jack of hearts, dummy and Mr. Abel played low and Mr. Dale ruffed.

He laid down the ace of diamonds and got the bad news when Mrs. Keen discarded a small spade. He now had a sure trump loser, he had already lost a heart and apparently there was a club loser—unless one opponent had the queen-jack doubleton.

He proceeded as follows. He

South dealer
Both sides vulnerable
North
(Mr. Muzzy)
S-A 8
H-K 8 5
D-8 5 4 3
C-K 10 6 2

West (Mrs. Keen) East (Mr. Abel)
S-9 7 6 5 2 H-J 10 4 3
H-Q J 10 7 3 H-A 9 4 2
D-None D-Q J 10
C-Q 7 5 C-J 8

The bidding:
South West North East
1 D Pass 2 D Pass
4 D Pass 5 D Pass
Pass Pass

He cashed the king of diamonds, the king of spades, then led the queen of spades to dummy's ace. Then he ruffed dummy's last heart and put Mr. Abel in with a diamond.

Mr. Abel looked pretty sad. It appeared to him that if he returned a club from his own hand, Mr. Dale would ruff in dummy and discard a club from his own hand. And he was right. That's what Mr. Dale would have done. But it wouldn't have helped him in the slightest degree.

The point is, Mr. Abel should have known that.

All he had to do was to count the hand. The fall of the cards had told him that Mr. Dale had started with exactly six diamonds and one heart. By inference, he had started with two spades. This was based on the facts that he had played the queen and ace of spades on one trick and that, if he had held more than two spades, he would have ruffed them before throwing Mr. Abel in the lead.

On this reasoning, Mr. Dale had four clubs. Therefore, the stuff of one club from the closed hand would not help him.

But Mr. Abel had failed to make this simple count. He returned the jack of clubs and Mr. Dale won with the ace, finessed the 10 at the next trick and made his contract.

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SCREEN ★ FLASHES

OTTAWA — Canada's motion picture industry is growing into a lusty, multi-million-dollar baby.

In its first comprehensive survey of the industry, the bureau of statistics reports that 31 privately-owned firms grossed \$2,600,000 on operations during 1952. This sum was divided into \$1,331,393 from production and \$1,274,137 from printing films.

The commercial industry employed 386 persons and paid them \$1,006,918 in salaries and wages but that was exclusive of the people employed on three feature-length films made in Canada during 1952.

The industry produced 15 theatrical shorts and 206 non-commercial films of five minutes or longer. Most of the latter were in color with English sound tracks. Sixteen were produced for sponsors outside Canada.

Government agencies such as the national film board produced 58 theatrical shorts and 102 non-theatrical films of five minutes or longer. Most of the non-theatrical films were in black and white with English sound tracks.

The agencies also produced five theatre trailers, 75 newsreel stories for theatres and television and 96 filmstrips.

The bureau said employment and revenue figures for federal and provincial government agencies were not requested because they are not directly comparable to similar data of private industry in relation to films produced.

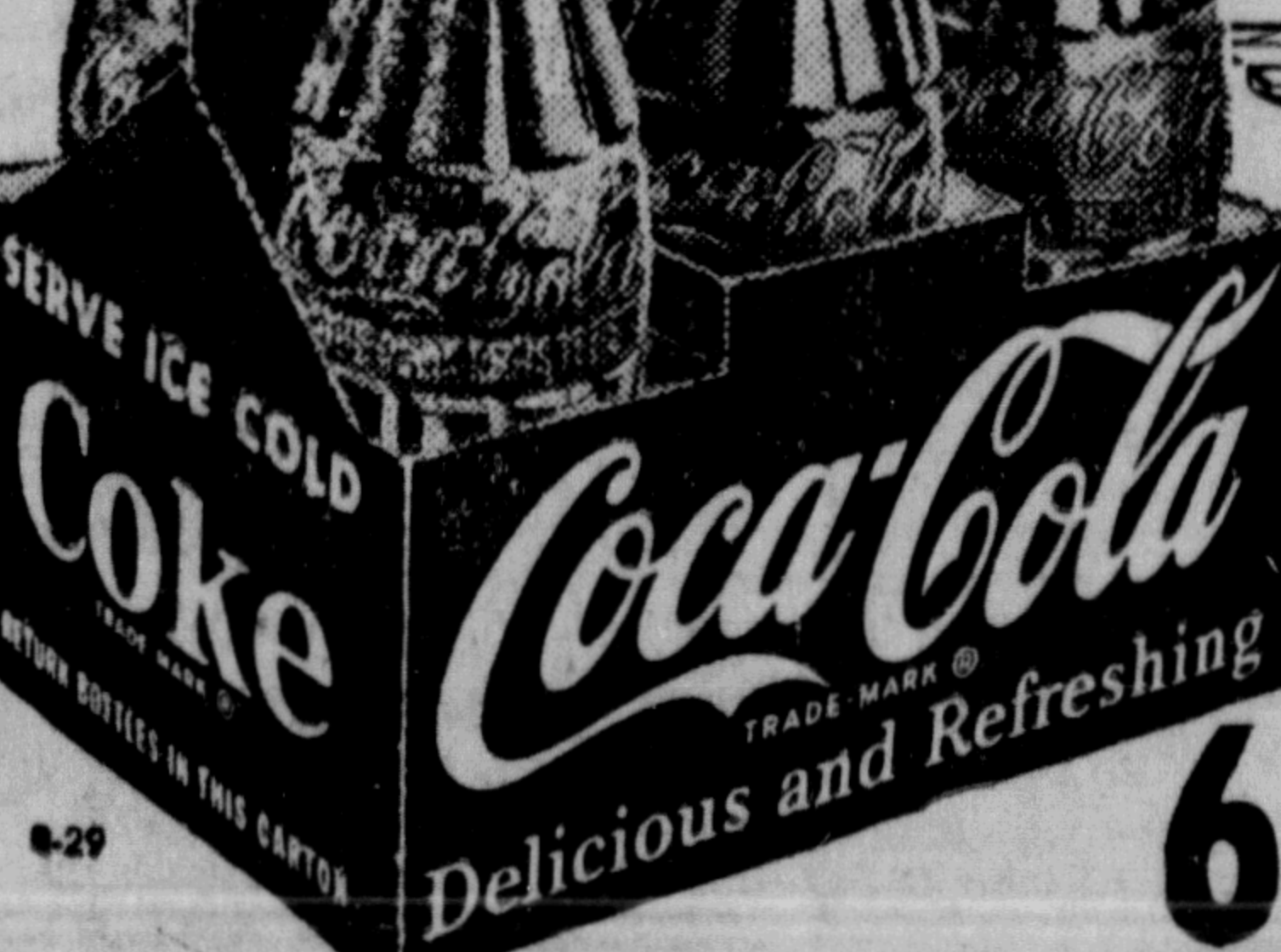
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Prince Rupert Daily News
Wednesday, July 29, 1953

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