

Orval's weather

I'm all ready for Santa!



Saturday partly cloudy, cold. Sunday the same.

# Life sentence delivered

Lawrence Stocking, 24 was sentenced in Supreme Court Monday to life in prison with no eligibility for parole for at least 25 years for the contract killing of Brampton restaurant owner Tony Babakos.

Stocking pleaded guilty to first degree murder last month, admitting that he gunned down Babakos in the kitchen of the Vega restaurant in Aug. 1982.

**COWARDLY**

Judge John Bowlby said the crime committed by Stocking was "cowardly and despicable" in handing down the maximum sentence allowed by law.

Evidence during the trial revealed Stocking was paid \$10,000 to carry out the killing. Babakos suffered two gun-

shot wounds to the chest both of which were fatal.

Judge Bowlby said the fact that Stocking committed the crime for payment of money "staggered all those with any social conscious".

He said the confessed murderer deserved no compassion, only society's revulsion and contempt.

When offered an opportunity to speak on his own behalf, Stocking said he had nothing to say. His mother left the courtroom crying as the sentence was read.

Stocking's common-law wife at the time of the murder, Brenda Poulin, 23, appeared again in Brampton Supreme Court Monday charged with conspiracy to commit murder. The case was remanded to the next sitting of Supreme Court, Feb. 27.

A charge of first degree murder against Pou-

lin was stayed last month and she was released on bail pending her next court appearance.

It is alleged that Poulin drove the car to a subdivision near the

Vega restaurant the day Babakos was gunned down and waited while Stocking carried out his plan.

Poulin pleaded not guilty to the first degree

murder charge. -Courtesy Brampton Times

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