IN THE TERRITORIAL COURT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

· IN THE MATTER OF:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

VS

PATRICK ANDREW MCLEOD



The transcript of the sentencing held before His Honour, Judge T. B. Davis, sitting in Inuvik in the Northwest Territories, on Tuesday, November 15th, A.D., 1983.

APPEARANCES:

J. SHIPLEY: Esq.

Counsel for the Crown

R. REID: Esq.

Counsel for the Defence

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N.W.T. 5349-80/0284

THE COURT: Patrick McLeod has entered pleas of guilty to two charges to be dealt with by the Court admitting that on the 4th of September, 1983, at Inuvik, in the Northwest Territories, he stole money and a ball cap from Manuel Norman (phonetic) and at the time he assaulted Mr. Norman, contrary to Section 303 of the Criminal Code.

He has also admitted that on the 3rd of September in the Town of Inuvik in the Northwest Territories, he committed an assault on Barb Corsair (phonetic), contrary to Section 245 (b) of the Code.

The accused is 21 years of age and has a common-law wife and a seven month old son, both of whom are now living in Tuktoyaktuk. He has grade eight or nine education and has been a labourer when work has been available to him in the past.

The two matters before the Court are both serious charges under the Criminal Code and I just want to quickly review some of the factors that I must take into consideration in sentencing the accused. As noted, the protection of the public is the major factor and sentencing that is suitable as a deterrent to the accused and others, so that the same crimes will not be committed in the future, must be considered and therefore, substantial enough that it is a reminder to all concerned that crimes must not take place.

I also must consider therefore the punishment to be imposed on the accused to ensure that there is a factor of deterrence.

I have to balance those factores of course with the consideration for the individual himself and therefore his

N.W.T. 5349-80/0284

reformation and rehabilitation and ensure that the penalty imposed would not be such that the accused would not have some hopes at rehabilitation.

He still is a relatively young man and therefore, there is always the hope that reformation would be possible. The matters relating to those general factors that are considered by the Court are such things as the circumstances surrounding the offence itself, the gravity of the offence and the maximum sentences suggested by the Parliament of Canada for the type of offences.

I have to consider the attitude and the character of the accused, his previous record, if any, his mode of life, the age and recommendations made by social workers or persons in presentence reports who have made some inquiries into the details and actions of the accused.

I found it was helpful to refer to the Court decisions that have been presented by Counsel today so that any sentence imposed should be within the range of other sentences for similar offences and avoid improper disparity of sentences. The presentence report as prepared indicates that the accused feels badly about assaulting an older person and in fact, defenceless, but that he had been drinking at the time of that offence. The accused appears to have come from a good family but has had some difficulty with the law in the past.

From the review of the cases and from general knowledge, Courts have imposed sentences that have ranged from very short to long terms of imprisonment for robberies with violence and

for assaults and it is difficult to know exactly what would be appropriate, although I do feel it's necessary to consider imprisonment of the accused in these matters.

I do note as pointed out by Counsel that no weapon was used in either of these offences, but that the victim was an elderly person who was at the time in a cast and unable to protect himself and that the other victim of the assault was a female. It is not the first offence concerning assault by the accused since he had an assault charge in 1979 and his record does show that there is a lack of respect for the administration of justice in failing to appear in Court on previous occasions.

There is some lack of respect for other people's property in two other convictions relating to property offences. If it were not for the fact that the presentence report suggested that there are rehabilitative types of programs available in association with the Yellowknife Correctional Center, I'd have seriously considered sentencing the accused to penitentiary which means for more than a two year term in jail. However, because the presentence report does recommend that the accused is sorry that the matters have occurred and since it has indicated that there are programs that should be available to the accused, I'm going to impose jail terms of less than penitentiary, but only less than that because of the recommendations being made, otherwise, it would definitely have been longer than penitentiary minimum.

Under the circumstances then with regard to the charge of

stealing and assaulting, stealing from and assaulting Mr.

Norman, I'm going to impose two years less one day to be served in the Yellowknife Correctional Center and on the charge of assault, I'm going to impose a term of four months to run concurrently to the other offence.

Do you understand that, Mr. McLeod?

ACCUSED: (Nods yes)

MR. SHIPLEY: Your Honour, I'd be remiss if I did not remind

Your Honour of the provisions of Section 98 (1) of the Criminal

Code.

THE COURT: That's the provision with regard to firearms, ammunition and explosive substances for a period of five years?

MR. SHIPLEY: Yes, Your Honour.

THE COURT: I believe I'm required because of violence being used in a commission of an offence to impose an order of prohibition for a minimum of five years on firearms, ammunition, and explosive substances which order will be, I'm directing to be enforced.

MR. SHIPLEY: And as well, I understand that a total o* \$67.85 has been seized from Mr. McLeod. I understand that \$55.00 of that money belongs to Mr. Mcleod and the balance belongs to the victim of the robbery, Mr. Manuel Norman (phonetic). I'd ask that the money be directed upon expiration of the appeal period.

THE COURT: I shall so order that the monies held shall be returned to the proper owners noting that Mr. McLeod is

entitled to \$55 out of the money held, upon the expiry of the ordinary appeal period relating to the charges.

Is there anything else on this, gentlemen?

MR. SHIPLEY: I don't believe so, Your Honour.

MR. REID: No, Your Honour.

(AT WHICH TIME THIS PROCEEDING WAS CONCLUDED)

Certified a correct transcript,

Brenda MacDougell

Court Reporter