

### 22 Witnesses To Testify In Accused's Behalf

By Osgeod Caruthers  
ZAGREB, Yugoslavia, Oct. 7.—(AP)—Over strenuous prosecution objections the People's court of Croatia today permitted Archbishop Alojzije Stepinac to call 22 witnesses to testify on his behalf. Fourteen others were barred.

The court president gave no reason for refusing the request. The prosecution had contended that admission of any defence witnesses would "prolong the trial" and assailed them as "notorious Fascists." The Archbishop is charged with collaboration with the Germans and their puppet regime in Croatia.

After the court made its rulings, the defence opened its case with presentation of the documents showing that the archbishop was opposed to mass conversion of Serbs.

The prosecution had accused the 48-year-old head of the Roman Catholic Church in Yugoslavia of approving forced conversions and had presented witnesses who testified that armed priests compelled Serbs to accept the Catholic faith.

Pope Pius denied Sunday that he had ever approved "forced conversion" to Catholicism.

Defence lawyer Ivo Politeo declared that the archbishop had given orders before the war and during the occupation to make no distinction between races and that he had engaged in no political work.

He presented documents quoting Archbishop Stepinac's speeches in which he attacked what he called "forceful leaders" of the Puppet Ustashi Government.

Politeo said the copy of the archbishop's reports alleged by the prosecution to have been sent to Rome in 1943 were false and unsigned and instead of saying Croatia was a battle-ground between the Orthodox and Catholic Churches, Archbishop Stepinac had actually condemned the Ustashi Government.

Other defence documents were produced by Politeo to prove that Archbishop Stepinac protested to Ustashi leader Anton Pavelic over crimes committed by the Ustashi, including mistreatment of Catholic priests.

Six priests took the stand. All testified they had been ordered to refrain from indulging in political activities.

prosecutions of espionage accused. He said an embassy official would be paid a bonus of 15 per cent of his salary after two years of secret work on behalf of espionage and 20 per cent after three years.

In late 1943 he had borrowed money from Lt. Col. Nicolai Zambotin, military attache and alleged head of an espionage ring in Canada, to buy furniture for his new apartment. He had paid the money back within 10 months.

Gouzenko confirmed that his wife had given birth to her second child after he severed his connections with the Embassy and said the hospital bills were paid by the Canadian Government.

The trial became ensnarled in another legal argument after he left the stand and it still was proceeding when Mr. Justice G. F. McFarland of the Ontario Supreme Court adjourned it until tomorrow morning.

It revolved around the admissibility of the evidence Gerson gave before the Royal Commission on espionage. Defence Counsel A. W. Beaman argued that it should not be admitted while Crown counsel J. R. Cartwright argued that it was legal and should be admitted.

Completion of Gouzenko's testimony led to speculation that the case might go to the jury late this week.

Gouzenko said he had started to think about fleeing the Embassy a full year before he actually did and that his determination grew "stronger and stronger" in the last six months. Finally the fear that once Koulikov knew his job he (Gouzenko) would be barred from the secret room where secret documents were kept led him to start extracting the papers that now have been used in trial after trial.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 7.—(AP)—To fight a cigarette, Robert Rhodes, 34, struck a match on his trousers. The seat of his pants promptly burst into flame. One of the first casualties of the prevention week, Rhodes was treated at a hospital for first and second degree burns.

### No Progress Made In Mar. Strike

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—(AP)—Government-sponsored negotiations in the maritime strike were recessed until Tuesday after conciliators reported no progress in four hours of talks today.

The parties were so far apart at resumption of negotiations this afternoon that no joint conferences were held, a labor department spokesman said. Meetings were held by conciliators and one or the other of the unions and operator groups involved. The strikers' demands include preferential hiring and wage increases.

Tomorrow's session will be a joint one, however. This could mean that the government is hopeful of making some progress when they bring the striking A. F. L. masters, mates and pilots and C. I. O. Marine Engineers Association together with their employees on the United States east and west coasts.

The conciliators labored under new pressure to obtain a settlement of the seven-old strike by Tuesday night to avert a collapse of the peace talks.

Capt. Harry Martin, president of the Masters, Mates and Pilots Union told newspapermen when the conferences resumed after a week-end "cooling off" recess, that if "agreement is not reached in 48 hours we will walk out of the meetings."

Capt. Martin said he had been told the C. I. O. Union would take the same stand.

### Gouzenko Ends Testimony In Espionage Case

(By Douglas How, Canadian Press Staff Writer)  
OTTAWA, Oct. 7.—(CP)—The Russians have a graduated system of pay bonuses for "secret work" in their embassy in Ottawa. Igor Gouzenko testified today in the conspiracy trial of Harold Samuel Gerson, 41-year-old geologist and former munitions department official for Russia.

The 27-year-old former cipher clerk for the embassy's military attache completed what amounts to the Crown's outstanding testimony in its efforts to convict Gerson of a charge of conspiring to communicate confidential information for Russia. The trial began last Wednesday.

Gouzenko testified under defence cross-examination, that he was paid \$200 a month as a cipher clerk but that the addition of the bonuses and a living allowance gave him a monthly income of \$275 when he fled the embassy Sept. 5, 1945, with the documents that have become the basis of the

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### Chamber Of Commerce Convention Opens Today

WINNIPEG, Oct. 7.—(CP)—The 7th annual meeting of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce opens here tomorrow with private enterprise, labor relations and Canada-world relations among the main items on the agenda.

The three-day convention is expected to draw approximately 40 delegates from throughout the Dominion in addition to sev-

eral representatives from the United States Chamber of Commerce, including president W. K. Jackson of Washington, D.C., who will address the chamber Thursday.

Business reports will occupy the delegates during the opening session tomorrow morning, with the convention swinging into stride at noon with an address by Gordon Cockstutt, president of the chamber, on enterprise in action. In the afternoon a general discussion will be held on private enterprise.

Wednesday morning H. Greville Smith, joint chairman of the labor policy committee of the chamber, will head a discussion on employee relations. Other speakers at Wednesday's session will include Premier Stuart Garson of Manitoba, who will speak on "Facts and fallacies as the in-

redients of policy."

Thursday the convention will study Canada as a world partner, speakers including T. C. Davis, High Commissioner for Canada in Australia.

The joint role of Canada and the United States in the postwar world also will be discussed Thursday by U. S. chamber president Jackson.

The convention will wind up Thursday evening with the election of officers, presentation of resolutions and awards to boards of trade and chambers of commerce for fire prevention, health and safety.

**YORK, England.—(CP)—**A fund has been set up to help ex-choristers of York Minster and Leeds and Wigan parish churches who show outstanding musical ability.

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