

# Vandals cause \$600 million damage

By JULIAN REED  
Liberal M.P.P.  
(Halton-Burlington)

Based on a survey of 757 school systems enrolling about half the public elementary and secondary students in the United States, vandalism in schools cost about \$600 million a year - more than was spent on textbooks in 1972, and sufficient to hire about 50,000 additional teachers. In addition to vandalism, students are venting their frustrations in more bizarre ways. Every year, there are some 70,000 serious physical assaults on teachers, and hundreds of thousands of assaults on students - an increase of 58 per cent in the period from 1970 to 1974. Sex offences were up 63 per cent, drug-related crimes 31 per cent and robbery 117 per cent.

Hopefully, the situation is not as serious in this country - yet. Nevertheless, there is considerable cause for concern, for vandalism is increasing, and rapidly. One of the most common, frustrating and puzzling of criminal activities, vandalism has occurred in every age, yet little is known about who does it, why it happens, and more importantly, how to stop it.

In Metropolitan Toronto, in the first six months of this year, one third of one borough's budget to maintain bus shelters was used to pay for damage caused by vandalism; 25 per cent of another borough's roadside-planted trees are broken or stripped each year. Portable classrooms are burned, fire hydrants turned on, bicycle tires or chains thrown at hydro transformer stations, and countless windows are broken in schools or municipal buildings. In Metropolitan Toronto, willful damage to municipal property which must be repaired or replaced by school boards and municipal councils - everything from picnic tables to parking meters - costs taxpayers more than \$2 million a year.

Sault Ste. Marie has a 33 member task force to investigate the problem of vandalism. A sub-committee on damage to educational establishments reports that replacement and repair costs the separate school board about \$13,000 a year out of a \$1.5 million plant services budget for its elementary schools. In one three-month period, 111 acts of mindless destruction caused more than \$19,000 damage in Nepean Township. Police in the area maintain that statistics show only the tip of the iceberg, because much vandalism is never reported. Also less than 10 per cent of those responsible will ever be arrested.

One recent week-end spree by vandals in Sarnia cost an estimated \$20,000 damage.

In schools, the usual point of attack is windows - for example at Brennan high school, in South Western Ontario nearly \$3,000 in glass was destroyed in the spring of this year. The Windsor public school system puts a price tag of about \$40,000 a year on windows. For 1975, a total of \$160,000 was spent by both city school boards to repair vandalism - much of this as a result of deliberately set fires.

There is a line which sharply divides childish pranks and criminal vandalism. Unfortunately, it is a line not always visible to many people who get their kicks from destroying property, who find amusement in ransacking a school, damaging public buildings, or pushing over cemetery headstones.

Following a particularly serious outbreak of vandalism in his Hamilton West Riding, Liberal Leader Stuart Smith urged that criminals should be forced to compensate their victims. He asked the Attorney-General what the Province had done to implement law reform commission proposals on restitution for crimes.

In Hamilton, the Deputy Police Chief has urged people to be prepared to stand up for their neighbours as well as themselves when it comes to reporting rowdiness to the police - that the community should do more to help police control vandalism and related problems. Veteran police inspector, Greg Cousins, of Hamilton, commented - "If the courts in this country would take a property stand it wouldn't happen. Juvenile offenders consider going to court to be just a big joke. They just laugh at the system." He maintains the courts are too lenient, that they rarely send young offenders to training school, and that bail reforms have made the work of the police increasingly difficult. The result, he says, is that "our men are discouraged."

Cont. next page



# LET A & P SET YOUR



All prices shown in this ad guaranteed effective through Saturday, October 8th, 1977.



**With Coupons Below!**  
A SUPERB BLEND RICH IN BRAZILIAN COFFEE

## 8 O'CLOCK COFFEE

1-lb Bag **2.99**  
Save \$1.00 with Coupon

## 3-LB BAG 8.79

Save \$3.00 with Coupon

**Real Value!**  
Silvermills whole or jelly  
**CRANBERRY SAUCE**  
14-fl-oz tin  
**49¢**

**Action Priced**  
Jane Parker, Sliced, Enriched, White or 60% Whole Wheat  
**SANDWICH BREAD**  
24-oz loaf  
**2 for 279¢**

CUT FROM CANADA GRADE "A" BEEF!

## Prime Beef Rib

**Roasts lb 1.38 | Steaks lb 1.58**

Maple Leaf - Regular or All Beef (2 lb Vac Pac 1.55) Beef or Pork  
**Wieners** 1-lb vac pac **79¢** **Burns Sausage** lb **89¢**

Maple Leaf, Regular, All Beef, Thick Sliced  
**Sliced Bologna** 1-lb vac pac **94¢** **Pork Shoulders** lb **1.89**

Maple Leaf 1 lb Vac Pac  
**Breakfast Slices** **1.08** **Beef Steakettes** **1.58**

Burns - Coll Golden  
**Garlic Sausage** lb **1.08** **Chicken Cutlettes** lb **88¢**

Cooked Ready to Serve

## HAMS

Whole 16 TO 20 LBS AVERAGE lb **98¢**  
or Shank Portion  
**BUTT PORTION lb 1.08**

**Real Value!**  
A&P PROCESS, SINGLE  
**CHEESE SLICES**  
16-oz pkg **149**

**Real Value!**  
**ICE CREAM**  
7-lb carton **99¢**

Shortcake, Nice, Digestive, Chip Rings Action Priced!  
**PEEK FREN BISCUITS** 14-oz tin 16 bag **89¢**

Grape, Lemon, Orange, Raspberry, Wild Fruit Flavour Action Priced!  
**Quench CRYSTALS** 22-oz container **1.79**

QUAKER - Raisin & Date, Regular, Apple Cinnamon Action Priced!  
**Harvest Crunch** 850-g pkg **1.79**

BEATRICE  
**Cottage Cheese** 16-oz carton **69¢**

PLASTIC  
**Saran Wrap** 100 foot roll **99¢**

MONARCH-10 Varieties ACTION PRICED!  
**CAKE MIXES** 9-oz pouch pack **3 for 1.00**

PETER PAN 3-LB JAR ACTION PRICED!  
**Peanut Butter** **1.99**

STOKELY 28-FL-OZ TIN  
**Fancy Pumpkin** **49¢**

PLASTIC ACTION PRICED!  
**Glad Bags** Pkg of 20 **1.99**

LYNCH - WITH RUM  
**Mincemeat** 24 fl-oz jar **1.49**

### SCOTT PAPER STOREWIDE SALE!

White, Yellow Green, Decorator	Pkg of 2 rolls	Super, Toddler Size	Pkg of 24
<b>Scot-Towels</b>	<b>99¢</b>	<b>babyScott Diapers</b>	<b>2.29</b>
Bathroom-White, Pink, Yellow, Green	Pkg of 4 rolls	Facial-White, Pink, Yellow, Green	Box of 200 sheets
<b>Cottonelle Tissue</b>	<b>1.09</b>	<b>Scotties Tissue</b>	<b>59¢</b>

Clip Valuable Coffee Coupons Below and Save!

We Pick The Best For Our Own Fine Brands  
IF SAVING MONEY AT THE SUPERMARKET IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS FINE QUALITY, TRY YOUR OWN A&P BRANDS. THEY'RE EVERY BIT AS GOOD OR BETTER THAN THE OTHER FAMOUS BRANDS. AND YOU PAY LESS.

**A&P**

**SAVE 1.00 WITH THIS COUPON**  
A Superb Blend, Rich in Brazilian Coffees  
**8 O'CLOCK COFFEE** 1-lb bag **2.99**

LIMIT ONE COUPON PER CUSTOMER. VALID UNTIL OCTOBER 8TH, 1977. No. 627

**A&P**

**SAVE 3.00 WITH THIS COUPON**  
A Superb Blend, Rich in Brazilian Coffees  
**8 O'CLOCK COFFEE** 3-lb bag **8.79**

LIMIT ONE COUPON PER CUSTOMER. VALID UNTIL OCTOBER 8TH, 1977. No. 628



Don't forget to pick up a delicious A&P Pumpkin Pie