

Warn People, Don't Fall for Bank Inspector Racket

Chief Inspector James L. Erskine of the OPP Anti-Rackets Branch, reports an early recurrence of 'Bank Inspector Frauds' this year. Within the past three years two Georgetown people were taken for large sums of cash through the con game and now it appears to be flourishing again.

In the past few weeks many elderly depositors have been swindled out of thousands of dollars at the following locations throughout southern Ontario:

Hespeler, Beeton, Ingersoll, Tottenham, Brampton, Bradford, London, Dundas, Barrie, Kingston, Brockville, Frankford.

One of six frauds reported in the Brampton area, resulted in the single loss of \$1800.

UNSUSPECTING PERSONS

In past years thousands of dollars have been taken from trusting and unsuspecting elderly persons throughout Ontario by a scheme commonly called 'Bank Inspector Frauds.' Investigations have indicated that a great number of criminals practice sev-

eral variations of this scheme. While there have been some arrests prosecution is very difficult because the 'voice on the telephone' cannot be identified, and the 'pick up man' appears only for a few moments at the elderly person's door.

Detective Sergeant Harry Pelt of the OPP's Anti-Rackets Branch has been assigned to investigate this scheme that usually operates in the following manner:

BANK INSPECTOR FRAUDS

Any time during banking hours of a weekday, the telephone may ring in an average middle-class home. Usually that of an elderly widow. The male caller, in a very business-like and authoritative manner, will identify himself as either a 'bank official' or a member of the police department, presently investigating a dishonest bank employee suspected of tampering with the customer's account.

The caller will then, in a very persuasive tone, obtain from the victim information concerning the amount of mo-

ney on deposit in her account. He will then request that she go to the bank and withdraw a substantial sum of money from her account. As part of the scheme, the victim is advised that in making this withdrawal, she will assist in trapping the dishonest employee; she will also be advised not to tell anyone.

A NEIGHBOR'S PHONE

The caller may offer to pick her up, send a taxi, meet her at a pre-determined rendezvous, or imply that she may have received counterfeit money. In a recent withdrawal he will take and examine it for her. If she expresses doubt that the caller is a police officer or a bank official, he will tell her to hang up and call back, however, he will keep her line open by hanging up and when she dials again he will answer accordingly.

Bank inspectors or police officers DO NOT under any circumstances ask persons to withdraw money from the bank.

Any person approached under these or similar con-

ditions should call their local police department on a neighbour's phone.

LIFE'S SAVINGS

This scheme has been used with increasing regularity in cities and rural communities across Canada and the U.S. Thousands of dollars have been taken from trusting and unsuspecting elderly people, which they can ill afford to lose; in some cases their life's savings, and perhaps money they have put aside for their own funeral expenses.

Relatives and friends of elderly people should impress upon them that they should never — under any circumstances — withdraw money from their bank account when approached in the manner outlined in this article. They should ALWAYS consult the police, or their BANK MANAGER PERSONALLY.

Bank employees can also aid in preventing these vicious crimes by bringing to the manager's attention, large withdrawals by senior citizens.

ON AN EVEN KEEL

There was an exodus from Branches of — Districts B.C.D. and F. to Burlington on Saturday.

350 executive type members sat at the feet of the scribes and wise men of the Royal Canadian Legion and absorbed the teachings and received guidance for keeping their respective Branches on an even keel.

Five executive members of 120 were at this all embracing school of instruction which covered all aspects of Legion procedure.

We hope to have more information on this very important subject next week.

STEWARTTOWN

Show Good Planning in New Senior School

Last Friday evening, we had the pleasure of attending the official opening of the Stewarttown Senior Public School. This school, although located in this village serves a tremendous area in Esqueving Township and after touring the premises we can only say that the School

Board has looked well to the future, and shows a deep concern for all the children in their jurisdiction.

We were most impressed by the atmosphere of this new school, as exemplified by the principal, Mr. Ron Chatten and his staff, and sensed a great

kindness and understanding in their attitudes towards the pupils in their care.

The Library, the Shop, and Home Economics room will be a constant delight, and who can say how many citizens will be started in a lifetime path of service through the training they will receive in such harmonious surroundings throughout the whole school.

The School choir, although organized in January showed

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a sparkle and a sense of rhythm and tone, that was a pleasure to hear.

We feel that Esqueving has established a focal point of Township interest in building this school and the various facilities it offers will be of immense help in the life of the whole Esqueving School Area. Mrs. C. A. Grant

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Friday Dart Shoot Proves Popular Legion Attraction

By Ralph Hawes

By mutual agreement Lloyd Boyd and Yours Truly seem to have drifted into a satisfying situation where we share the arduous ways and means and Entertainment Chairmanships. This is advantageous to both chairmen as the function of the two committees quite frequently interlock and it becomes desirable to work as a team.

Lloyd, we feel sure, will agree with us that this weekend has been gratifying as far as the two committees are concerned.

PENS FLYING

Friday evening Dart Shoot was another sellout. Those wishing to participate were so keen that the pens of Ann Nicholson, Doris McCartney, and Yours Truly were fairly flying taking names. Within half an hour, all nine games were taken and many would-be Dart Shooters were disappointed.

The lucky winners were: — B. Edie, B. Collins, R. Rudiger, R. Lincoln, D. Bowman,

B. Reyce, B. Emond and P. Findley. Maybe Bruce McCartney, who is in charge of the shoot, will find it necessary to increase the number of games if the evening continues to be popular as it is now.

KEPT GAMES MOVING

Bob Nicholson (we have it right this time Ann), Harry Botoms, Roy Rudiger and Joe Poirier kept the games moving along at top speed and all prizes had been won by 11:15 p.m.

Saturday night dance was also a near sellout with well over one hundred dancers enjoying the rhythm of John Tocher and his versatile group. The winner of the big one was Andy Michasiw. Door prizes went to Ralph Purvis, and the second one to guess who, Mrs. Ralph Purvis.

The other big one for the weekend was the speed in which the stag tickets are going. We are always a bit pessimistic when tickets for entertainment are on sale. This time we had

no need to worry.

HOST ZONE

The weekend was also big on sports. Our ladies were host to the Zone Ladies for Darts. Fourteen teams threw darts for the Zone Championship in the Branch auditorium Saturday afternoon.

Branch 120 ladies cleaned up on this one by winning the first second and third spots with a team in a qualifying spot. In consequence, four teams from the Branch will enter into the Regional Playoffs. Marg Hedley's team took first spot, Ann Nicholson's ladies were second, while Jean Lockhurst and her team were third. Edna Rippon's team qualified. Nice work ladies.

The lucky draw for the afternoon was won by S. Broadbent of Port Credit but again Georgetown won the second and 3rd prizes. Elma Casperayud took them both home.

BOWLED WELL

At the men's Zone Bowling at Port Credit on Saturday, Georgetown did quite well considering most of the bowlers were at a dance on Friday night.

Brampton were the winners, with Georgetown, Port Credit, Port Credit, Georgetown finishing in that order. The top three teams will enter the District Bowling Championship which is in Welland on March 9th.

The Georgetown team which finished Second and got into District are George Nurse, Don Wilkes, Jack Cuthbert, Jack Timpson, Trev Williams and Brad Little.

Don Wilkes captured the high score with 356 while Norm Buckley found the hidden score which was 299.

Esqueving Best Record in Family Counsel Service

Ann Landers would be out of a job if all areas were like Esqueving Township. Again the Halton County Family Counselling Service report revealed only one case from Esqueving Township in their files, last year.

As might be expected Burlington topped the case load with 111, next came Oakville with 92, followed by Milton with 47, then Georgetown, almost twice as large as Milton, with 20, Acton with 14, Naasagaweya with 4, and Esqueving with 1. Esqueving has a larger population than Acton, Milton or Naasagaweya.

Rennie J. Vivian, Halton's family counsellor, reported an increase of over three hundred interviews last year.

Again this year Marriage Counselling Classes will be held in three different areas in the County. In addition to lectures by doctors, lawyers, ministers, and representatives of financial institutions this year two Home Economists have volunteered to instruct in the purchasing of consumer goods.

Mr. Vivian foresaw an increase in staff, training, and office space in the coming year, if a high standard of service is to be maintained.

OH, THOSE COLD BREEZES!



GUESTS SHOULD BE MADE AS COMFORTABLE as possible, says John Sommer as he drapes a woollen scarf around the neck of a young lady who has been withstanding winter's severest blasts on the front lawn of Mr. Sommer's House Sol gallery on Charles St. The iron girl is an Andreas work properly entitled "The Swinger." By braving winter's worst the unflinching young thing is certainly showing her metal.

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