

ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCILCONSEIL
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31 March 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONVENTION FOR LIMITING THE MANUFACTURE AND
REGULATING THE DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS OF 13 JULY 1931
AS AMENDED BY THE PROTOCOL OF 11 DECEMBER 1946.CANADA

SEIZURE OF NARCOTICS AT SARINIA, ONTARIO, ON MARCH 25, 1946.

Report No. 8 communicated by the Government of Canada,
June 26, 1946.Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with Article 23 of the Convention for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs of 13 July 1931, as amended by the Protocol of 11 December 1946, the Secretary-General has the honour to communicate the following report on the above mentioned seizure to the Members of the United Nations and to the other parties to the Convention.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

1. Name of person or persons implicated: James Stuart MATSON, Canadian (b. 1924)
2. Date of Seizure: 25.3.46.
3. Place of Seizure: Sarnia, Ont.
4. Kind and quantity of drug seized: 24 Morph. Sulph. Tabs. - 1/4 gr (0.384 gramme)
5 Tubes solution of Morphine - 1/4 gr. (0.08 gramme); 2 Tubes Omnopon- Morph. 1/4 gr. (0.032 grammes); 5 Tubes Omnopon- Morph. 1/3 gr. (0.11 gramme);
7 Tabs. Cocaine Hydrochloride, 1/20 gr. (0.023 gramme)
5. Act and Section under which charged: O. & N.D. Act. Sec. 4(d) "Possession of Morphine Sulphate"
6. Result of prosecution:
 - (a) Date sentenced: 11.4.46.
 - (b) Where sentenced: Sarnia, Ontario.
 - (c) Sentence: 6 Months; \$200 or 3 months in default of payment.
7. Remarks:

It came to the knowledge of the Police that Matson was in possession of a quantity of narcotic drugs which he was endeavouring to dispose of, offering to sell to an Agent, two tubes of Morphine Tablets for the sum of \$20.00. Later on, it was ascertained that Matson

intended visiting a restaurant and that he would be carrying on his person some Morphine Tablets. Appropriate arrangements were made to cover him and on emerging from the Cafe he and a companion were accosted and searched. The search of his companion was negative but on the person of Matson was found the narcotics set forth above, together with other non-narcotic items. On being questioned, Matson said the drugs had been given to him by a man from Port Huron, Mich., U.S.A., whose name and address he did not know, and who had asked that he keep same for him. He was placed under arrest, and, after being duly warned, told another story as to how the drugs originally came into his possession. Matson stated he was a Sailor aboard the Canadian Escort Ship "H.M.C.S. "Morden", when a Rescue Party, of which he was a member, was sent to the aid of the ship's company of a Merchant Ship, the S.S. "City of Christchurch", which had been abandoned and went down off the coast of Spain in March, 1942. The crew of the sunken vessel was found drifting on floats and in lifeboats and, on being picked up, the Chief Attendant of the Merchant Ship gave Matson a First Aid Kit which contained, among other non-narcotic items, the narcotics he had on his person at time of apprehension.

Matson had been in the Canadian Navy for about four years and although he had been discharged for a considerable time he had made no attempt to turn the narcotics over to the proper authorities as he claimed it was his intention of doing, but had retained them in his trunk until his recent attempt to sell some for personal gain.

On being brought to trial, Matson pleaded Not Guilty to the charge of Possession. He was, however, found Guilty and sentenced as stated.

Sgt. K.C. HOSSICK,
Acting Chief, Narcotic Division

June 15th, 1946