

**Court news**

# She hit and screamed at constable

An Aurora woman, who slugged a Richmond Hill policeman who was trying to arrest her husband, may have a legal precedent for such action. And it could get her off the hook.

Or maybe it should be that it could get her off a charge by Richmond Hill Constable Earl Hook.

The YRP constable told a Provincial Court hearing last week Florence Nattress hit and screamed at him for several minutes in front of Montgomery's Tavern last October 24.

The altercation took place while he was trying to arrest Raymond Nattress, Hook said.

The latter intervened while Hook was assisting a woman, who had fallen on the steps in front of the tavern.

Nattress complained to him about his lateness in arriving at the scene, and continually harassed him in his actions, Hook said.

Hook was finally assisted by two plainclothes policemen, Constables David Farquharson and James Forsythe.

Hook said that despite Mrs. Nattress' actions, he did not lose his grip on her husband and was finally able to place him in the police car.

It was on that admission defense counsel George Marron of Toronto based his argument.

**Bakin case**  
Referring to the case of The Crown versus Bakin, 1973, he said it had been ruled that "wilful obstruction must be to such a degree as to completely frustrate the officer in the completion of his duty."

Marron said Hook's evidence was that, "at no time" was he touched by the accused prior to placing her husband under arrest. And

there had been no evidence to show her subsequent actions "completely frustrated the officer."

Crown Attorney Robert Warren said the evidence was "quite clear" Mrs. Nattress tried to prevent the constable from arresting her husband.

Had she not intervened, the arrest would probably have taken place without the assistance of the other officers.

**Reserves decision**  
Judge Russell Pearce said he "may or may not agree with the county court judge if I read the whole case."

However, he might not be able to reach a decision without reading the full case. (A summary of the latter was contained in one of the law books presented at the hearing.)

If he relied on the Bakin case, he would have to

acknowledge Hook's evidence that he had been able to control Nattress, regardless of the interference from his wife.

"The other side of the coin was that Hook needed two others to help him.

"So I think I'll have to read Bakin's case to decide on that point," Judge Pearce said.

He set July 18 as the date for his decision.

**Husband remanded**  
Prior to Mrs. Nattress' case, Judge Pearce had remanded her husband to July 18. Nattress pleaded not guilty to a charge of causing a disturbance that same evening.

The remand was sought by his counsel on the grounds the charge was "duplicious," that his client had been charged with two offences on one information. Nattress also faces

charges of obstructing and assaulting a police officer.

**Stole on dare**  
Taking a shirt and a sweater from Sears in Hillcrest Mall "on a dare," resulted in convictions of theft and possession under \$200 of a 16-year-old Gornley girl.

Placed on probation for a year and ordered to stay from the mall for the same length of time was Brenda Crane, who pleaded guilty to both charges.

Court was told she walked out of the store March 15 with a \$9 shirt in her purse.

When investigated at home later on, she admitted to being in possession of a \$20 sweater which had also been taken from Sears.

When asked why she had taken it, the accused said it had also been the result of a dare.

Who had dared her?  
"Della. I don't know her last name," Miss Crane said.

**Father's curfew**  
Her father, who testified on her behalf, said she had since been placed under a curfew and was not allowed out unless accompanied by a "responsible" person.

Crane said he, himself, had not worked for nine years because of a back injury.

In passing sentence, Judge Pearce said "there must be some deterrent," but he would take into consideration the thefts had been the result of a dare.

Among the other conditions of her probation, the accused must continue to obey the edicts set by her father and also "stay away from Della."

**Lose licenses**  
Convictions were also registered against two area men on drinking and driving charges.

Orville Myers of Rockport Crescent, Richmond Hill pleaded guilty to operating his car with a blood reading of more than 80 milligrams

of alcohol.

Myers was charged as a result of driving in "an erratic manner" along Yonge Street, March 15, about 1:30 am.

He said he had been reminiscing with friends shortly after the death of his wife and hadn't realized the extent of his drinking.

He was fined \$175 and lost his driver's license for three months.

Given a similar penalty was William Roffey of Bond Avenue, Oak Ridges, who pleaded guilty to a charge of impaired driving.

Roffey, who was stopped in his vehicle south of Stouffville Road about 9 pm March 15, had a subsequent breathalyzer reading of 180 milligrams.

The accused said it was his first major offence in 40 years of driving.

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## Only Liberal candidate in new riding is Dales

Former Georgina Mayor Joe Dales, a Newmarket lawyer, is the only announced Liberal candidate for the nomination in the new Durham North provincial riding which will include a portion of York Region.

Members of the new Liberal association will hold their inaugural meeting at the Goodwood Community Centre today (Wednesday) at 8 pm.

Environment Minister William Newman is seeking

re-election in the new riding, where he lives, rather than in his existing Ontario South riding which will become Durham West.

No candidates have been announced for the New Democratic Party.

Durham North will consist of the municipalities of Uxbridge, Scugog, Brock, and part of Pickering in the Region of Durham and Georgina and East Gwillimbury in the Region of York.

## Municipal Board approves Newmarket separate school

The Municipal Board has given approval for the eight-pack relocatable school to be erected in the Quaker Hills Subdivision, Newmarket, trustees of York Region Roman Catholic School Board were told at their April 15 meeting.

Tenders are being called for this "temporary" school on the west side of town, which will be composed of eight portable classrooms grouped around a central core.

The new school will have to remain nameless for another three weeks.

Newmarket Trustee Ivan St. John, chairman of a committee to choose a name, reported a suitable name had not yet been found.

This new school will enable the conversion of Notre Dame School into a complete kindergarten-to-grade-8 program, with St. John's School being used for junior and senior kindergarten classes.

The new school and St. John's will share a principal and Our Lady of Good Counsel at Sharon will

acquire a full-time principal. At present the principal there is also head of St. John's.

## RC school board sets year's school calendar

The 1975-76 school year calendar for York Region Roman Catholic School System, adopted at the April 15 board meeting, allocates 185 days of the 197 weekdays between September 2 and June 30 for instructional days.

This is the minimum permitted under existing legislation.

The other 12 days are set aside for professional activity in two fields — development of curriculum for the system (seven days) and school level days (six days).

October 29 is designated for both levels.

The other days set aside are September 12 and 24, October 10, November 19, December 9, January 29 and 30, March 11, May 21 and June 9 and 30.

**Yule holidays**  
Christmas holidays will extend from December 22 to January 3 and the winter break from March 22 to 26, Supervisory Officer Frank Bobesich reported.

In the case of the winter break he said these dates coincided with those selected by the York County

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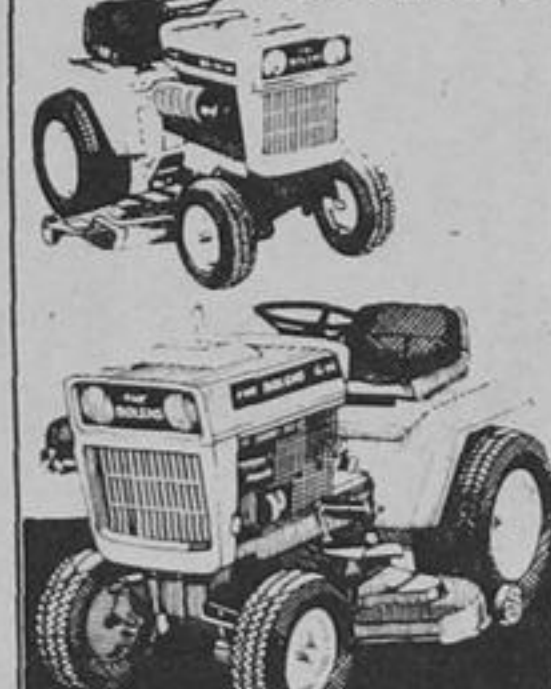
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