



## Sommers Scandal: The Felling of Trees and Tree Lords

By Ian MacDonald, Betty O Keefe

Heritage House Publishing Co Ltd, Canada, 1999. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 211 x 140 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. In 1953, Forests Minister Robert E. Sommers was one of the most powerful men in BC, able to influence the province s major industry, forestry, with a stroke of his pen. Five years later he plummeted from the heights when he was sent to jail for conspiracy and accepting bribes. The Sommers scandal was the first and biggest stain on the record of Premier W.A.C. Bennett s Socredits. Betty O Keefe and Ian Macdonald have recreated those stormy days of the mid-1950s, when Sommers, Bennett, Attorney General Robert Sommers, Phil Gaglardi and Gordon Gibson rocked the rafters of the Legislature with bellowed accusations and denials. Weaving interviews with major players and the media reports of the day, they show the relentless process by which Sommers was finally brought to trial, and reveal the confusing array of verdicts for Sommers and his co-accused. The Sommers story is also the story of BC s forest industry. The forest-management system was under attack and investigation as the Sommers scandal unfolded, and the decisions made in the 1950s set the course for the...

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