

Halton Regional Police detectives Rod Gailbraith and Bill Ford know there is no hocus pocus to hypnosis.

Cop Of The Month

It was hypnosis

By LINDA KIRBY

Champion Reporter
Hypnosis for many conjures up the idea of a form of magic.

Most of us are well acquainted with the theatrical entertainment provided by those who have the powers to hypnotize, and it seems a little incredible police will now be using hypnosis in select investigations.

But, according to Halton Regional Police Det. Rod Galbraith, the use of hypnosis in police practice is an old idea that has simply been refined.

The 32-year-old police officer made headlines a few months ago when hypnosis was successfully used to solve an attempted rape case that had occurred three years ago.

The 16-year-old victim placed under hypnosis was suddenly able to provide details of the attack, including a description of her assailant.

This resulted in the conviction of a 19-year-old man William F. Goodrich, formerly of Oakville and now serving a sentence for a 1981 rape.

The successful completion of the case represented the combined talents of Det. Galbraith and Bill Ford.

Det. Ford was working on a separate case when he became aware of the fact the convicted rapist had lived in the vicinity of the 1979 attack scene.

This evidence along with other similar facts, convinced him a connection could exist between the 1979 and 1981 attacks, in Oakville.

1979 and 1981 attacks, in Oakville.
"The attempted rape was a major occurence—you don't just forget it,"

he said.
"When I compared the two cases,
they appeared very similar... I

knew in my own mind there was a connection, but while it might be sufficient to go to court, the court is generally unlikely to convict on "similar act evidence," he explained.

Hypnosis was discussed and it was decided by police to approach the

family of the young victim.

On July 29, 1982, Det. Galbraith, a qualified forensic hypnotist, conducted a hypnosis session with the

victim and interviewed her.

The girl who three years earlier, had been unable to give any description of the man was able to provide

an accurate picture of her attacker.

Following the hypnosis session,
the girl picked Mr. Goodrich out of a-

line-up, police said.

Confronted with the evidence, Mr.

Goodrich confessed to the crime.

The case represented the first such use of forensic hypnosis in Ontario and only the second in Canada.

Hypnosis is to be used on specific cases where all other avenues of investigation have been exhausted, said Det. Galbraith.

And the process can only be done on witnesses or victims and never on the accused.

"An accused person is totally aware of what is going on and therefore could lie," he pointed out.

Described as an investigative aid, hypnosis is only as reliable as the capabilities of the memory of the person, he said.

"It involves a process of relaxed concentration where you are trying to alleviate the trauma of an event, such as a rape."

Det. Galbraith has worked as a police officer for 10 years, over eight years with the Moncton Police Force in New Brunswick.

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Site F

Some new standards

By STEVE ARNOLD

Champion News Editor

If Site F is to be the future home of all Halton Region's garbage it will have to be proven according to an entirely new set of standards, according to a consultant working on the project.

Peter Walker, the consultant hired by Halton Region to find a garbage dump, said at a public meeting last week that the criteria under which the controversia! Milton site was selected may not be acceptable now.

The public meeting, held in Oakville, was part of the program laid out by the consultants to meet the requirements of the provincial Environmental Assessment Act which demands a review of all possible alternatives to dumping and all alternative sites to a proposed site.

"One of the things we have to do is review the criteria that concluded Site F was the best location," he said. "We have to see if those criteria are appropriate and right now it doesn't look like they are because we are in a totally different process."

In a brief interview after the meeting Mr.
Walker said the standards which concluded Site F
was the best choice for a dump site may not stand
up to the requirements of the Environmental
Assessment Act.

"It all goes back to the definition of environment," he said, noting that the EAA process takes a much wider view of environment than that required by the Environmental Protection Act.

Under the EAA terms, he said, the consultants must look at the social, economic and ecological effects of all dump site proposals, while the EPA process looks at the attributes of only the pre-

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School Board Trustee

ferred site.

"Another thing is that under the EAA you can't even decide on landfill until you have looked at all

of the available alternatives," he said.

The consultants, Walker, Wright, Young and Associates, have been hired to conduct a one year \$100,000 study into the need for a garbage dump in Halton and to recommend the best location for such a facility.

In previous public appearances, Mr. Walker has stressed the impartiality of his firm in studying the dump site problem. He repeated those assurances last week.

"We're about as neutral as you can get," he said, "because we haven't been involved with this Region before. We don't want to give a feeling that we like or don't like what was done before because

we are involved in a totally different process."

The consultants are studying methods to solve Halton's garbage disposal needs for at least the next 20 years, a longer period than originally envisioned by Regional Council.

Mr. Walker said the longer period was required to ensure that all of the available alternatives got fair consideration in the study process.

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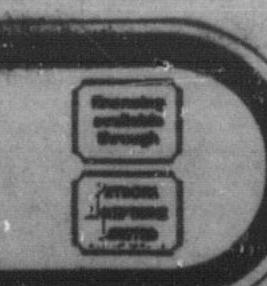
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