



■ AUCTIONEER John Boyle in action. Lots of bargains, some disappointments in 'one of largest sales we've ever had.'

John McKay photo

3175- Beach Drive

## Riffington furnishings net almost \$250,000

Furnishings from the estate of Hubert Wallace fetched almost \$250,000 on the auction block this week.

"The final tally is just being done now," John Boyle, president of Lunds Auctioneers, said Wednesday.

"But we expect it will be in the region of a quarter of a million dollars. It is one of the largest sales we have ever had."

The more than 550 pieces from the estate of Wallace, a Victoria ship-building tycoon, come from his former residence, Riffington, on Beach Drive.

The auction was held Monday and Tuesday evenings in the ballroom of the Harbour Towers Hotel.

"Literally thousands of people viewed the items over the four days before the sale, and the sale itself was very short and sharp. We had about 400 people each night."

Boyle said bargain hunters came from Seattle, Vancouver, up-Island and Eastern Canada.

There were lots of bargains but also some disappointments, he said.

"The dining room table went for \$3,500 and we were hoping to get \$5,000. But then there is not much demand for that size of table."

The table is a Georgian triple-pedestal which seats 14 and has a leaf to extend for larger parties.



■ CROWD jammed the Harbour Towers ballroom Monday and Tuesday to bid on hundreds of antiques

The dining room chairs, two sets of eight, went for \$3,500 a set.

A rapier chest fetched \$500, a writing table went for \$3,800 and there were many items which sold for between \$3,000 and \$5,000, said Boyle.

"The figurines, silver, crystal and paintings went extremely well. Two silver pheasants went for \$2,400 and a crystal and silver candelabra went for \$4,200."

Wallace, who was vice-president of Burrard Shipyards in Vancouver and Yarrow Shipyards in Victoria, bought Riffington in 1946 and lived there until his death in 1984.

The 1.4 hectare estate was sold recently. The asking price was \$1.7 million.