

From The York Regional Police Blotter

# Armed Robber Turns Escape Artist

A man who was charged last week with the armed robbery of the Shop 'n Bag Store in Markham, now faces additional charges of escaping custody, assaulting a police officer and assault occasioning bodily harm.

York Regional Police said the man escaped from the lock-up at the Provincial Court cells in Richmond Hill, February 15, by pushing

court attendant Arthur Jones "violently to the floor" and then running out.

He was picked up by police about five minutes later.

Charged was Mark Skinner, 18, of no fixed abode.

In the Markham holdup, the owner and his assistant were ordered to hand over the evening's receipts, which amounted to \$2,638.

The robber then fled, hid

ing some of the money under a tree at Highways 48 and 7 He journeyed on to Barrie, checking in at the Holiday Inn.

When the police checked his room, he escaped through a rear window, and was picked up about a mile away after a chase on foot.

Two Toronto men received severe burns to their hands and faces when they were

involved in an industrial accident last week.

Police said the two men were pumping tar into a 30,000-gallon tank at a construction site on Bowes Road in Vaughan, February 12 about 1:10 pm, when the pump stopped on them.

Subsequent efforts to get it started failed and so the men started to clean the tank with a steel rod.

The tar exploded, throwing the men to the ground, and causing them to be burned.

Taken to York Finch Hospital for treatment were Klaus Hachfield, 45, and Ian O'Hanley, 20.

A thief found more than socks and hankies in the dresser drawer of Jim Sullivan, of 36 Church Street, Richmond Hill.

Sullivan told police \$2,000 in bills and coins had been taken from the drawer in a break-in January 13.

The thief also took a suitcase.

**BIG THORNHILL THEFT**  
In Thornhill, thieves got

away with \$1,200 in cash and \$400 in payroll cheques from the office of Baron Petroleum Limited, 7377 Yonge Street.

At Softspray Car Wash, 176 Bayview Avenue Richmond Hill coin boxes were pried open in four wash bays and a total of \$500 removed.

\* \* \*

Those \$50 counterfeit bills are still around.

The latest one to be reported turned up at the Bank of Commerce 137 Davis Drive in Newmarket, in a deposit from Planet Meat Market.

\* \* \*

Vandals were also busy.

Kentway Transportation Company, Keele Street, King City, told police that four seats on one of its buses had been slashed while the bus was in transit in the Richmond Hill area January 12, about 4 pm.

The 35 passengers were questioned, but none of them would admit to the offence, police said.

At Sabiston gravel pits in Unionville, the office was broken into and badly damaged.

Police said glasses and furniture were smashed, paper and pop were scattered throughout the building

and drawers were ransacked and their contents destroyed.

Damaged amounted to \$1,200.

At McConachy Public School, 62 Yonge Street South, a \$700 thermopane window was knocked out by vandals.

**NORTH YORK:** A Downsview man has been ordered to pay back \$2,337.20 he received in welfare between December 1971 and April 1973 when he was gainfully employed. He was sentenced to 30 days in jail but will serve the time on weekends and will be on probation for 18 months after his release.

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<b>6. STURDY VINYL DUST SHEET</b> Protect furniture with 8' x 12' semi-clear vinyl.	<b>1.09</b>
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