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Defence Committee Told Brig. Connelly Was Officer Involved in Misuse of Funds

OTTAWA (CP)—A defence official Wednesday identified Brig. Alan Connelly, 44, of Calgary, now out of the army, as the officer found guilty "of a degree of irresponsibility in the use of public funds" in the \$15,000 renovation of a house bought in Regina while he was in command of army headquarters there. Only \$800 worth of repairs was authorized.

This developed at a session of the House committee on defence expenditures.

Members were not using any names until, at the last minute, E. W. Herridge (CCF—Kootenay West) asked, "Was the officer concerned Brig. Connelly?"

E. B. Armstrong, assistant deputy minister of defence, answered in the affirmative.

Donald Fleming (PC—Toronto Eglinton) earlier asked whether the Regina case had anything to do with the officer's retirement in August, 1952, six months after a board of officers found the degree of irresponsibility in Regina.

Brig. Connelly's retirement was explained by the army on the grounds that there was no further employment for him. Opposition members have charged he was fired for not reporting promptly the dispatch of Canadian troops to

Koje Island, off Korea, while he was army liaison officer in Tokyo.

Mr. Armstrong said the question embarrassed him because it is not customary to give reasons for retirements. Mr. Fleming said he would be satisfied if a report, asked for earlier, on disciplinary action taken in cases of irregularities found by the Defence Department's chief auditor lists what was done in this case.

The discussion arose over reference in a report to the committee of the case of the Regina house purchased as a home for the area commander there for \$14,000. Another \$15,000 was spent on repairs although only \$800 was authorized, according to the report of Auditor-General Watson Sellars.



RONALD POWER, 21, of Halifax was released from Toronto's Don Jail after serving 10 months for a crime he did not commit. He was sentenced to five years for an armed hold-up last Easter but was acquitted at a new trial, ordered after Quebec police picked up a man—who resembled Power—with the holdup victim's wallet.

Barbed Wire 'Operation' Makes Mick Happy Again

DARWIN (Reuters)—An aborigine named Mick has been "operated" on here for barbed wire on the stomach, an imaginary black magic disease said to have killed many tribesmen.

Mick was admitted to hospital here this week from a remote part of Western Australia after he had been "sung"—changed at—by relatives of his late wife, who believed him responsible for her death.

Aborigines believe barbed wire grows in the stomach of a victim who has been "sung."

Dr. John Carter gave Mick a local anaesthetic and pretended to perform a big operation. He suddenly whipped out a beetle which he said came from Mick's inside.

Mick immediately began taking an interest in life again.

PRINCE ALBERT, Sask. (CP)—The former Anglican Indian school, a landmark here for 40 years, has been sold to a Winnipeg contracting firm. Future disposition of the three-storey red-brick building was not announced.

Diplomatic Corps 'Top Heavy'

OTTAWA (CP)—Canada's diplomatic corps is endangered by an over-abundance of academic brains and a shortage of practical men with plain common sense.

Gordon Graydon (PC—Peel), foreign-affairs specialist of the official opposition who has served with Canadian diplomatic teams at UN meetings, said the staff of the external affairs department should bear a closer relationship to the "fabric of Canadian life."

Specifically he suggested to the Commons external affairs committee there should be more farmers representing Canada and that men who may not have college degrees but are long on common sense and practical shrewdness should have their chance too.

Dana Wilgress, departmental undersecretary, replied that Canada's minister to Norway, John Watkins, is a former by background, that there are a few graduates of agricultural colleges on the staff and nothing to stop others making the grade if they can pass the entry tests.

He said the department recruits the cream of Canadian college graduates and gives special marks to those who have practical experience.

Students Stop 'Peace' Talk By Red Dean

LONDON, Ont. (CP)—Dr. Hewlett Johnson, the "Red" dean of Canterbury, attempted to address a packed house at the Masonic temple here but his "mission of peace" and the efforts of the London Soviet Friendship Committee were thwarted by hundreds of roaring University of Western Ontario students who sounded cowbells, blasted paper bags and told the dean to "go back to Russia."

Upwards of 600 persons jammed the meeting hall—the majority of them students who voiced strong objections to any talk by the dean, and who later surrounded his car minutes after the churchman dashed from the building into the back alley.

Police officers finally restored order and allowed Dr. Johnson and his party to move off from the scene.

Only once did Dr. Johnson manage to raise his voice above the crowd, and he said:

"They are not quite adult yet in London. I shall go back and tell them so." Obviously he was referring to university students but he didn't define whom he meant by "them."

Representatives of the Anglican Church here said they would "ignore" the dean's visit.

Andorra, ancient republic in the Pyrenees between France and Spain, has an area of 191 square miles.

Prince Rupert Daily News
Thursday, February 26, 1953

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