

# Fined for attempted break-in

*By a Correspondent*

Two Jewish men attempted to break into a printing shop at Stoke Newington because they thought the firm was publishing fascist literature, said Mr. J. Clifford Watts, the defending solicitor, at North London magistrates' court last week.

Detective Inspector Albert Wickstead told the court that the firm, W. H. Jones, had published literature for John Tyndall's Greater Britain Movement but ceased to do so in May last year.

Manny Carpel, aged 22, unemployed, of Bow, and Michael Cohen, 30, a welfare officer, of Hampstead, both pleaded guilty to attempting to break into the premises with intent to commit a felony and to possessing housebreaking implements by night.

## 'Great provocation'

Commenting that "obviously the provocation was very, very great," the magistrate, Mr. Frank Milton, fined Carpel £10 on each charge and ordered him to pay ten guineas costs. Cohen was granted a conditional discharge for twelve months.

Mr. C. A. Parker, the prosecuting counsel, said that two patrolling police officers saw the defendants in the doorway of W. H. Jones Ltd. on July 20. They appeared to be tampering with the door.

When the officers approached, Carpel, who was wearing gloves, threw down a pair of bolt cutters. The padlock on the door appeared to have been recently tampered with.

Asked what they were doing, Carpel replied that they wanted to get into the premises. Cohen said: "He has been printing Nazi literature and must be stopped."

Mr. Parker added that the firm

had printed a publication called "Spearhead" which was anti-semitic and anti-coloured people, but ceased to do so last year.

Counsel added that the firm was not connected with any fascist organisation but had simply carried out a contract.

Detective Inspector Wickstead reported three previous convictions against Carpel, two of which were connected with political matters. Cohen was of previous good character.

The officer said Cohen, who had a diploma in social science, had worked for the Greater London Council but was dismissed when he was first charged with the offences.

"When I was young, we were taught that a person was innocent until proved guilty," said the magistrate.

"That is out of date, sir," replied Mr. Watts.