

In the Courts Charges withdrawn

Charges of assault against two Maplehurst guards were withdrawn in Milton provincial court last week.

The private charges laid against officers John Kiosnoski and Peter McNabb were dropped at the request of the complainant, a 17-year-old inmate of the medium-security institution.

The charges arose out of an incident in September when Joseph Finn of Milton was charged with two counts of assault against the same officers.

Mr. Finn was found guilty of both counts and sentenced to a further six months in jail. He is presently serving a sentence for a series of offences, including escaping lawful custody and theft.

Honda walk nets \$300 fine

A 24-year-old Hamilton man who could not remember walking over a parked Honda Civic was found guilty in Milton provincial court last week of mischief.

Dana Dagnais, the father of two children was fined \$300 and placed on 12 months probation for the Oct. 1, 1981 incident which took place at Mohawk Inn in Campbellville.

The court was told that 18-year-old Leanne Baskett of 81 Millside Dr., Milton had parked her newly painted 1976 Honda outside of "Options", a disco lounge earlier that evening.

When she came out later, she found numerous dents and impressions where several people had walked over the car hood, roof and bumper.

Mr. Dagnais, who pleaded not guilty to the charge, told the judge he had gone to "Options" with a large group of fellow employees for a few drinks after work. He said he left with three youths who proceeded to march on top of Miss Baskett's car, but that he did not follow their actions.

But, according to two witnesses, Mr. Dagnais was the last of the four to walk over the car.

He was detained by the witnesses when he returned to "Options" a few minutes later and was held until Halton Regional Police arrived. Damage to Miss Baskett's car was set at \$500.

"I know I was drinking, but I don't recall going on top of the car," he told the court.

—Linda Kirby

Plate sticker traffic slow

Red 1982 motor vehicle licence stickers went on sale Tuesday, Dec. 1, 1981 at 310 licence issuing offices throughout the province, including Milton.

And, there will be no increases in fees—\$30 for a four-cylinder, \$45 for six and \$60 for an eight with an engine replacement of less than 6.5 litres.

Owners of eight-cylinder cars with an engine displacement of more than 6.5 litres, registered after Dec. 1, 1977 pay \$80.

Trailer registration, now valid for the life of the vehicle, remains at the one-time fee of \$25.

Motorcycle and moped registration stickers remain at \$20 and \$5, respectively.

Sticker fees for privately-owned passenger cars and motorcycles in the northern part of the province remain at \$10.

For vehicle registration purposes, vehicle owners must have an address in the territorial districts of Algoma, Cochrane, Kenora, Manitoulin, Parry Sound, Rainy River, Sudbury, Thunder Bay, Timiskaming and that portion of Nipissing lying north and west of Algonquin Park.

An oasis . . .

(Continued from Pg. 1)

Emphasizing the objectivity of staff, Mrs. Service contends, "We recognize a woman's right to make up her own mind. About 50 per cent are returning home."

This is a statistic she feels reinforces the fact that "We're not marriage breakers."

Some who return to their homes and abusive husbands may be entering into the same atmosphere which drove them away, the director admits, while others seek help through marriage counsellors. Statistics at Halton Women's Place show 10 per cent of those who are reunited with their husbands return to the hostel. During its brief one-year history, no one has returned for a third time.

As the majority of women at the hostel are homemakers, a break from their husbands means financial assistance from other sources is necessary. Generally, this means welfare but, with the help of Halton Region employment representative Pauline Lewis, the women are being taught job finding skills and are made aware of retraining programs.

Mrs. Service suggests it is easy to tell someone they must find a job, as money is a major factor to independence, but a woman must be given contacts and receive job counselling.

Most of the women who utilize the hostel are from families with limited income, the director explains. She adds the house "was meant to serve these people—as a professional woman, for example, could find other means of escaping an abusive husband and would be able to afford legal advice and counselling on her own."

Room and board is geared to a woman's income and is supplemented by Halton Region.

Mrs. Service explains the diversity of each case by saying, "A woman will have her mind set for four or five days, then, in 24 hours, she wants to go home again, then at other times, the reverse happens."



ADELE SERVICE

"We never approach a woman with preconceived notions," she adds.

One woman who has been at Halton Women's Place for a week said she will only return home if her husband is gone. During the last two years of her seven-year marriage, he became increasingly abusive but the mental abuse was even worse than the bruises.

"This place is a miracle," says the mother of two little girls. "Nobody hassles you."

"Friends who have visited me here said they see a change in me. I am more open now," she says.

Before making the break, this mother did some initial research into her rights and even sought legal aid, but the agency found her husband made too much money for her to qualify. Her inquisitiveness cost her five minutes of time and a bill for \$60. When the bill arrived in

the mail, she kept it from his sight long enough to tear it into pieces and flush it down the toilet. Her parents paid it as she knew the rage her husband would feel had he known she'd been to a lawyer.

Now she feels in control of herself and plans to get back into the work force, after two years of staying home with her children, which will eliminate what is an immediate need for welfare support. Her new-found freedom is still a little hard to adjust to—like the evening two other women asked her to join them for a meal at a restaurant and a drink.

"I couldn't believe I was walking out the door and going out!" she says.

She would like to be home for Christmas but, if that is not possible, she'll be happy at Halton Women's Place. Last year Mrs. Service explains she and the sole woman who remained there Christmas Day had a feast of their own and the same will happen this year for those who stay.

Some of that Christmas cheer, in the form of donations of food, came from community groups. Those at Halton Women's Place will be ensured of a happier Christmas should that generosity be repeated.

This is one time of year when there is no waiting list at the hostel as Mrs. Service explains mothers would rather try to hold their families together at this time of year. When the new year arrives so do many abused women and this is a time more volunteer help is a necessity.

In addition to offering shelter to abused women, a crisis line is operated from the facility. During the past year, 608 crisis calls have been handled—with the majority of these coming from Oakville. With this concentrated use in one area in mind, Mrs. Service suggests a store front referral service for abused women would be of value there.

The crisis line is manned 24 hours a day. Those in need should call 878-8555.

Otto Jelinek predicts

MacEachen will make massive budget changes

Special to The Champion
Faced with pressure from both private interest lobby groups and members of his own party, Finance Minister Allan MacEachen will back down from many of the tax reform proposals in the Nov. 12, 1981 federal budget, predicted Halton MP Otto Jelinek.



OTTO JELINEK

"I'm quite positive something will be done," said Mr. Jelinek, "The question is to what extent."

Mr. Jelinek said that during the past few weeks, 20 organizations representing more than 50 per cent of the population, have been lobbying on Parliament Hill for changes in the federal budget.

In addition, Mr. Jelinek said Liberal Members of Parliament have told him that Mr. MacEachen is receiving pressure from within the party caucus to amend the budget.

Many Liberal backbenchers are alarmed about complaints they are receiving from their constituents, said Mr. Jelinek.

"Something has to break from partisan politics," said Mr. Jelinek.

"This budget is no good for Canadians."

Wednesday, at a Toronto fund-raising dinner for Liberal MP Jim Peterson, Mr. MacEachen said he was willing to reexamine tax proposals which have been severely criticized by businessmen and investors.

He made no promises, however. Mr. Jelinek suggested Mr. MacEachen and his budget advisors should have done their homework first.

"We are quite convinced that Mr. MacEachen and his advisors did not know what the consequences of the budget would be," he said.

While the budget promised to fight inflation and show restraint, Mr. Jelinek said the opposite had happened. The project growth rate for Canada has

been revised downwards by 17 per cent since Nov. 12 and government spending is up 22 per cent, he said.

Jelinek called it an academic budget with no foundation in the business world.

"They should start dealing in realistic matters rather than with just a bunch of academics in Ottawa who don't have a clue to what's happening in the real world," he said.

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