

Two pot growers cultivate 170 plants and \$1,200 fine

Two Milton area men who experimented with growing pot for their own use have been fined \$1,200 for raising 170 plants.

The men, who live on Trafalgar Road, admitted in court that they grew the illegal weed inside their home, that they are heavy smokers of marijuana and that the crops are for their own use, and not for sale to others.

"We were growing it rather than buy it because it was so expensive," said one of the offenders Thursday (April 12).

He also said it was their first experiment with growing marijuana and that they had no idea how much useful product would be produced from 170 plants.

The pair pleaded guilty to a charge of unlawfully cultivating cannabis

marijuana on March 3, 1988, and the debate during the sentencing focussed on whether the crop was for personal or commercial purposes.

An RCMP officer estimated the crop, which would take about four months to mature, could be turned into 72,290 marijuana cigarettes. The growing operation also featured heat, light and water apparatus, the court was told.

However, district court Judge James Carnwath was told that only the bud of the female plant is useful and no one could report how many of the 170 marijuana plants were female or the ratio of male to female plants found in the house.

One offender said he could not believe 7,000 joints could be produced from their crop given the large amount of the bud they use per joint.

He testified to being a long-time marijuana smoker. While he conceded that marijuana impairs judgement, he also said he has installed 1,500 furnaces, while under the influence of marijuana, and that none was rejected by government inspectors.

CRIME STOPPERS OF HALTON



Bank robber escaped with cash

A man who held up a Burlington bank is being sought by Halton Region Police.

A lone male suspect walked into the Bank of Commerce on Mount Forest Drive in Burlington, about 2 p.m. on Thursday, March 29.

He spent a few minutes mulling around the area where deposit slips are made out by customers, then joined the queue awaiting service.

When the man approached the female teller, she was handed a deposit slip which stated, "This is a hold up — I have a gun."

A large quantity in assorted bills was passed to the suspect, who then walked from the bank and was last seen walking east from the bank.

The suspect is described as a white male, about six feet tall, 200 pounds and around 40 years of age.

Clean-shaven with a pencil thin, medium brown moustache over the upper lip, he was wearing thick glasses with dark brown rims, dark brown English-style driving hat, full length beige colored trench coat with brass colored buttons and dark leather shoes with laces.

During the robbery the suspect was noticeably nervous, with his hands shaking.

If you know who is responsible for this bank robbery, you may earn a cash reward. Remember, you will not have to reveal your name or go to court. Call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-668-5151.

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