

**PROBATION OFFICER TELLS COURT:**

**YOUTH WAS 'REJECTED'**

A youth who accidentally started a fire which did damage of more than £33,000 was "an immature boy, rejected by his mother and his girl friend and living alone," Bristol magistrates were told today.

A probation officer was reporting on Thomas James Griffiths (18), of Hartington Park, Redland.

Griffiths admitted breaking into the store of Baker, Baker, Ltd., College Green, and stealing property worth £1 3s 5d.

He also admitted breaking into the shop of Bristol Model Aero Supplies, Colston

Street, and stealing model kits worth £12 9s. 10d.

Griffiths, who had a previous good character, was placed on probation for three years.

At a previous hearing it was stated that while in the basement of Baker Baker, Griffiths dropped a lighted match which started the accidental fire.

He tried unsuccessfully to put it out with fire extinguishers before running to the Royal Hotel to call the fire brigade.

Today the probation officer, Mr. William Miln, told the court Griffiths' father was away too much to exercise effective control over him.

**'CUT OFF'**

"His mother seems to me to have cut off her son from her affections," he said.

"His attitude to his mother is one of rejection in return for her rejection of him.

"Between the two of them life under the same roof has become intolerable and he will not return home."

Mr. Miln said at the time of the offence Griffiths was lonely and had been drinking too much, and the result was the theft of childish things of little value.

His employment was still open and suitable lodgings had been found for him.

**MAN STOLE 'TO FEED CHILDREN'**

A 41-year-old man gave a false name and address and a false number for his vehicle when he sold scrap metal he had stolen from his employers.

Bristol magistrates were told this today when Dennis William Haynes, of Hardenhuish Road, Brislington, admitted stealing 3½ cwt. of copper and lead worth £55 6s. from the South Western Electricity Board.

When he was arrested by officers of the Police Special Services Squad he told them: "I had to feed my kids some how."

Haynes, who will now lose his job with the board, asked for two further offences to be considered.

He was fined £40 with £3 3s. costs.



**Dispute delays petrol supplies**

Petrol deliveries from the giant Esso terminal in Avonmouth are being delayed by a dispute involving tanker drivers.

**YOUTHS WHO SET KIOSK ABLAZE FINED**

Two youths used a compound consisting largely of weedkiller to set fire to a telephone kiosk in Queen's Road, Bishopscote.

The compound was sodium chlorate, sugar and paraffin. Bristol magistrates were told today.

William Charles Nash (18), of Randolph Close, Hartcliffe, and Robert George Skuse (17), of Smithwood, Hartcliffe, admitted doing wilful damage of £5 10s. to the kiosk.

Nash, with four previous convictions, was fined £15 and Skuse, with a previous good character £10.

In addition each was ordered to pay £4 17s. costs and compensation.

**GLASS BROKEN**

Mr. Oliver Lovibond (prosecuting) said police and the fire brigade were called to the kiosk.

They found six panes of glass broken by the heat, the dialling mechanism melted and the paintwork blistered.

In a statement after their arrest, Skuse said they had just left a youth club and he had a pickle jar containing the mixture.

He put the jar in the kiosk and Nash dropped in a match before they ran away.

"I saw smoke and flames and I thought I hadn't brought the jar," he said.

The youths apologised in court for the incident and said they did not realise the incident would go so far.

**He exchanged H.P. car**

John David Taylor (21), of Holmesdale Road, Bedminster, part-exchanged a car he had on hire purchase. Bristol magistrates were told today.

The £12 he still owed had since been repaid to the finance company it was said.

Taylor who admitted stealing the car, worth £80, was fined £10 with £3 3s. costs.

**Application for bail refused**

A 65-year-old man was charged in Bristol today with having a pair of scissors on a train as an offensive weapon.

David Gwyn Clarke no fixed address, was remanded in custody until April 1. His application for bail was refused.

**Drugs charge**

Andrzej Biesaga (20) of Princess Victoria Street, Clifton, was remanded on bail until April 22 in Bristol today. He was charged with being in unlawful possession of the drug cannabis.

Mr. F. R. Jackson presents the cheque to Mrs. P. Bloom. Watching are Dr. P. S. Sinclair (left), Mrs. Audrey Hawes (hon. secretary) and Mr. Fergus Lyons.

**£250 CHEQUE FOR S.H.E.**

A scheme to provide a new deal for Filtons men over 65 moved a step nearer today.

A cheque for £250 presented to S.H.E. 7 (Self Help Enterprise — Bristol 7) brought the total raised towards providing a workshop for the district's retired men to more than £1,000.

Today's gift came from the Van Nestle Foundation following an Evening Post report on the scheme last January.

Mr. F. R. Jackson, foundation chairman, presented the cheque to Mrs. Phyllis Bloom, chairman of S.H.E. 7, at Falcon House Youth Centre, Filton.

Dr. P. S. Sinclair, vice-chairman, said: "We are grateful to the Evening Post for some invaluable publicity which has helped a great deal in raising the first £1,000."

**★ ★ PAGE ONE BROWN**

Williams announced he would be resigning by the end of February.

He also announced that national agent Miss Sarah Barker would be resigning shortly.

The retirement of Mr. Williams could give Mr. Brown just the opening in the party that he is looking for.

But he is not the only man attracted by the position Mr. Williams is relinquishing. Mr. Anthony Greenwood, Minister of Housing, is also said to be interested.

**'HARM'**

MR. DONNELLY later said of his expulsion that the National Executive "have done themselves much more harm than they have done me."

He would continue in Parliament as an Independent, and would probably fight as an Independent at the next election.

Mr. Glyn Rees, Mr. Donnelly's constituency agent, said: "It is likely that the pro-Donnelly factions will over-ride the anti-Donnelly factions at the Berkshire Labour Party's annual meeting on April 6."

"This means it is possible the Pembroke Labour Party will break away from the Labour movement."



Mr. George Brown leaves with Mr. James Callaghan, the Home Secretary, after attending the Labour Party's National Executive at Transport House, London, today.

**West Dock hopes sink fast**

by DAVID ROSE

Conservative and Labour M.P.s are convinced more than ever that the Government are to give the "thumbs down" to Bristol's £15 million West Dock scheme.

Fears that, by shelving a decision two weeks ago, the Government were merely granting a temporary stay of execution, have been strengthened following last night's Commons debate over the Tress Report.

Mr. Alan Williams, joint Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, outwardly gave no clue to what Transport Minister Mrs. Barbara Castle's final decision would be.

But the general effect of his remarks has reinforced the pessimism among M.P.s of both parties that the final announcement will be unfavourable.

The prospect of outright rejection, however, is being discounted by some M.P.s. It is thought the Government could shelve the project again until the completion next year of the Severn-side study.

Labour M.P.s joined Conservatives in slamming the Government's reply to the Tress Report.

Despite pressure from M.P.s, Mr. Williams was unable to give a firm completion date for the Bristol-Penzance spine road, or say when the Government would announce their decision over the West Dock scheme.

See also Page 9.

**★★★ PAGE ONE Somerset Army**

dig one a bit nearer the village — but it flooded.

The hideout measured approximately 12 feet by eight and its walls were galvanised iron sheet reinforced with timber.

The entrance to the underground room was through a well-camouflaged door.

It had a bramble bush growing out of it.

The dug-out contained five bunks — and the group's supply of ammunition and explosives.

Mr. Loder said: "Only seven people knew where the dug-out was. The six of us, and our area commander."

**Survival**

There were other auxiliary units in the area — at Martock, Crewkerne, and East Coker.

And all would have had to work independently if the invasion of this country had taken place.

Mr. Loder explained: "If the Germans had landed, we would have left our homes and disappeared into the dug-out."

From this base, the groups using mainly explosives, would have gone out on raid: to cause havoc among the invading force.

Although they had only three weeks' rations in their hide-out, they could have existed there almost indefinitely.

Each was trained to live off the land.

About 100 yards from the dug-out was a camouflaged observation post.

There was a telephone link between the two places — although in the observation post the telephone was hidden in a secret wall compartment.

This was to ensure that if the man in the observation post was captured, his friends in the dug-out would not be detected.

Both these hide-outs were blown up at the end of the war when Auxiliary Units were disbanded.

How effective would Mr. Loder's group have been if they had gone into action? "Well, it's impossible to say."

**Why?**

"But, we were all fairly young — and didn't see much fear, and I think we could have caused a lot of chaos among the German forces," said Mr. Loder.

But one thing still mystifies Mr. Loder — why he was picked for Auxiliary Units in the first place.

He once asked the senior officer who first approached him.

The reply he got: "Well, you looked fairly intelligent."

**Two brothers stole cable**

Brothers Arthur Ralph William Garrett (21), of Maynard Close, Hartcliffe, and David Frances Garrett (23), of Fouraces Withywood, admitted stealing cable worth £15 8s. from their employers in Bristol today.

It had been taken from the Marsh Street site of Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.

Arthur Garrett, who had four previous convictions, was given a suspended gaol sentence of six months and his brother was fined £15. They were ordered to pay £5 5s. costs.

**Meeting—for the under-30's**

A Youth Committee for Human Rights Year have been formed in Bristol and they are organising a meeting on Friday open to members of the public under 30.

Mr. Joe Steel, chairman of the British Youth Council, will be guest speaker at the meeting which will be at the Friends' Meeting House, River Street, St. Paul's (7.30 p.m.).

**WEATHER**

**Outlook: dry and warm**

The weather in the Bristol area will remain mild and dry, Gloucester Met. Office said this afternoon.

There will be sunny periods during the day and clear periods at night.

Visibility will be good with winds moderate, occasionally fresh, south to south-westerly.

The minimum temperature tonight will be 6C. (43F.) with the maximum tomorrow of 11C. (52F.).

Outlook: Mainly dry and warm with sunny periods. Times: Tomorrow—Avonmouth 8.12 a.m., 8.27 p.m.; Weston super-Mare, 7.43 a.m., 7.58 p.m.



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