

Dresden Restaurant Owners Will Appeal Racial Charge

Appeal on the decision by Magistrate Ivan B. Craig in the Dresden racial discrimination case will be made "within two or three days," William A. Donahue of Sarina said today. Mr. Donahue was counsel for Morley McKay and Mrs. Anne Emmerson of Dresden, convicted of refusing to serve colored people.

McKay and Mrs. Emmerson were fined on Friday by Magistrate Craig. They were the first persons ever charged under the recently legislated Fair Accommodations Practices Act.

Mr. Donahue said that he would "set up everything as we had it before," for the appeal. As for introducing new grounds for dismissal, "we don't know about that yet."

The president of the National Unity Association, Alvin Ladd of Chatham, was dubious as to whether the appeal would be allowed by the court. "We'll just have to wait to see." The association has been a strong supporter of legislation to outlaw discrimination.

The charges against McKay and Mrs. Emmerson arose after colored persons from Dresden, North Buxton and Toronto entered restaurants of the two accused and were refused service.

In defending the proprietors, Mr. Donahue contended that the act was illegal because it provided a penalty and therefore was criminal law. He said the province went beyond its powers in legislating the act because the federal government alone has power to enact criminal law.

Magistrate Craig found that the act was concerned with property and civil rights within the province and, therefore, the province was within its rights to legislate.

Christmas Trees Still Valuable

The 20,000,000 Christmas trees sold in Canada last month, now wilted and brownish, drew praise for past service and a recommendation for further preservation yesterday from A. B. Wheatley, district forester of the Department of Lands and Forests.

The trees have now been thrown into discard, he said, and yet they may serve conservation. Singly or in groups the old Christmas trees offer ideal shelter for birds such as quail, grouse or pheasants.

"This is a critical time of the year for game birds" he said and they need protection from snow, ice and sleet. Let your old tree give them the shelter and make 1955 a happy new year for them."

Often people draw attention to the number of Christmas trees that remain unsold and decry the waste. It is a legitimate excuse, Mr. Wheatley said, but not so serious as it might seem.

Between 15,000,000 and 20,000,000 trees were handled in Canada and approximately 80 per cent of them were exported. Normally these trees and their branches are quite flexible but in cold weather they grow brittle and often branches are broken during shipment.

That is often the reason why trees remain unsold in the retail yards. But even if, for various reasons, as many as 20,000 were not sold, it still represents only one-tenth of one per cent. This can be considered a small margin of loss with an article as fragile as the young and tender trees displayed at Christmas, he said.

fe
tw
se
wi

Pe
at
co
a
at
Fi
re

wa
al
th
to
of
w
n
st
st
S:

si
li
o
b
v
a

w
tl
c
S

a
'
e
C

1
1
1

1
1
1

1
1
1

1