

VISION EMPLOYEES RELEASED ON BAIL



Former division engineer of the Fort William division of highways, is shown in the upper left following his lawyer, T. P. Callon, from magistrates' court on Thursday evening where he and two other highways division employees were released on bail following charges as a result of the departmental investigation of the highways department. Right shows Douglas Cutting shielding his face as he left the court.

VISION LACKING

5 MEN ARRESTED IN ROADS INQUIRY

Real Estate Firms See Active Year

Even if no major property transactions are concluded this year—an extremely pessimistic outlook in view of recent seaway and natural gas pipeline developments—Fort William real estate firms foresee business "at least on a par" with 1953.

A survey revealed today that the majority find their dealings comparable with last year at this time and while they feel it may be somewhat early to make accurate forecasts, they predict home-building will see a big boost this year.

The main factor supporting this theory, they point out, is the new legislation passed at Ottawa late last year authorizing lower down payments under federal housing projects.

"Numerous people now find themselves in a position to build who could not otherwise do so because they had not sufficient money to supply the down payment," one real estate official said. "Good building sites will undoubtedly have a better than usual turnover."

A majority report several big transactions "in the fire" but understandably cannot discuss the until the deals are closed. It is highly likely there will be other developments similar to the Simpsons-Sears purchase of property announced late in 1953 by G. R. Duncan & Company Limited for construction of a large new store at inter-city, to improve the picture.

"You might say that we have noticed an increase in the number of inquiries from prospective clients," a firm manager said. "Sales figures are certainly on a par with the January turn-over last year."

All voice the opinion that the year will see no recession so far as real estate is concerned. With the seaway coming closer to being a reality and natural gas from the west assured, it could easily develop into a record year, they believe.

\$10,000 Year Pay for MP's And Senators

Ontario House Will Open Feb. 11

TORONTO (CP) — The Ontario legislature's 1954 session will start Thursday, Feb. 11, it was announced Thursday night.

Three Freed On Bail Here

Five employees of the Fort William division of the Ontario department of highways, accused of irregularities following a departmental investigation here, were arrested Thursday.

Three lakehead men were released several hours later on bail of \$1,000 each while the other two are being brought to the lakehead from Bracebridge and Cochrane where they were arrested yesterday.

The men are charged in connection with alleged irregularities in the Fort William division, said by Highways Minister Doucett not to exceed \$25,000.

Mr. Ibbetson said that the other two men will likely appear in Fort William court Saturday morning. He had no information concerning the arrival of a special prosecutor. No date has been set for the preliminary hearing of the five men.

A. M. Mills, suspended division engineer, was charged under provisions of Section 160 of the Criminal Code that he committed breaches of trust in the discharge of his duties and with intent to defraud. He resides in Port Arthur. Douglas Frank Cutting, division clerk, and Donald Toule Gandier, clerk, both residents of Fort William, were charged with conspiracy to defraud.

Thomas L. Ayres, superintendent of the Fort William division's asphalt plant near Jellicoe, was picked up at Bracebridge, 120 miles north of Toronto, and Graham W. Turner, a clerk, was arrested at Cochrane. Both are accused of conspiracy to defraud.

Ayres and Turner are being returned to Fort William and are expected to appear in court here.

JUDGE FORGOT TO KISS BRIDE

Marilyn Monroe, Joe DiMaggio Wed

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Joe DiMaggio, the former New York Yankee Clipper, has carried off his Hollywood lovely, Marilyn Monroe, leaving millions of fans wondering what will happen to her movie career.

DiMaggio and Miss Monroe were married in municipal court here Thursday, after a two-year romance.

The ceremony was to have been secret, but an estimated 500 persons heard about it and jammed the corridors as the pair said their "I do's."

Judge Charles S. Peery who performed the brief ceremony said plaintively "I forgot to kiss the bride. And I'm sorry." But Joe kissed Marilyn repeatedly if some

PROSECUTOR



Charles Dubin, Toronto lawyer, has been named special prosecutor by Ontario attorney general following a series of arrests within the Ontario department of highways branch at Fort William.

(Central Press Canadian).

Close Vote Is Expected On Project

By JAMES C. MUNN

WASHINGTON (AP)—With backers of the St. Lawrence seaway making strong claims to victory, an opponent prepared to speak "at great length" today as the United States Senate scheduled its third round of debate on the controversial project.

Senator John M. Butler (Rep. Md.) prepared his full-dress speech of opposition with Senators George D. Aiken (Rep. Vt.) and Edward J. Thye (Rep. Minn.) indicating they thought a filibuster might be brewing among those who oppose the seaway. Aiken and Thye favor the measure.

The bill before the Senate would authorize U. S. participation with Canada in building a 27-foot-deep St. Lawrence waterway from the Atlantic ocean to the Great Lakes.

Senator Alexander Wiley (Rep. Wis.), a leader of the pro-seaway forces, issued a confident claim of victory.

"We are ready," he declared, "to vote on this issue at any time."

Wiley's optimism, and that of other seaway supporters, soared Thursday when Senator John F. Kennedy (Dem. Mass.) announced he would vote for the bill. It had been thought that Kennedy would oppose it because of his state's traditional position against the waterway.

A change in any position on the bill is thought significant because the last seaway bill, in 1952, was pigeonholed by a slim 43-40 vote.

OPPOSITION DWINDLES

Earlier this session, Senator Edwin C. Johnson (Dem. Colo.), a 1952 opponent, said he now would vote in favor of the proposal. And another opponent was removed when Senator Mike Mansfield of Montana, a Democrat, defeated the Republican candidate in last year's election. The Montana Republicans oppose the seaway.

In addition, there were unconfirmed reports today that Senator Wallace Bennett (Rep. Utah), who voted against the bill in 1953, had switched his position.

Aiken, telling the Senate Thursday, (Continued on Page 3, Col. 2)

Today's Weather

(Supplied by Dept. of Transport) Maximum temperature at Fort William during the next 24 hours.