

# High speed chase leads to nine month jail sentence on two charges

An 18-year-old Port McNicoll youth faced charges in provincial court last Thursday of theft over \$200 and dangerous driving.

Dean Wright was charged in connection with an incident which occurred in Port McNicoll and Midland in the early morning hours of March 6 of this year.

per hour for a distance of 4.8 miles along Highway 12, during which time, French drove on the wrong side of the road for approximately one mile.

French's attorney called a witness on French's behalf, who testified that French was generally hard working, responsible and well liked.

The judge ordered French to spend 40 days in jail on weekends, and suspended his licence for nine months on top of the mandatory suspension.

**Break and enter**

A 19-year-old Toronto man was convicted in provincial court Thursday of break, enter and theft.

The court was told that Goeder had other charges pending in Toronto, and he was remanded until July 21, to await receipt by the court of a presentence report.

**Wilful damage**

A 24-year-old Toronto man was found guilty after a short trial in provincial court last Thursday, of wilful damage.

Phillips had been found inside the offices, in the reception area, and that he had apparently gained entry through a broken window in the building.

Tay Township clerk Walter Lumsden testified that he had locked all the doors in the building the day before, and that the damage to the window amounted to just over \$100. He also testified that nothing in the offices had been missing.

He said he did not know the area at all, it was cold and he was not warmly dressed, and he was afraid the men who had given him the lift might return to beat him up. He testified that he had been afraid, and had only wanted to call the police.

He went to the nearest building with lights on, which happened to be the Tay Township offices. He testified that he knocked at the door, and tried to see if it was locked,

before looking for the smallest window in the building to break in, since he was intending to call the police, and knew he would have to pay for the damage.

The judge told Phillips

that although necessity could be a defense against a number of charges under the criminal code, he did not feel that Phillips had acted out of necessity in the incident in question. With that in

mind, he found Phillips guilty.

In sentencing, however, he allowed that although he found Phillips conduct "unbelievable", he could see that Phillips had believed himself to be

acting rightly, and had intended to pay for the damage. He gave Phillips a conditional discharge and probation for nine months, and ordered him to make restitution to the Township of Tay.

## In provincial court

The court was told Wright had been at a party in Port McNicoll, and had been walking along the street. He saw a 1973 Oldsmobile sitting in a driveway, with the keys in it, and decided to take it for a ride.

He drove it to Midland, where police, who had received a report that it had been stolen, recognized the licence number and tried to pull it over. After a chase which led along Highway 27, Vindin Street, and several streets in Midland, Wright was stopped when police cars managed to get in front of and behind him.

The court was told that during the course of the chase, the cars had reached speeds of 100 miles per hour, and that Wright had gone through 14 stop signs and six yield signs.

Wright's record showed he had been convicted of joy riding and common assault in 1975.

Provincial Judge Len Montgomery sentenced him to a total of nine months in jail, with a recommendation that the time be spent in the Brampton Institute, and that Wright be assessed to determine his suitability for a retraining program at the institute. In addition, his driver's licence was suspended for three years.

A co-accused in the case, 19-year-old Benedyct Materka of Midland, was released after charges against him were dropped at the request of the crown.

**Theft under \$200**

A shoplifting conviction in provincial court last Thursday led to a 35 day jail sentence for a 42-year-old Port McNicoll man.

Richard Bugow was charged after he was caught stealing a package of bacon from the A and P store at Huronia Mall at 4:25 on the afternoon of May 5.

The court was told Bugow had stolen the bacon because he had difficulty finding work, his welfare payments had been cut off by mistake, and he was having difficulty feeding his wife and five children.

The 35 day jail sentence resulted after the judge learned that Bugow had a criminal record.

**Dangerous driving**

A 27-year-old Port McNicoll man was given a 40 day jail term after he was found guilty in provincial court Thursday of dangerous driving.

The court was told that Ronald French had been spotted at 5:25 a.m. on April 15, going the wrong way on the westbound ramp leading from King Street in Midland to Highway 12. Police chased him at speeds of up to 85 miles

The court was told that French had been at a retirement party for a co-worker, and that the offence was a once-in-a-lifetime offence.

The crown submitted that the factual situation was more serious than many cases before the court, and required a heavier than average

## Man charged in hit and run

A hit and run accident on Simcoe Street was the subject of a police investigation Saturday.

Constable Michael Brady was dispatched to the scene after Robert Jeffery reported that his car, parked in front of his home at 1A Simcoe Street, had been struck.

The damage to the rear of his vehicle amounted to about \$100.

As a result of the investigation, Kenneth Mackie, of 23 Beaumaur Drive in Penetanguishene, was charged with failing to remain at the scene of an accident. The damage to Mackie's vehicle amounted to \$75.

## Police report

### Impaired driving

A Penetanguishene man faces a number of charges, after he was stopped when an officer noticed him driving erratically on Main Street.

Glenn Bourgeois of Concession 19, Penetanguishene, was charged with impaired driving, excess alcohol, and having liquor readily available while driving, at 7:20 Saturday evening.

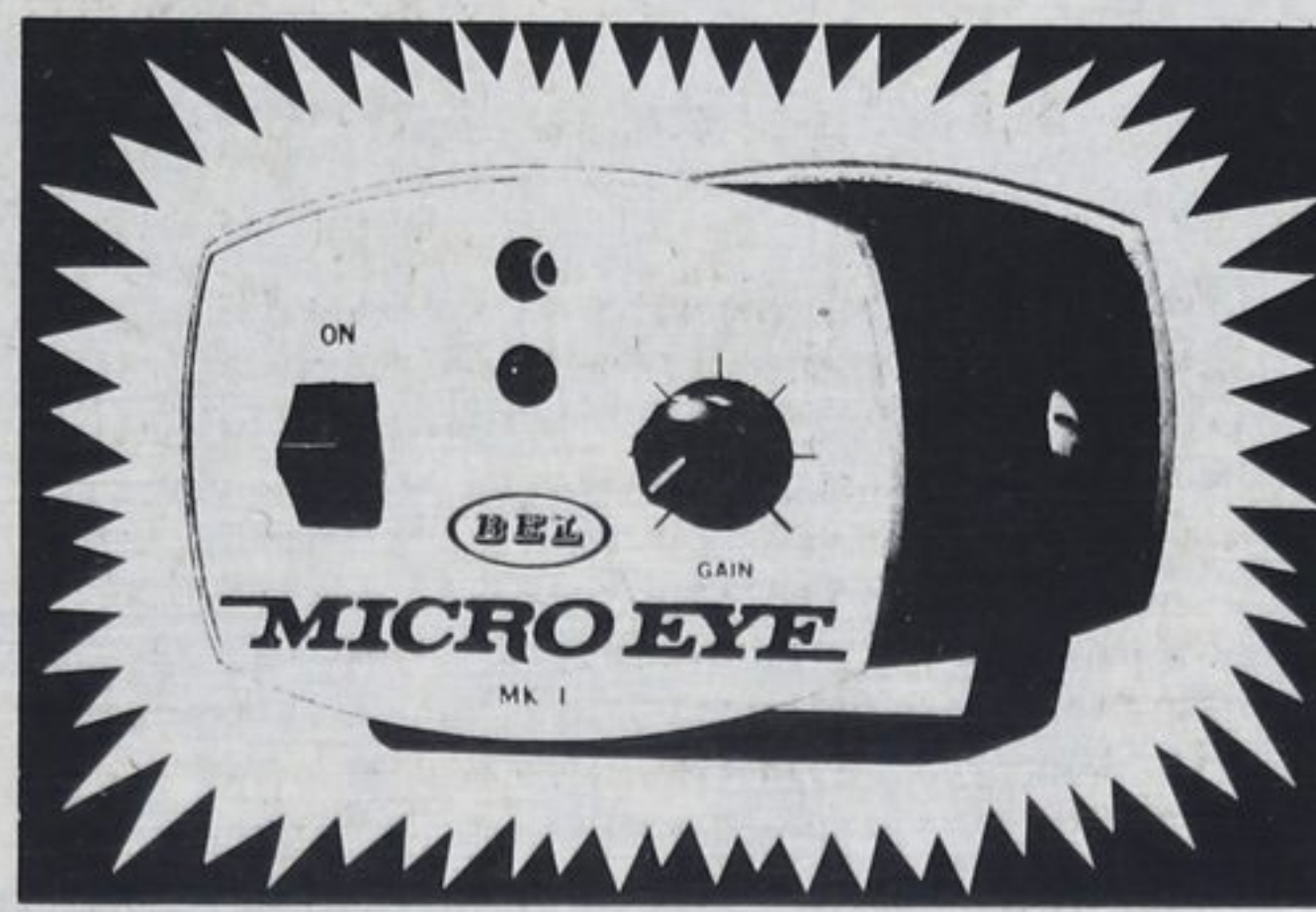
The investigating officer was Constable Michael Brady.

### Causing disturbance

Two area men were charged with causing a disturbance by fighting, as a result of an incident early Saturday morning in front of the Blue Sky Restaurant on Main Street.

Kenneth Dumont, of 12 Burke Street, and James Leroux, of Concession 12, Perkinsfield, were both charged by Constable Claude Munroe.

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