

Courts Inmate gets more time

A 22-year-old inmate from Maplehurst Correctional Centre earned himself an additional two years in jail after being found guilty of stealing a car.

Scott Aitken of Toronto was out on a pass from Maplehurst Jan. 25 of this year when he stole a car belonging to Brenda Wright of Milton.

The court was told Mrs. Wright's husband, Gary, had driven the 1979 Dodge station wagon to Mac's Milk Store at 16 Bronte St. and left the vehicle running while he went inside of the store.

Mr. Aitken, who had some time left before returning to jail, went drinking, he told police, and then decided to steal a car.

He took the Wright vehicle and a few minutes later, became involved in a collision with a second car at the intersection of James St. and Mill St.

He failed to remain at the scene and took off on foot.

Both cars received major damage and the driver of the second car was treated for injuries at Milton District Hospital.

Mr. Aitken was later arrested by Halton Regional Police when he was seen rifling through a car parked at a Martin St. residence by a neighbor.

During questioning by police, he gave them the false name of Michael Wilson.

He was subsequently charged and found guilty of failing to remain at the scene of an accident and obstructing police.

Mr. Aitken has a lengthy criminal and driving record dating back to 1977 and was serving a 24-month sentence for theft of an auto at the time of his latest offence.

Pleads guilty

An 18-year-old Milton youth who pleaded guilty to breaking and entering three Milton residences earlier this year, will be sentenced later this month.

Milton provincial court Judge John Robinson has ordered a pre-sentence report on Steven Williams.

The former Milton resident has been in custody since his arrest by Halton Regional Police in April in connection with a shoplifting incident.

Last January 13, the home of Christopher Waters at 321 Halton Ave. was entered. The court was told his home was ransacked and a quantity of jewelry, cash and European coinage stolen.

Two days later, the home of Michael Frampton of 281 Halton Ave. was broken into and coinage valued at \$200 was taken.

On the same day more than \$5,000 worth of valuable coins were stolen from the residence of Allen Best at 435 Campbell Ave.

A bedroom was also ransacked and the contents strewn all over.

The three break-ins occurred during daylight hours.

Mr. Williams also pleaded guilty to the theft of a pair of \$7 earrings from Sears in Burlington Mall April 12. He was apprehended by store security along with a second youth and a 13-year-old juvenile.

Mr. Williams will be sentenced Monday May 31.

Gets more time

A 17-year-old Maplehurst inmate who walked off a work gang along with two other fellow inmates was given a further six-month jail sentence.

Gary Shakel of Strathroy walked off a work gang March 3 and was arrested a few hours later, along with Paul LaCourse, 26, of London and Paul Harris, 18, of Ottawa.

The other two inmates were earlier sentenced to six months.

Mr. Shakel also pleaded guilty to the theft of a butcher knife, taken from a Moffat garage during the escape.

Milton provincial court judge John Robinson imposed a concurrent sentence of 30 days for the theft of the knife.

Excess maintenance space could cost Region \$43,000

By ROBERT ASHE
Special to The Champion

About 9,000 square feet of "excess" space for a new maintenance public works department building will cost regional taxpayers an extra \$43,000 annually, according to Burlington Coun. Joan Little.

The added room will result when the consolidation of existing Burlington and Oakville detachments is completed later this summer. The new building, located on the South Service Road in Oakville will house both operations and will be leased by the region. The region's only other major maintenance building will remain in Milton.

Oakville Coun. Ann Mulvale, however, insists the move is "defensible" with the added space far from being an albatross.

Mrs. Little said the new South Service Road building has 31,000 square feet of which 16,000 is needed to house heavy machinery and maintenance supplies for water, sewer and road repairs. Another 6,000 square feet will be used when the administrative staff of the department moves from the regional offices on Bronte Rd. The staff of other departments are slated to take up residence in the administrative building. The shift and consolidation came about as the result of the recommendations in a report encouraging

such a move. The report was debated in camera during the May 5 regional meeting. After the meeting was re-opened to the public, some councillors voiced strong opposition.

During 1981, it cost \$231,574 for maintenance (parts, towing, washing and overhead expenses) of the police force's fleet of cruisers and vans. Exact figures for 1982 are not readily available due to the fluctuating inflation factor, Constable Dave Richards said.

Constable Richards conducted his own feasibility study into the proposed maintenance facility—which would see Halton's police cruisers and the fleet of 55 trucks and tractors owned by the Halton Region Conservation Authority—serviced under one roof. The HRCA supports the concept in theory, but has refused to vote in favor of the joint maintenance operation until a \$2,500 feasibility study, including cost comparisons and an overview of the project from a physical and manpower perspective is completed by a consulting firm hired by the region. That report is expected to come before regional council in early June.

Constable Richards' study compared the Halton police maintenance operation with those of two other police departments of comparable size in southern Ontario. One

of the departments relied on a police garage while the other involved a regionally-operated facility, similar to the proposed set up in Halton where the public works department would provide the labor.

His conclusion: "There is no question that the per unit cost of the regional set up would be a lot cheaper."

There were some reservations about using Constable Richards' report as a guideline, however, because he was unable to provide figures down to last dollar.

Constable Richards—and the regional police force—are anxious to see the proposed joint maintenance facility put into operation. Both Constable Richards and HRCA general manager Murray Stephen wish the Region would proceed with the police portion of the expansion to the Steeles Ave. maintenance facility, pending the HRCA decision on the consultant's report next month.

But Don Morrier, manager of operations and maintenance for the region's public works department, says that just isn't possible.

"If the HRCA decides to go through with the joint venture it is much better from an operational and financial point of view to expand only once," Mr. Morrier reasons.

Blood donor clinic

Your help is urgently needed to help build up the blood bank for the long weekend, according to clinic convener Margo Kent.

The clinic, open Thursday at Milton Mall, will operate on expanded hours from 2 p.m. until 8.30 p.m., without the usual dinner hour break.

Mrs. Kent said she hopes the clinic will yield more than 300 units.

This will be the last clinic until August and will be operating in a vacant store near Zellers.



JENNIE CAMPBELL

Jennie Campbell, who earned her Bachelor of Arts degree at Coronation College in Milliken, Ont., graduated recently from Regent College in Vancouver, B.C. with a Masters degree in theological studies. Regent College is trans-denominational in character and evangelical and Biblical in basis. Miss Campbell is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Ken Campbell, RR6, Milton.

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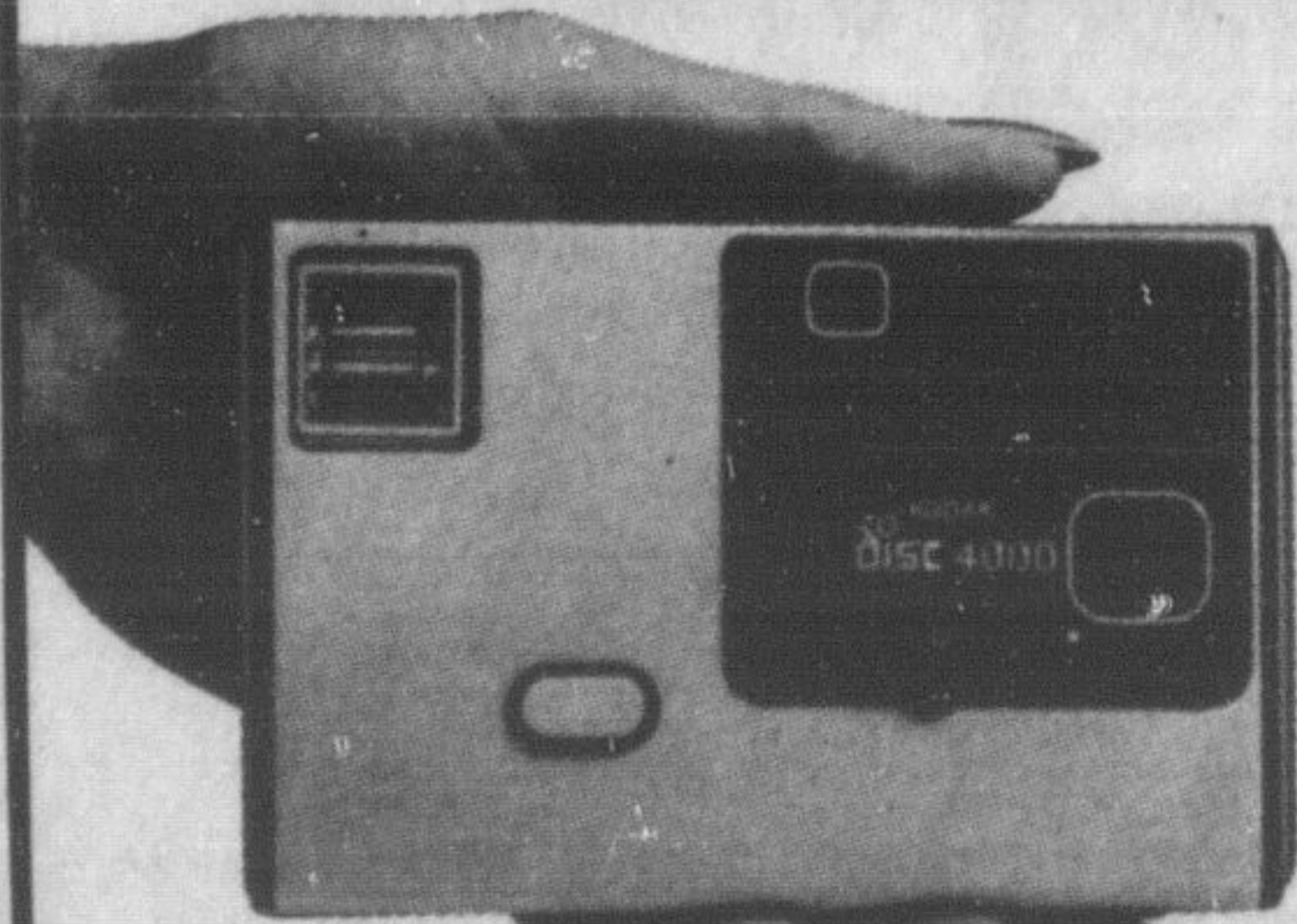
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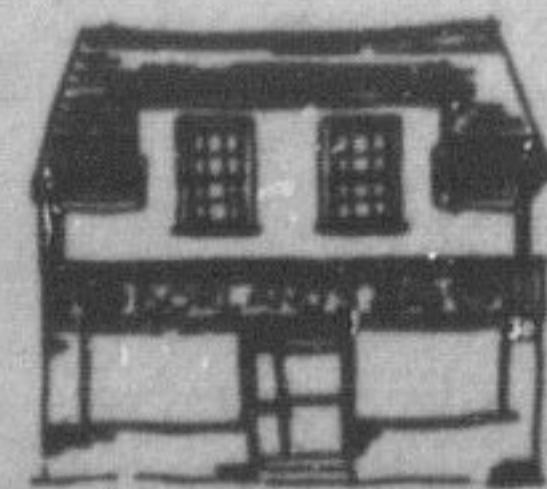
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