

Rape, assault, fraud charges against 'priest'



Fifth Line retreat house.

A six-month police investigation has resulted in charges of rape, sexual assault and fraud against a man who describes himself as a priest at a religious retreat on the Fifth Line, Halton Hills, a mile north of Limehouse.

Denis Edward Scallen who calls himself Father Benedict Maria, a divorcee and former scientist who pioneered research into growing tomatoes at the metal clad building on the Fifth Line, clearly marked, "The Benedicines of Mary Immaculate", is to appear in court to answer charges in Milton at the Spring Assizes. He is out on bail now, according to police superintendent Floyd Schwartz.

The investigation was conducted over the lengthy period by two officers from the Criminal Investigation Services and additional staff

used to execute a search warrant on the building.

Scallen who claims he was ordained a priest by a bishop from Nevada and subsequently an abbot, set up a retreat house for "nuns" at the Limehouse location and attracted novices from as far away as the United States.

However, Most Rev. Paul F. Reding, Roman Catholic Bishop of Hamilton diocese, which includes Limehouse, says Scallen is not a priest in the Roman Catholic Church. Bishop Reding's statement was backed by local Catholic clergyman who said that although some accept him as a bona fide priest he has never been ordained in the church.

Father Jim Scoles, a priest from St. Basil's, Brantford, who investigated the case, said the women who went to him really thought they were real sisters and he was a real

Council rejects cutting its numbers

Cutting out one councillor from each area, and leaving only one area and one regional councillor for each ward, didn't go over with Halton Hills councillors when it was recommended by the Bill 151 review committee, set up to suggest changes in regional government set up.

This would leave nine at Halton Hills council, rather than the present 13. This was the only idea, put forward by the committee to be shot down.

Peter Pomeroy, the review committee chairman, emphasized this was his personal feeling. He said 13 is a cumbersome, unwieldy number, and said it would place the burden on the voter to choose the right person.

Councillor Pat McKenzie said if one of the representatives in the ward is away, it would leave only one to contact. He claimed his workload is heavy enough now.

Councillor Les Duby claimed the people would object strongly to this since they wouldn't have as many to serve them. He said it would be pushing the workload to a full time level, then the ordinary working man could not run for office.

Councillor Mike Armstrong agreed it would be one step closer to one tier government. He claimed that compared to the amount of time regional councillors spent on region business and the amount spend on local business they were vastly overpaid. "It

would be a more correct approach to reduce regional councillors' salaries. They don't earn what they take home."

McKenzie retorted, "I don't know about Mr. Armstrong's workload at regional council, but I'm extremely busy. I couldn't do it if I had a full time job. For him to say

regional council doesn't earn its pay, I hope he's speaking for himself."

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Santa makes debut in parade next month

The stage is set for the 1977 Santa Claus parade. This year's theme is "The World of Make Believe".

Permission has been granted from Halton Hills Council to have the parade on November 26 at 1:30 p.m. Chairman of the event John Rivett wrote to the works department for permission explaining the parade would begin on Crescent Street, and head north on Maria to Church St. Here it would travel east to Fellow St., and north again to Mill St. Traveling west on Mill the parade would then connect up with Main St., travel north to Knox

Ave. and on towards the arena. His letter has been sent on to the Halton Regional Police.

This is the same route as last year. The parade will once again be put on by the Acton Y's Men's club. Dr. Frank Oakes will be the parade master with Les Duby, Mansell Nellis, Ted Tyler and Jennifer Barr acting as float judges.

At the present time, according to Mr. Rivett, there is no idea how many floats there will be. However, he said, there are currently people telephoning last year's entries to see if they will have a

repeat performance.

Mr. Rivett said he would like to see a lot of floats this year. He explained that merchants are very generous with donations for the cause, but explained that floats are also a very important part of a parade.

Bands already lined up are the Georgetown Girls' Pipeband, the Cambridge Salvation Army Band, the Guelph Concert Band and the Georgetown Majorettes.

Anyone wanting more information about the parade, or who would like to enter a float, is asked to call 853-2478 or 853-0486 any time.

Former pump shed's fate put over

The fate of a former water pumping station on Acton's Main Street may be decided within a couple of weeks.

General administration committee last week postponed making recommendations to council on the property, on the west side of

Wolves, dogs kill sheep

Wolves are still on the prowl around R.R. 4, Acton, according to livestock evaluator Clare Wilson.

Halton Hills council, on his recommendation approved the payment of \$100 for two sheep killed by wolves, to William Dobie, R.R. 4, Acton. In the same area J. Brown had four ducks killed by dogs, resulting in a claim for \$20. In the Norval area a lamb, owned by Mrs. Evelyn Branch was killed by dogs, causing a \$55 loss.

HRP have suspect

Halton Regional Police arrested a suspect in connection with the smashing of the front window of Hinton's store on Mill Street on October 7.

Mill, Wilbur collision

A collision near the corner of Mill and Wilbur Streets resulted in \$450 in all to two cars Thursday afternoon.

The car driven by John McDonald of R.R. 4 Rockwood received about \$200 in damages, according to Halton Regional Police.

The second car, driven by Kathleen Jansen, of Meadvale Road, took the balance, police say.



CHRYSTY NEWMAN WAS one of many who took part in the YMCA's soup and sandwich lunch October 6. The Y sold out of food in the course of their most successful luncheon yet.

Remembrance service plan

Arrangements are being made for town and district Remembrance Day services, by the Legion.

Poppy Day will be on Friday, Nov. 4, when Legionnaires will be calling on houses and businesses. They will also be selling poppies on the street if the weather is not too bad.

On Sunday, Nov. 6 there will be Remembrance Day

Police charge noisy pair

Two Acton men were charged in connection with a swearing and shouting disturbance in the Canadian Style Donut Shop at Mill and Main Street October 12.

According to police, the pair were staggering and falling against pinball machines in the store.

services at Acton's cenotaph followed by a service in the United Church, at Rockwood with a service in the school, and at Haltonville with a service in the Presbyterian church.

In Acton the parade will take its usual route from Fellow St. down Mill to the cenotaph. Here the service will be held with the traditional laying of wreaths. A service will be held in the United Church afterward. The Lorne Scots color party will stand guard at the cenotaph. Special music in the church is planned.

Marching will be the band, Legion, Legion Ladies' Auxiliary, firefighters, representatives of participating organizations, Guides, Brownies, Venturers, Scouts, Cubs and Beavers.

Afterward the usual veterans' dinner will be served

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