

SAYS P. LYNCH DISCOURAGED CHECK ON PAY

Auditor's Employee Details His Attempts to Get Pay Receipts

Montreal, Jan. 15 (CP). — J. A. Garnep, a Montreal bookkeeper, told in the Court of King's Bench today how he had tried to obtain pay receipts in May, 1941, from all employees of Engine Works and Trading Incorporated.

Mr. Garnep, an employee of the company's auditors, said that he had been asked to obtain the receipts by Harry Wolfe, office manager of Engine Works and Trading, but decided not to try to get them after a telephone conversation with another official.

He gave the testimony at the trial of four men charged with conspiring to defraud the Federal Government and three companies of \$200,000 through false pretences in connection with sub-contracts for the Munitions Department. The men are Patrick Lynch, president and general manager of Engine Works and Trading; his son, Donald, former production manager; Patrick Noonan, paymaster, and Daniel Taugher, clerk.

The witness said that during May, 1941, "Harry Wolfe told me to go to the plant and obtain the signature of pay from all employees. Noonan was supposed to take me to the plant, but he left without me. Mr. Wolfe then ordered his chauffeur to drive me to the plant.

Lynch Sounded Angry.

"When I got to the plant, Noonan told me that I was wanted on the telephone. The call was from Mr. Patrick Lynch and he said he 'didn't want any auditors checking up on his son or his nephew.' I told him it was part of the auditors' work, because Mr. Wolfe didn't want Mr. Lynch to know that this was going on.

"I said it was for his own protection. He said he 'had enough confidence in his son and his nephew and that I had better get out of there.' He sounded angry. I reported back to Mr. Wolfe."

Defense Counsel John Ahern, K.C., asked if Patrick Lynch wasn't in hospital the time the alleged telephone conversation took place. The witness said he did not know. He said he recognized Patrick Lynch's voice "because I had heard it often."

Sidney Hurst, 17, of Montreal, testified that toward the end of last May he worked two days for Engine Works and Trading and received between \$8 and \$11. He gave the testimony before Crown Prosecutor Gerald Fauteux, K.C., produced a time card which allegedly showed that he was entitled to \$471, after deductions, for several weeks' work.

Mr. Fauteux said the payroll for May 12, 1942, showed that Hurst allegedly earned \$97.19, before deductions, that week. Hurst said his rate of pay for the two days he worked was 45 cents an hour. He said he never received the \$471.

He said that before he worked he had applied for a job and given in his name and address.

No Job, But on Payroll.

Roland Morin of Verdun, Que., said he had applied for a job with Engine Works and Trading, but never obtained any work or money. Mr. Fauteux produced a card which allegedly showed that an "R. Morin" of 544 Prince Arthur Street, Montreal, was entitled to \$206.

Before adjourning until Monday, the court heard some of the testimony of W. H. Parsons, field accountant for Sorel Industries Limited, one of the companies the accused allegedly conspired to defraud.

Earlier today, Patrick Leonard McCarville of Kinkora, P.E.I., and Napoleon Aumais of Montreal gave testimony somewhat similar to that of Hurst and Morin.

Bill Dickie, well-known amateur hockey player and graduate of Mount Allison University in Sackville, N.B., testified that he worked for Engine Works and Trading from October, 1941, to October, 1942.

Dickie, who said that he now is

assistant superintendent of a chemical plant in Ontario, said that sometimes he had assisted in drawing up the payroll and in paying the men. He said that some of the times he assisted in distributing the pay there were some unclaimed envelopes. "I don't know what happened to them, but I presume Mr. Noonan kept them until employees called for them."

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