

# CN expects better service without 6 station agents

Removal of six Canadian National Railway station agents in York Region will mean improved customer service, a CN spokesman said Friday.

Earlier this month the Canadian Transport Commission approved the removal of full-time agents in Aurora, Maple, Markham, Richmond Hill, Stouffville and Unionville.

According to Maurice Simms of CN public relations, part-time ticket sellers will be at the stations before train times only.

The improvement of service, he said, will come in the area of customer information service.

Instead of telephoning the station agent and perhaps waiting while the agent called Toronto, customers can call servocentres where detailed

information is readily available on computers, he explained.

"Nine times out of 10 the station agent used to have to call Toronto," said Simms.

However most CN customers will not notice a change in the system.

In this year's and last year's York Region telephone directories the number of local stations has not been listed. Only the numbers for Toronto and Concord information centres are listed.

In a press release on the subject of station agents, York Simcoe MP Sinclair Stevens questioned the safety of the new system.

Up until now the agents notified each other when a train passed their station.

They gave appropriate signals to each train

concerning track conditions and the progress of other trains, he said.

"Now the trains will have to rely solely on radio contact. There are not automatic controls on (the Toronto-Maple-Aurora-Barrie) line," Stevens said.

He said a train derailment at Bradford in April could have been avoided if a station agent was on duty at the time.

"We don't share that opinion," said Simms.

Simms said CN was informed by Bradford Police 10 minutes before the accident that a heavy rain-storm washed out a portion of the rail bed.

However, because of the weather conditions, the train could not be warned by radio.

Other trains scheduled to run on the line were stopped, he said.



(Photo by Hogg)

One of many activities in the Children's Summer Workshop at Seneca College, King Campus, is wall climbing at one of the barns. Above is Simon Treissman of Bloomington Road, Oak Ridges, halfway up the wall and going strong. Instructor Karen Chopman controls the safety rope.

## They're climbing walls now at Seneca College

The Children's Summer Workshop at the King Campus of Seneca College is a program designed for children aged 9 to 14 years. It offers a meaningful learning experience in visual arts and recreation skills. Participants are divided into groups of 10 and spend the mornings in learning visual art skills and the afternoons in acquiring recreational skills. The program is open to any child in that age group for a fee of \$35 per week.

## \$42,000 in vandalism at 3 industrial properties

Concord proved to be a popular place for vandals last week.

They totalled up \$5,000 worth of damage at one session and \$37,000 at another.

The latter spree took place at All Province Auto Terminal, CN Access Road.

There vandals broke into the automobile compound where they proceeded to drive several vehicles around, crashing them into other parked ones.

Included in those struck was a \$22,000, 1975-model Porsche.

Further mayhem The other bout of

mayhem occurred at two plants on Doney Crescent, Georgia Pacific Building Materials and Overmyer Company.

After breaking into the first place, vandals ripped open a number of cement bags and strewn their contents around the warehouse.

They then knocked over and smashed stacks of wall paneling and threw cans of caulking compound around.

They then went to the washroom, where they turned on the taps, plugged up the sinks and proceeded to flood the place.

The water seeped into

the Overmyer building next door, causing undetermined damage to electrical equipment.

### Final touch

Once outside the building, the vandals broke into a trailer used as an office, and proceeded to smash up everything in sight.

Their final act was to spray the outside of the trailer with gas from a nearby tank, leaving the gas hose running into stacks of lumber.

The \$5,000 damage was done to the Georgina building; it was not known what amount was done to the Overmyer

plant. Also hit In Woodbridge, vandals went on a \$1,500 wrecking binge at Dufferin Con-

crete Products, Martin Grove Road.

The vandalism took place sometime during the past six months. The building has been empty since last year.

Joan Bull, Clark Avenue, Thornhill, reported someone had torn the top off her convertible and broken the windshield, while it was parked on the G.E.M. Store lot.

Damage was estimated at \$400.

### Public mischief Thornhill charge

A Thornhill youth has been charged with public mischief following a burglary that never was.

According to police, a youth sold his \$700 color TV set to a friend of his and then ransacked his own dwelling afterwards.

When that was done he called police and told them someone had broken into his place and stolen his TV.

Remanded to August 26 for a court appearance is William Fox, 18, of Glencameron Road.

## Thieves concentrate on tires in Markham

Truck tires and wheels were popular with area thieves last week.

Police reported three thefts right from the vehicles themselves, resulting a total loss of \$5,700.

Two of the thefts took place from truck trailers at the rear of 690 Dennison Street in Markham.

Drapeau Cartage Limited, Rexdale, lost eight wheels and tires, while Bell Equipment Limited, Toronto, lost six wheels and tires.

Another eight wheels, plus 14 fans, were taken from a truck trailer and the plant of Torcan Manufacturing Company, Snidercroft Avenue, Concord.

### Garden variety

In Richmond Hill, Endean Nurseries, Yonge Street, reported the theft of a four horsepower engine from a roto-tiller in a shed on the premises.

A total of \$772 in household items was taken in a break-in at the home of Lawrence Ring, Mill Street, Richmond Hill.

Don Little Ford, Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, reported that a new Ford Granada arrived from Oakville on a transport trailer, complete with three bullet holes from a high calibre rifle.

## Buck bucks at parity for nurses

Mayor Evelyn Buck of Aurora, a member of the negotiating team of York Region's board of health, said last week she doesn't think the region's nurses deserve parity with hospital nurses.

The region's two nursing groups, the community health nurses, and nurses at York Manor Home for the Aged, are both working toward that goal.

The community health nurses are members of Local 16 of the Ontario Nurses Association, but the York Manor nurses are non-union.

The region was negotiating with the community nurses, but talks broke off and aren't expected to resume until sometime in August.

The nurses want raises ranging from 14 to 40 per cent. At present, they receive between \$8,270 and \$11,275, in line with experience and other qualifications.

Angela Hamlin, spokesman for the community nurses, said their pay is almost \$2,000 below that of hospital nurses.

Mrs. Buck said the latter worked 40 hours per week, compared to 35 for a regional nurse, and also worked shifts and received fewer holidays than their York counterparts.

At York Manor, the four full-time registered nurses received raises from \$9,992 to \$11,191 on January 1. The eight part-time nurses, who got \$4.79 an hour last year, now get \$5.36.

Kathleen Jilek, director of nursing at York Manor, recently sent a note to the region's administrative committee calling for the appointment of a negotiator "as soon as possible" to help settle the wage issue.

In Toronto last week administrators of 104 Ontario hospitals and the presidents of their local nurses' unions approved a province-wide contract giving senior nurses at salary of \$1,315 a month by next January.

The contract must now go to the individual hospital boards and 19,000 nurses for a final vote.

Acceptance is expected, however.

## Police won't name money spreaders

Police won't release the name of the two men, who unknowingly plastered the countryside with \$20 bills last week while driving north on Highway 11 to Newmarket.

"There were a lot of long faces around," according to Sgt. Lawrence Leigh of York Regional Police, in recalling the incident.

Police said it all began when two Richmond Hill men stuffed \$3,700 in front of their car radiator for safekeeping and then forgot where they put it, after they had had a few drinks.

While driving to Newmarket later on, however, the money began flying out of the car and littering the highway.

Two motorists, one going north and the other south, subsequently stopped and picked up \$570 between them.

Then the two men, Tom Moore of Willowdale, and Derik Hodgson of Aurora, turned the money into the OPP at Oak Ridges.

Some time later, shoppers at Huron Heights Plaza in Newmarket, picked up another \$680 in \$10 bills from the parking lot.

The OPP's comment was: "There still are some honest people around."

## Bright new uses for Ontario's garbage.

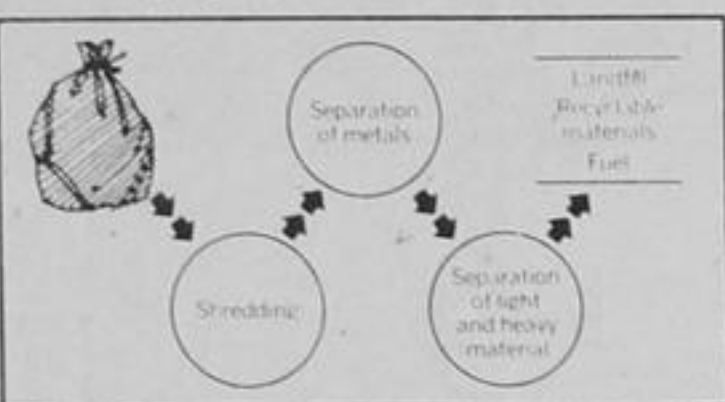
Some time next year, Ontario is going to turn garbage into light.

The transformation is called "Watts from Waste" and it's sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Ontario Hydro and Metro Toronto.

It's just one part of the Ministry's garbage recycling program to turn garbage into a valuable resource.

**How recycling works.** As garbage is shredded and various elements separated, a waste is produced which can be burned as fuel in Toronto hydro generating stations.

The same basic process will also produce fuel for steam heating and cooling systems, fuel for cement kilns, landfill, paper, metals. A centre for



The system: step by step.

advanced research will investigate future end uses for garbage.

### Where it's happening.

The Ministry has already inaugurated Ontario's first centre in North York. In the next two years, centres will be built to serve Sudbury, London, Peel, Halton, Metro Toronto and south eastern Ontario.

In 15 years, we'll have centres right through the province with a transportation system and transfer stations to keep the network flowing. They'll recycle 90 per cent of Ontario's garbage—everything from abandoned cars to organic waste.

### Why it's happening.

The people of Ontario—all of us—pile up garbage at three times the rate that the population increases. Although the Ministry is working on ways to reduce that amount, we'll always have garbage. And it's getting harder to find dumping sites and the landfill necessary to cover those sites.

When garbage is being fully recycled, dumping problems won't exist. But there's a more serious problem. When we throw garbage away, we throw away valuable resources.

Recycling, in a community of 100,000, will mean a saving of up to 30,000 tons of paper and cardboard a year, 700 tons of aluminum, copper, lead and zinc, 15 acres of land that would otherwise be used for dumping.

Our program is considered one of the most advanced in the world.

We've got everything we need to make it work—the ideas, the knowledge, the commitment, and the garbage.



Hon. William Newman, Minister  
Everett Biggs, Deputy Minister

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