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Bookkeepers called to confirm charges in Sommers bribe case

Crown says funds split three ways

By H. L. JONES

Canadian Press Staff Writer

VANCOUVER (CP)—Bookkeepers were to be called by the Crown today to back up its charge that there was falsification of the records of at least one of the four companies involved in the Sommers bribery-conspiracy case.

The bookkeepers will be asked to give a B.C. Supreme Court jury the same testimony they gave to a preliminary police court hearing in March—that records of the C. D. Schultz Company had been changed.

Charged in the case are former lands and forest minister Robert E. Sommers, H. W. Gray, John M. Gray, the Schultz Company, Pacific Coast Services Limited, Evergreen Lumber Sales Limited and B.C. Forest Products.

The 38-count indictment alleges that there was a conspiracy and a "three-way split" of funds between Sommers, Schultz and H. W. Gray in connection with issuance of government timber licences while Sommers was minister.

Monday the Crown, entering scores of documents seized from the firms involved, came up with at least one new one. It was a pencilled copy of an income tax form with a memorandum in ink attached.

RCMP Staff Sergeant J. W. Purdy testified that it came from the personal file of J. M. Gray.

Special Crown prosecutor Victor Dryer did not explain the significance of the document, or of a payroll book and a book of cheque stubs submitted along with it.

Sgt. Purdy and RCMP Corporal J. O. Sehl told of confiscation of documents from the offices of the Pacific, Schultz and B.C. Forest Products firms. Among those entered by the Crown were cheques, bank statements, promissary notes, ledgers vouchers, receipts and even letters.

Assistant crown prosecutor Stewart McMorran told the jury of nine men and three women that more than 40 crown witnesses will be called in an effort to prove the crown's case. Some 600 documents are expected to be submitted in the trial, which is expected to occupy five or six weeks.

He said B.C. Forest Products footed the bill late in 1953 when Sommers, H. W. Gray and Hector Munro, late B.C. Forest president went to Toronto. He said the crown would show it was made clear that $30,000 was to be paid by B.C. Forest Products "in return for a forest management licence" and that the amount was subsequently paid.

Halibut prices climb

Top prices for medium size halibut were up by as much as one cent pper pound over yesterday as sales at Prince Rupert Halibut Exchange moved into its second day of operation this morning.

The "Sea Ranger," one of four boats who delivered a total of 140,000 pounds, received 18.3 cents for medium halibut from Atlin Fisheries. Yesterday's opening bids reached a high of 17.3 cents.

Deliveries, with prices for medium, large and chicken size halibut in brackets, were as follows:

Sonny Boy, 20,000 pounds (18.1; 11; 13), sold to Booth Fisheries.

Sea Ranger, 25,000 pounds (18.3; 17.7; 13), sold to Atlin Fisheries.

Island Queen, 40,000 pounds (18.1; 17.6; 13), sold to British Columbia Packers.

Mother 3, 55,000 pounds (18.2; 17.9; 13), sold to Babcock Fisheries.

The Prince Rupert Fishermen's Co-Operative association took landings of 45,000 pounds by the Gustav and of 27,000 pounds by the Viking.

WAY TO TRAVEL NORTH without car troubles is to have perfectly-running 1929 Model A, says Gerald Van De Wint, of Vancouver who arrived in the city recently. High off the ground and with wire wheels the 29-year-old car came the 1,010 miles from Vancouver with only one flat tire. Mr. Van Der Wint, a University of British Columbia engineering student is a brother of Mrs. Lawrence Kristmanson. —Staff photo.

Stanley Morin funeral held

Requiem mass was sung this morning in the Church of the Annunciation for well-known city sportsman Stanley Morin, 62, who died in hospital last Friday. Rev. Robert Dalton officiated.

Active pallbearers were Peter Richards, James Moran, Roy Hendry, Ivor Bibbe, Arthur Murray and Angelo Rossi.

Honorary pallbearers were W. R. Smith, William Gordon, Herbert Morgan, James Smith, Frederick Viger, Walter Gurvich, Richard Bury and W. D. Lambie.

Prayer service was held last night at Ferguson Funeral Home.

Interment followed at Fairview Cemetery.

Air mail to Alaska authorized

Air mail delivery between Ketchikan and Prince Rupert will be inaugurated in "the near future," it was reported here today by Carl Lundstrom, local agent for Ellis Airlines.

The Ketchikan airline company has received notification by the United States Civic Aeronautics Board that authority to carry mail on the 87-mile route has been granted, Mr. Lundstrom said.

The agent said the new service would be started in the near future.

Monty in Canada

MONTREAL (CP)—Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery arrived Monday night from Britain on an official farewell visit as deputy commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. He was to go on to Ottawa today.

DESPITE OPPOSITION

Council approves 50.333 mill rate

Prince Rupert's $1,471,001 budget was adopted in final reading by City Council last night against protests by Alderman T. Norton Youngs and A. Donald Ritchie who asked that the 50.333 mill rate be lowered.

Alderman Youngs moved for reduction of the mill rate to a maximum of 47.5 Ald. Ritchie seconded the motion but expressed his reservations about the feasibility of slashing the rate by as much as 2.833 mills.

"We should keep the mill rate under 50, though," Ald. Ritchie said.

The motion was defeated by all other members of the council. They were Aldermen Darrow Gomez, R. G. Large, Kay Smith and Norman Bellis.

Asked by Ald. Youngs to give his opinion, Mayor Peter J. Lester said the mill rate appeared acceptable to him.

"There is a number of things to be done and we have to expect to pay for it," the mayor said.

"If the budget had been arranged some time ago to provide for gradual increases in the mill rate, we might not have to put up with this large boost."

The mayor received support in this by Alderman Darrow Gomez who said he felt previous attempts to keep the mill rate down were responsible for the sharp increase this year.

Alderman Bellis expressed the view that only cuts could be possibly carried out in allocations for the Board of Works and the Waterworks and advised against reductions in these departments.

Listing an extensive list of apportionment increases over last year, Ald. Youngs asserted that the city was budgeting for a surplus.

"We have come up with a surplus in everyone of the past few years—except for 1957 when we encountered unexpected expenses—and I feel we are headed the same way now," Ald. Youngs said.

"A reduction to 47.5 mills would only mean a cut in expenses of some $38,000," he added.

As possible ways to cut down on expenditures, Ald. Youngs suggested a reduction in hospital allocation by $5,000 to $10,000, and extension of the road building program to stretch over four or five years instead of three years as provided now.

"With a big sewer plan coming up, we are on the way for a mill rate of 53 or 54 next year," Ald. Youngs said.

To support his claim that many items were budgeted for with excessive amounts, Ald. Youngs listed following increases in the current budget over last year's:

Sewer rentals—$34,000 (boosted by $21,700); garbage revenues—$40,600 (boosted by $3,600); maintenance of city buildings—$5,000 (boosted by $1,700); engineers administration—$19,103 (boosted by $3,400); sewer maintenance and repairs—$34,000 (boosted by $11,540); culvert and drains—$27,000 (boosted by $1,813); sidewalks, maintenance and 1958 program — $20,000 (boosted by $2,948); guard rails and traffic signs—$8,000 (boosted by $3,342); rebuilding and paving roads—$78,754 (boosted by $3,215; equipment maintenance and operation of public works—$10,000 (boosted by $1,467.

Ald. Youngs especially objected to the $15,000 hospital grant which he felt should be approved in a money bylaw, and to the $25,000 increase in Social Assistance allocation to $105,600 which he believed was "foisted onto us by the provincial government."

Driver faces impaired count

Trial against a city motorist on an impaired driving count was to be resumed in police court this afternoon after the Crown presented its case this morning.

George Edward Grant, of 340 Fourth Avenue East, is charged with driving while his ability was impaired by alcohol. Defence counsel J. K. Shaw entered a plea of not guilty.

Injunction forbids picketing

VANCOUVER (CP)—Canadian Pacific Railway, its operations in British Columbia all but hamstrung, hit back at the striking firemen's union with a sweeping court injunction Monday night forbidding all picketing in the province.

Within ar few hours pickets had disappeared from the railway's Vancouver operations and CPR officials announced the movement of several trains previously held up or cancelled.

A spokesman for the railway said early today trainmen and engineers have agreed to return to work following the injunction.

TRAINS RESUME

The CPR's trans-continental streamliners, the Dominion and the Canadian, are scheduled to resume service tonight. The trains were cancelled Monday night as supervisors who manned Sunday's trains needed rest.

Meanwhile at Penticton, the company reported wives of railway employees not involved in the strike had received threatening phone calls. The nature of the threats was not known.

The injunction, issued by Mr. Justice A. M. Manson of B.C. Supreme Court, "restrains" the union from any picketing in the province, either on or off CPR property

It was the second Supreme Court injunction granted here in one day. An earlier one issued by Chief Justice Sherwood Lett ordered locomotive engineers to return to work through the firemen's picket lines and instructed the union and three of its officials to stop "persuading, inducing or procuring" engineers from doing the job required of them under their work contract.

MAY BE JAILED

Mr. Justice Manson said the union could, after giving one clear day's notice, apply to have the injunction set aside.

Employees disregarding the injunction lay themselves open to contempt of court action and possible fines or jail terms.

There was no comment from union officials.

Union officials in B.C. centres were apparently waiting to receive copies of the injunction before withdrawing pickets.

The railway moved an 85-car freight train out of the yards here Monday night with supervisory personnel aboard. The CPR also reported freight trains moving eastbound from Revelstoke and Kamloops, a stock train to Vancouver from Kamloops and a self-propelled diesel car to Penticton, the latter manned by a regular engineer.

WINNER of the Kitimat Junior Chamber of Commerce trophy as the best teen-age driver of the smelter city is Bert Botrokoff, above. Botrokoff topped a field of 18 contestants to take the covetted award. In the contest between the first place winners of Prince Rupert, Kitimat and Terrace for the Bob Parker rose bowl trophy, the Kitimat driver also held first place. Bill Greene of Prince Rupert ran a close second. In the district Jaycee competition, which saw three entries from each city, Stan Valpy and Ron Eby, both of Prince Rupert, attained the highest scores in the field on nine competitors. Finalists from all three centres will attend the Provincial run-offs in Vancouver on May 31, the winner of which will compete in the All-Canada Roadeo in Medicine Hat, Alberta on June 10.

NO ACCIDENTS GOAL

Company, employees "all-out" for safety

Management and union officials, staff and workers out at Columbia Cellulose Company Limited's Watson Island mill went all out yesterday in stressing safety practices and will continue to do so until the end of the week.

The 700 employees at Watson Island were part of 60,000 other workers in British Columbia's forest products industry observing B.C. Forest Products Safety Week in an attempt to bring attention to the need for safe work habits and attitudes in view of he fact that 90 per cent of industrial mishaps are caused by human error rather than mechanical error or failure.

A committee of nine men under the chairmanship of Donald Lloy, Local 708 safety representative, has planned all safety activities for the week. Vice-chairman of the committee is supervisor Roger Menard.

The CCC Safety Essay Contest for Grade 5 and 6 children will be judged during the week; a wrecked car has been placed inside the plant gates to display the results of highway carelessness and point up the need for safety on the road; safety banners and posters are on view all throughout the mill; and a display of unsafe equipment is on display on the mezzanine floor near the mechanical office.

Yesterday two men toured the plant, one swathed in bandages and limping on a crutch to show what can happen when a workman doesn't wear protective equipment. Another was loaded down with safety gear to stress equipment provided for safe work habits and healthy employment.

Letters have been sent to every employee's home requesting co-operation throughout Safety Week and the year to follow. During the week there will be inspections of workers' tool boxes, caulked boots of boom men will be checked and pictures will be posed of both unsafe and safe ways of doing jobs. A full inspection of the mill will be carried out covering all working areas of the plant. Letters have also been sent to each department safety committee asking for co-operation to improve "housekeeping" at the Watson Island mill.

A spokesman for the company said at press time today that "everyone is co-operating and the safety flag out here is still flying." A lost time accident will see the safety flag "pulled down."

R. B. FINLAYSON of Prince Rupert, above, was elected as district president of the North-Coast-Skeena Junior Chamber of Commerce in Kitimat on Sunday when delegates from Prince Rupert and Terrace met with their hosts, the Kitimat Jaycees, in the smelter city. Mr. Finlayson has been an active member of the Prince Rupert Jaycee unit for many years and has served as a member of the local executive. His work as district president will include liaison with all three units in the district as well as sitting on the executive of the B.C. and Yukon Junior Chamber of Commerce for the ensuing year. e assumes office July 1.

RCMP boat investigating sub reports

Reports of coastal waters being searched for submarines supposedly sighted by fishermen off Namu were neither denied nor confirmed by authorities in Prince Rupert today.

The Canadian Press news agency in Vancouver this morning received reports that an RCMP vessel from Ocean Falls was investigating the alleged appearance of unidentified submarines.

Lieutenant Ian Inglis, staff officer of HMCS Chatham naval reserve division, said today he had no authority to comment on the story.

However, it was reported that RCMP boat ML-17 left Prince Rupert subdivision early this morning for Namu where officers will interview the man who reported seeing two submarines.

CARS RUN LOOSE

SPRINGHILL, N.S. (CP)—Fourteen runaway coal cars caused minor damage at the 1,300-foot level of the Cumberland Coal Company's No. 2 mine Monday. There were no injuries.

Council boosts rates for sewers, garbage

Prince Rupert home owners can soon expect a sharp increase in yearly sewer rentals.

City Council last night approved a plan under which rentals will be boosted to $15 from $5 for the first toilet connection, plus $5 from $2 for each extra toilet connection.

Another increase was decided upon for Garbage Utility Rates where the basic charge of 85 cents per month will be raised to $1 per month with proportionate increases on commercial and industrial accounts.

The move has been made by the city to bring city sewer rentals in line with provincial legislation that calls for sewers to be operated on a utility basis if provincial government financial backing for a large sewer program in the city is to be granted in the future.

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TEACHERS NEED GOOD GROUNDING

Spanish no substitute for French students told

The need for at least three years of French in high school before entering university was stressed yesterday by Dr. M. W. Steinberg, associate professor of English at the University of British Columbia when he spoke to students of Grade 11 and 12 at Booth Memorial High school.

Dr. Steinberg said that students only taking two years of French found themselves "hopelessly lost" when they reached UBC.

Many were turning to Spanish when they found they were unable to cope with the university French, he said, adding "that Spanish is very poor substitute for French."

He said that it was found that students were not being told of the importance of French because high school teachers were loathe to teach too much French and also tried to keep French classes at a minimum.

Dr. Steinberg also emphasized the importance of taking senior high school English, if students were to get through their first year English course at UBC without difficulty.

Addressing the students with Dr. Steinberg was Professor Henry C. Gilliland, director of teacher education at Victoria College, who said that there was a great need for students of good ability to enter the teaching profession as a worthwhile service to the country.

Professor Gilliland, who taught at King Edward High School here 25 years ago, said Victoria College is affiliated with UBC and said that there is a branch of College of Education at the college as well as at the university.

"By agreement between the university and the department of education students can enter on one of two-year programs of teacher education," the professor said.

"Most teachers training students from the northern coast and interior of the province go to Victoria College, while it is traditional for students from the lower Fraser Valley to go to UBC," he said.

"However, Victoria college also provides the first two years for teachers planning to enter secondary teaching."

Outlining the merits of Victoria college Professor Gilliland said that in addition it offers first two-year programs in arts and sciences and since it is smaller provides a closer relationship between students and faculty and the opportunity for more individual attention.

"With 672 students this year, in the college, students who loaf are easily found out," he said.

He was emphatic when he told the students that top quality teachers were necessary for the training of all other professions.

Dr. Steinberg, who told how university life offered spiritual and cultural advantages, dealt also with the cost of education.

"The first year at university will cost the student between $900 and $1,000," he said.

The following years become more expensive as they become more technical, and more expensive books are required, he said.

Dr. Steinberg spoke on government loans, available to students of good standing or those who show ability.

He also said that there was a list of scholarships in the university calendar available for students with good standings.

However, on the subject of bursaries and scholarships for which, he said, there was still a great demand, Professor Gilliland said he did not believe in giving bursaries or scholarships just for the sake of giving.

"If there are no students with good standings then a bursary shouldn't be given to just any student," he said.

About a dozen mothers spent an hour talking to Dr. Steinberg and Professor Gilliland after their talks.

WEATHER—

Gale warning in effect. Rain today and Wednesday. Little change in temperature. Winds southerly 35 reaching 60 in exposed areas decreasing to southerly 25 tonight. Low tonight and high Wednesday 42 and 59.

TIDES—

Wednesday, May 14, 1958
(Pacific Standard Time)

High	10:51	16.7 feet
	23:00	18.7 feet
Low	4:53	7.0 feet
	16:50	7.0 feet