

Judge Says Reckless Driver Worse Than Common Criminal

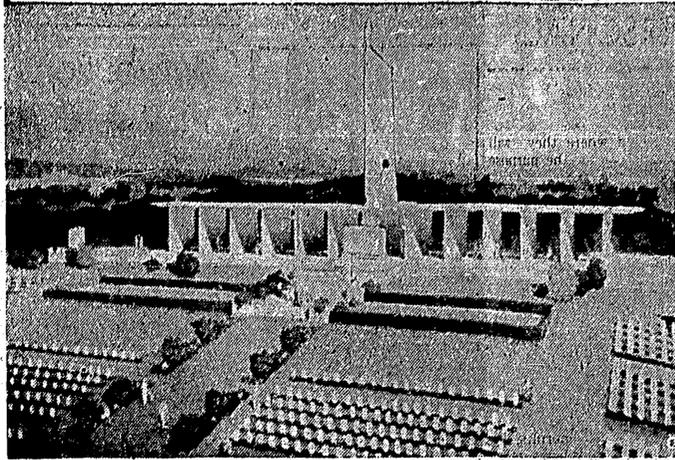
TORONTO (CP) — Chief Justice McRuer of Ontario Supreme Court said Monday night the reckless motorists should be dealt with as a common criminal.

The public mind, he said, is quick to condemn the thief and the housebreaker, but the reckless driver—a much more dangerous criminal—is largely overlooked.

"The unlawful operator of a motor vehicle on the highway is a continual source of danger to life and body. Men who are otherwise quiet, law-abiding citizens sometimes appear to be absolutely ruthless when they get in a motor vehicle.

"The time has come, and is surely past due, when public opinion should be consolidated to support the law officers of the crown in their efforts to protect human life."

Chief Justice McRuer spoke to eight judges of the Ontario appeal and supreme courts and about 500 lawyers attending the formal address to the grand jury and the opening of the 1957 assizes.



THE NAMES OF 197 Canadian airmen are among those of 24,000 Commonwealth dead will be commemorated in a memorial to be unveiled in Singapore May 2. The memorial, shown in this sketch, is being erected by the Imperial War Graves Commission. It is situated in the Kranji war cemetery, 14 miles north of Singapore City. Governor, Sir Robert Black of Singapore will unveil the memorial. (CP Photo).

Progress of Digby Island Airport Marks Successful Year For Chamber

Foremost in developments accelerating progress of Prince Rupert and district has been the continued surveying and engineering of the Digby Island airport, E. R. Gordon said in his report as retiring chairman of the Chamber of Commerce. He included in this the "assurances we have received from the federal government that moneys for its construction will be included in the budget for 1957."

"Our civic airport committee and our federal member, Mr. Applewhite, are to be commended for the excellent job they have done in promoting and fighting for what may well be the most important development here since the Columbia Cellulose company built their plant," he said.

The continued improvement of Highway 16 also will be of benefit to Prince Rupert, Mr. Gordon said.

"While we have been critical of the progress on the portion closest to us, the overall picture between here and Prince George is much better," he remarked.

"With the construction of the Prince George-McBride gap, we can expect a great increase of traffic over Highway 16."

The retiring president said that the road linking Prince Rupert with the canneries on the Skeena River was another factor which will be of benefit to the city, as well as to the canneries.

"I would like to commend our membership committee which has increased our membership considerably, during the past year," Mr. Gordon said. "There are still many in our city who should be supporting the Chamber of Commerce who are not members, and I hope that the 1957 membership committee will keep up the good work."

Venus' Guards Alert After Mona Lisa Attack

PARIS (AP) — The eyes of the war veteran darted suspiciously from side to side as he guarded the 2,300-year-old Venus de Milo.

"We aren't taking any risks," he confided. "We have always watched her closely, but after the savage attack on Mona Lisa the other day..."

The tension in the corridors of the Louvre Museum was caused when a Bolivian visitor threw a stone at Leonardo da Vinci's painting, the Mona Lisa. Her elbow was injured but was quickly restored.

Since then guards in the museum have doubled their vigilance but no treasure is cared for like the armless stone statue of Venus that was uncovered on the small Greek island of Melos in 1820.

"The Venus de Milo has never been attacked," the guard said. "Her admirers are many and they sometimes lay flowers at her feet."

OLD ADMIRER
"I recall a white-bearded man in his 70s. He used to come every day and sit on that wood bench right there in front of her. He would stay three or four hours staring at her. It lasted three or four years, until last year he didn't come any more. He's probably dead now. We never knew his name. He wouldn't talk to anybody."

The discreet admirer never touched the statue.

"Please, you cannot touch her," said the guard. "She could fall and that would be the end of the world's most beautiful woman."

"We cannot fix her to the pedestal, you know, because that would make it part of the statue forever and what if we need to

CCF Announces Conventions
VANCOUVER (AP) — Nominating conventions in two B.C. ridings have been announced by the CCF.

Victoria will nominate Jan. 17 while the Skeena nomination convention will be held at Kitimat January 20.

In the Skeena riding, all CCF members will vote by ballot for their choice if there is more than one person nominated.

Shapiro's Novel "Sixth of June" Now Available in Paper-back Edition

"The Sixth of June," Lionel Shapiro's sweeping novel of the Second World War, which won the Governor General's Award as the "Best Canadian Novel of 1955" is now available for the first time in Canada in a paper-back edition. Published in a 50-cent edition by Bantam Books.

"The Sixth of June" is being printed in Montreal in a special Canadian edition, and copies are now available on newsstands throughout the country. An outstanding best-seller, "The Sixth of June" was also made into a 20th Century Fox movie starring Robert Taylor, Dana Wynter, Richard Todd and Edmund O'Brien.

It is a sensitive love story told against the background of the immense preparations for the Allied invasion of Europe, climaxed by the final terrible struggle of D-Day itself.

Mr. Shapiro, author of "The Sixth of June" was born in Montreal, attended McGill University and later became a crack reporter for the Montreal Gazette. The outbreak of the war in 1939 found him a White House correspondent. In 1941 he became a combat war correspondent, taking part in the Sicilian, Italian, and Western European campaigns—including the landings at Salerno and Normandy.

On D-Day, he landed with the 9th Brigade of the Third Canadian Division—and wound up, appropriately enough, in Berlin with the first American troops to enter the capital. Mr. Shapiro spent the past four years writing "The Sixth of June," dividing his time between New York, Montreal, and the Continent. It is his third major novel, and one of the most important ever to be written about the Second World War.

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The Duplicate Bridge club will meet tomorrow night, it was announced today by a club spokesman.

At its last session, December 14, 1956, high score winners, north and south were Roberta and Louie Zurek and high east and west winners were Dr. N. Romlin and daughter Miss Lorena Romlin.

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