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Friday, May 14, 1982

Police Beat

Acton woman gets 18 months

Dorothy Irene North of Acton was sentenced Tuesday to 18 months in jail for criminal negligence causing the death of three-year-old Paul Steven Johnston last Aug. 18. Judge G.T. Evans of the Ontario Supreme Court also sentenced her to a concurrent term of three months for criminal negligence causing bodily harm to the boy's father, Stanley Johnston of RRI Inglewood, who was hospitalized a month with head injuries. Expressing deep regret and sorrow, Mrs. North, a mother of two, was placed on three years' probation and has had her driver's licence suspended for five years. The court learned that she drank an excessive amount of alcohol before driving her car head-on into the oncoming Johnston vehicle. Mrs. Johnston and three other children in the car she was driving were uninjured.

Tannery thieves caught

Five people have been arrested for internal theft at the Beardmore tannery in Acton, Halton regional police Const. Doug McMillan arrested the fifth person Wednesday night, bringing the case to a close. Criminal Investigations Bureau chief Les Graham said skins were being shipped to a Toronto shoe repair shop. An unofficial source said the thefts had been going on for about two years by two Acton trucking companies working for Beardmore. Two employees in the shipping department were the inside connection in the thefts. Both employees have been fired. The total thefts were said to be less than one per cent of Beardmore's production.

Foodstore break-in

The IGA store on Acton's Main Street North was broken into between 3 and 4:55 a.m. yesterday (Thursday) morning. Thieves got in through a rear window. Halton regional police Staff Sgt. Les Graham said store staff are taking inventory to determine what was taken.



IVAN THE LION-HEARTED

Ivan Crabtree (right) was honored at a recent Lions Club meeting for his 30 years as an active member of the club. "For his loyal service and devotion to the objectives of Lionism," Mr. Crabtree, 76, was presented with 1982 membership card, a plaque and a chevron, by past District Governor Fred Zorge.

(Herald photo by Ani Pederian)

Vicente sentencing July 20

Motorist found guilty in car-bicycle fatality

By ANI PEDERIAN
Herald Staff Writer

A 32-year-old Toronto man has been found guilty of criminal negligence in the death of Georgetown resident Bill Smeaton last Aug. 27.

The eight-man, four-woman jury found Jorge Vicente guilty Wednesday at 4:30 p.m., just hours after being sent to the jury room by Milton county court Judge James Carnwath. The trial began Tuesday.

Mr. Smeaton was bicycling to work at Standard Products (Canada) Ltd. on Guelph Street when he was struck by the blue 1975 Chevrolet Monza driven by Mr. Vicente. He died of multiple injuries and was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident by coroner Ivan Hunter.

Mr. Vicente will be sentenced July 20. He is being held in custody.

Mr. Smeaton was bicycling eastbound on the south shoulder of the road, about three feet from the paved portion, when he was hit by the car.

Driving west along Guelph Street, Mr. Vicente testified that he remembered nothing of the accident. He told the court Tuesday that he remembered passing the flashing yellow lights at Delrex Boulevard, then looking at his watch, which said 6:32 a.m. Mr. Vicente said he doesn't remember anything else until awakening at Georgetown District Memorial Hospital.

CAR VEERED

A driver travelling eastbound in the same direction as Mr. Smeaton testified that he observed a blue car veer from the opposite lane, crossing the centre marking to come directly toward him and in a continuous motion move onto the south shoulder of the road.

"It struck a cyclist on the shoulder of the road who was ahead of me by about 400 feet," witness David Johnstone said. "The cyclist was up in the air the last point I saw him. He was over top of the vehicle, about the same height as the hydro wires."

Mr. Johnstone said the blue car was moving at about 50 miles per hour, a speed also estimated by another witness. The speed limit along that section of the road is 60 kilometres (about 35 mph) per hour.

"The person (on the bicycle) was riding in a normal fashion, in a straight line," Mr. Johnstone said.

Stopping his car, Mr. Johnstone returned to the scene to find the Monza had gone over the ditch and stopped three feet from a tree. He said there was only one person in the car.

Witness Christine McNiven, who works at Standard Products, testified she had waved to Mr. Smeaton, then driven past him to turn into the company parking lot at about 6:30 a.m.

HIT TREE

From the parking lot she said she heard the sound of gravel flying and turned to see the blue car hit a tree and come to a stop. Mrs. McNiven said she ran into work and immediately had somebody call the police.

Responding to an accident call near Armstrong Avenue and Guelph Street, Const. Robert Ustrzycki of the Halton Regional police said he arrived at 6:40 a.m. to find a Monza facing westbound in the south ditch of Guelph Street. The vehicle had damage to its left front, hood, and windshield. He

said the accused was behind the steering wheel and the main part of a bicycle was under the right front corner of

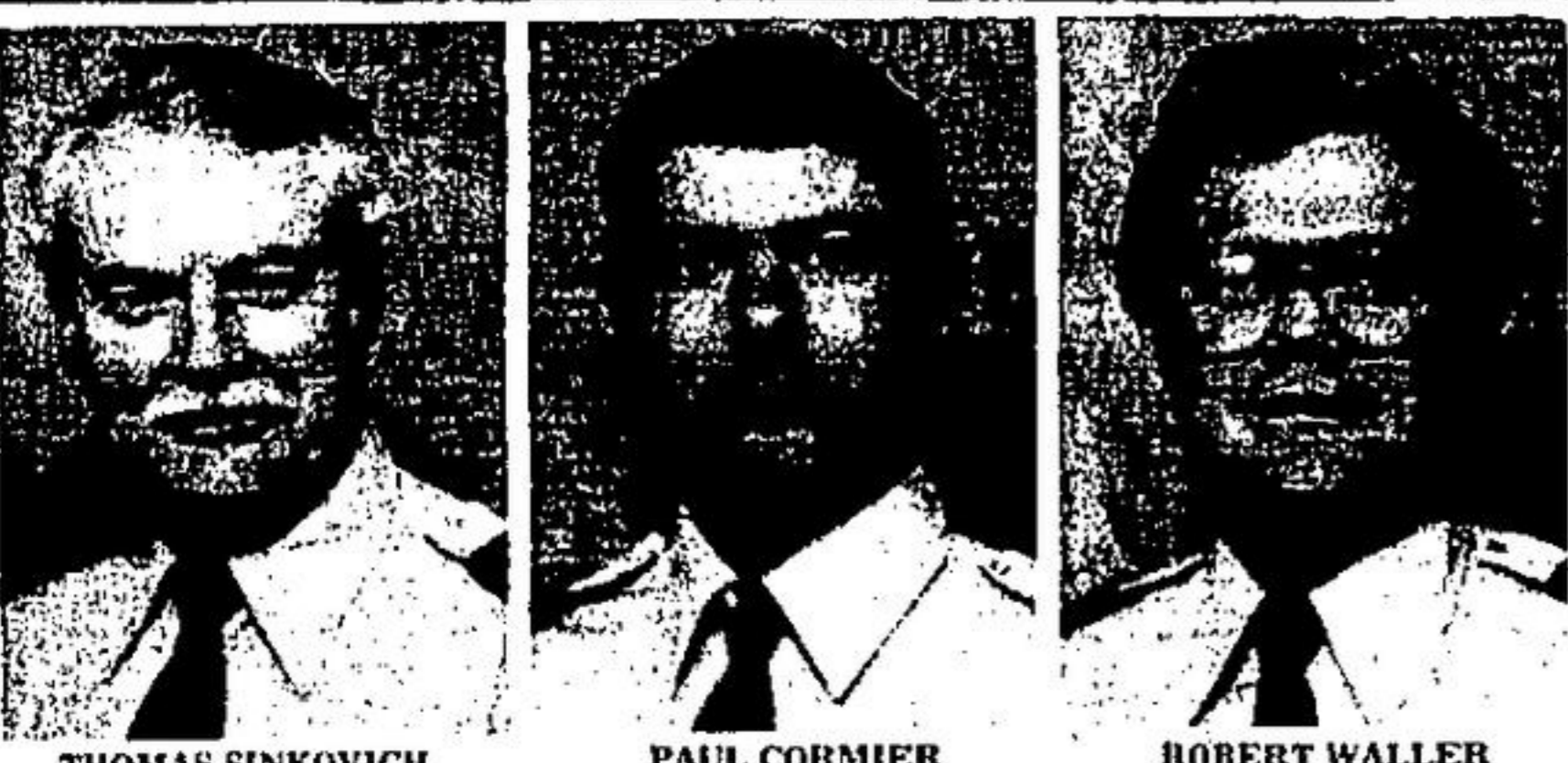
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VISION OF HOPE

No more having to walk up to the blackboard to see the notes the teacher has chalked up. Laurie Anne Phillips, 12, of Centennial Public School was presented May 4 with a Bushnell Pocket Scope by Lions Club sight and hearing committee chairman Vic Bristow. Laurie has less than ten per cent vision and the eyescopes will allow her to see the blackboard from her desk, like the other students in her class.

(Herald photos by Ani Pederian)



THOMAS SINKOVICH

PAUL CORMIER

ROBERT WALLER

Take time for sergeants

Happy Police Week! Three are promoted

In keeping with the Force's programme of staff development, Chief James Harding has announced that the following promotions have been confirmed by the Police Commission.

Constable Thomas Sinkovitch has been promoted to the rank of sergeant and has been transferred from 20 Division uniform section to assume supervisory duties in the uniform section in 11 Division, Halton Hills.

Sergeant Sinkovitch began his police career in 1962 with the Metropolitan Toronto Police Force and joined the Halton Regional Force in August, 1969, where he has

served in both the uniform section and the criminal investigation section in 20 Division, Oakville.

In 1978, Sergeant Sinkovitch was the recipient of a Halton Safety Council Life Saving Award.

Constable Paul Cormier has been promoted to the rank of sergeant and has been transferred from the 20 Division uniform section to assume supervisory duties in the uniform section in 11 Division, Halton Hills.

Sergeant Cormier began his career as a cadet in June, 1963, and has considerable experience in the uniform patrol section as well as in

the criminal investigation section in 20 Division, Oakville.

Constable Robert Waller has been promoted to the rank of sergeant and has been transferred from the District 1 criminal investigation section to supervisory duties in the uniform section at 12 Division, Milton.

Sergeant Waller commenced his police career, as a cadet in August, 1969, and has served in both the uniform patrol section and the criminal investigation section in both 20 Division, Oakville and District 1 Georgetown. Sergeant Waller served with the Joint Forces Drug squad as well.

Collapse of 'mega-projects' angers Jelinek

Outraged by the collapse two weeks ago of the Alsands oil project, Halton MP Otto Jelinek recently used the issue to blast away at the federal government's proposal National Energy Program.

Speaking during Parliament's question period May 4, Mr. Jelinek charged that the Alsands loss "is probably the greatest blow to Canada and its economy", and called on the Liberal government to resign.

"Now, with the actions of this government," he said, "the energy self-sufficiency dream... (has) gone down the drain."

Mr. Jelinek told the House of Commons that drilling activity to search for new oil supplies dropped 25 per cent last year, while new drilling in the U.S. increased by the same amount.

"Since the introduction of the National Energy Program, 225 rigs have left Canada," Mr. Jelinek said.

Mr. Jelinek pointed out that the Alsands project alone would have generated \$14 billion in revenue, plus millions more from "spin-offs" in the manufacturing industry. In addition, 100,000 new jobs would have been created through the project as well as another in Cold Lake, Alberta.

He suggested that the "socialist tendencies" of Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau are to blame for government policies which, Mr. Jelinek said, led to the collapse of Alsands. Mr. Jelinek proceeded to list the Prime Minister's involvement in the 1940s with an anti-war movement called "Le Bloc Populaire" and noted that Mr. Trudeau also enrolled in at Harvard University, "which at that time was a spawning ground for leftist intellectuals."

Mr. Jelinek underlined other points in Mr. Trudeau's political career, including leading a Communist delegation to Peking in 1960.

The debate heated up considerably and at least one Liberal backbencher heckled "hate, hate, hate" at Mr. Jelinek.

Concluding his remarks, Mr. Jelinek said Parliamentarians must stop "pussy-footing around" and call "a spade a spade so that (the Liberals) know where they are sitting - and many of them know and feel embarrassed about the situation."

He suggested the government resign because, he charged, it has been unable to deal with the country's worsening economic situation. If it didn't, the governor general should dissolve Parliament and call an election "on behalf of the people," he said.



'NOW LET'S NOT HAVE ANY TROUBLE'

Halton regional police crime prevention officer Scott Pringle gives a laughing order to Florence Baker of Georgetown. Mrs. Baker and her husband George were among the public given a tour of the Georgetown station Monday night. Laughing in the background is station duty officer Lee-Ann Turner, who brought the Police Week guests to the holding cell for women. Mr. Baker said he retired one and a half years ago as an inspector with the Peel regional force.

(Herald photo by Ani Pederian)



Another glimpse at Georgetown high school's past, this one from 1951