



### Policeman's lot is a happy one

A policeman's lot is not a happy one, according to Gilbert and Sullivan. But you wouldn't know it from looking at Staff Inspector Tom Shields, the man in charge of York Regional Police's new District 3 headquarters on Major Mackenzie Rd. in Richmond Hill. The building doesn't open officially until December, but the press had a

sneak preview last week, and it was easy to see why the inspector and everyone else connected with it was smiling. The building is a stunner from front door to back. The public will get its chance to see just how stunning, December 1 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

(Photo by Hogg)

## Public viewing on Monday

By Jim Irving

York Regional Police unveiled a stunning new No. 2 District Police Headquarters last week in a pre-opening preview for members of the press.

For almost two hours reporters were conducted through what must be one of the most modern, as well as luxurious buildings of its kind, right from the sauna baths to the cells. The tour was conducted by Chief Bruce Crawford and Inspector Cliff Cox.

Situated on Major Mackenzie Drive, about 100 yards west of Yonge Street in Richmond Hill, the building occupies nearly two acres of land and will serve Richmond Hill, Markham and Vaughan in the southern part of the region.

For 200 men

The ultra-modern structure is also designed to accommodate 200 police officers. At present, there are 125 in this area.

Former Vaughan deputy chief Tom Shields will be in charge of the new headquarters, with Inspectors Cox and Ted McBrien assisting him.

The \$1,889,000 building now gives the York police three offices, with another one in Keswick and the main headquarters in Newmarket.

From the moment one steps into the new structure, there is the feeling this is no ordinary police office.

The lobby is wide and spacious with that warm, comfortable and casual look associated more often with resort hotels.

Cameras watch

However, just off the right of the front door, it's obvious the building means business, too.

The receptionist in this case is a police man who can see what's going on in just about any part of the building, as well as on the parking lot.

Assisting him in this endeavor are four cameras, strategically located throughout the building and grounds. Their coverage is instantly relayed on the monitors before him.

So if there's a riot in the cells, or any kind of disturbance anywhere, the front desk knows about it as soon as it happens.

The front desk officer also operates the automatic locks which control doors in high-security areas, as well as remote entrances to the building.

For example, people who have been placed under arrest are driven into a security garage in a cruiser.

This area is electronically controlled from the front desk.

The inside door leading to the cells cannot be opened until the outside door is closed and locked, thus reducing the possibility of escape.

Burglar alarms

Also featured at the front desk is a burglar alarm board, with room for 200 connections. At present 56 area business places are hooked into the system.

As the front desk set-up so amply illustrates, security and the protection of the officers and other employees is emphasized throughout.

However, the over-all protection doesn't end there.

People brought in as witnesses also are ensured the utmost protection when they view the lineup.

To identify a suspect, the witness views the latter through a glass panel.

And, although the suspect is plainly visible, special lighting makes it impossible for the witness to be seen by the prisoner.

But the prisoner is not forgotten either.

All efforts are taken to see his valuables and other belongings are stored safely for him until his release.

A sound-proof interrogation room guarantees the prisoner absolute privacy when giving his statement.

There is also a washroom at the end of the lineup room.

"From past experience, we find it's the first thing they ask for afterwards," said Inspector Cox.

Cells and "bull pen"

There are seven male cells and two female cells in the building, as well as a "bull pen," or common room as it is known in official reports.

Away from the cells are two-way visitor rooms.

The police, themselves, have their own lunch rooms and lounges that would be the envy of any private club.

Chief Crawford, whose idea it was the lounges be included in the plans, said he felt it was important the police have some place where they could stretch out and be comfortable.

Comfort needed

"We have people who work here until seven or eight in the morning and then have to go to court at 10. They can't go home and they need some place where they can kill some time and be comfortable," the chief said.

"So we've provided this facility for that purpose," he added.

"It's strictly a rest room," the chief continued.

That meant no coffee to be brought in and possibly spilled. Besides, there is a kitchen right off the lounge for that purpose.

The chief said that later, they hoped to put in books of police cases for the constables' perusal.

The sauna bath mentioned earlier is also another feature that will no doubt be welcomed by the men after a long day on the beat.

Besides being welcome, the \$3,100 bath was free, a gift from the police association. The nearby exercise room also features the latest in streamlined equipment.

Firing range

The police building has yet another unique feature, an automatic pistol range, where bullets are deflected into tray, collected and then recycled for another day.

Sgt. William Tully is the officer in charge of this facility, which Chief Crawford says will be available to gun clubs for their use when available.

The chief said also the range would be an essential part of the police officers' life, with policemen being marked on their performance there.

If unsatisfactory, they would be dismissed from the force.

Operates Dec. 2

A detective room, youth bureau, safety lecture room, female staff room, automatic car wash and a fingerprinting room — also available to the public for visa purposes — help to round out this most modern and well-laid out building.

The station opens for business Dec. 2.

The day before, however, the public is invited to tour from 7 to 10 p.m. the day of the official opening.

Police will conduct the tours, explaining the various functions as they go along.

Earlier in the day Judge William Lyon, chairman of the York Region Police Commission, will perform the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Official guests

Also on hand will be York Regional Chairman Garfield Wright; Police Commissioner Stewart Rumble; Rev. Victor Shepherd, Victoria Square United Church, Markham; Elmer Bell, chairman, Ontario Police Commission; and Staff-Sgt. Douglas Davies, president of York Regional Police Association.

The public, however, is urged to visit the building that evening.

As Chief Crawford says: "It's as good as I've ever seen."

### Police blotter

## Wheels, tires, furniture, thefts, damage

Malicious damage and a heavy run on car tires and wheels was the order of the day throughout much of the region last week.

Paul Davenport, Yongehurst Rd., Richmond Hill, reported the theft of the rear tires and rims from his van while it was parked behind Bayview Secondary School, sometime between Nov. 14 and 17.

Larry Hall, 216 Essex Avenue, lost all four

wheels and tires from his car, which was parked in his own driveway.

Also lighter by the same amount was a car owned by Canco Collision Centre, Laidlaw Boulevard, Markham, which was hit between Nov. 19 and 20.

Another Markham car owner, Brian Kavanaugh, Princess St., had \$500 damage done to his van by someone wielding an axe.

Marknam arrest

Police have since arrested two men, Dennis Arbour, 19 of 16th Ave. E., Markham, and Glen Phillips, 19, of Willowdale, on charges of creating mischief to public property.

Robert Barber, of RR 2, Tottenham, had the front wheels and tires of his car stolen, while it was parked at Harmon Mackie Motors, Bathurst Street in Thornhill.

Glass happy

Four car owners at a Richmond Hill apartment block on Cedar Drive, all had their car windows smashed.

John Mashinter, Marie Nickle and Linda Deighton lost their windows on the driver side, while Douglas Paton had his complete windshield knocked out.

At the Centennial Pool on Newkirk Rd., four windows were broken.

Winter Park Court Apartments, Bayview Ave., had its glass front door broken, while Bayview Variety Store, Bayview Plaza, had its front window shattered by someone firing a pellet gun.

In Vaughan, BP gas station, Wynnhill Drive, also had its glass door smashed in.

Woodbridge thefts  
Biggest theft of the week was reported from a model home on Sylvradene Rd. in Woodbridge.

There, furniture, paintings, draperies and rugs, valued at a total of \$4,000, were taken in a break-in.

Boldest theft of the week also occurred in Woodbridge at the home of Rosa Perri, Rainbow Dr.

While Mrs. Perri was in the basement of her home between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., Nov. 18, someone came in and stole a gold bracelet from the front hall table.

Another Woodbridge break-in netted thieves \$300 cash, some meat and a movie projector, for a total haul of \$550 from Spaghetti Stop, 46 Steeles Ave. W.

Rocco Florindi, Chavender Court, Woodbridge is the owner.

Thornhill crime  
A break-in at the home of Roy Lever, Bayview Avenue, Thornhill, netted thieves \$2,103.

Another Bayview Ave. break-in, this time at a Beamish Construction Co. site, resulted in the theft of \$800 worth of tools.

George Neely, Westwood Lane, Thornhill, lost a total of \$879.16 in money and personal items to thieves who broke into his home, Nov. 22.

A \$250 Polaroid land camera and case, valued at \$250, were taken from the home of Douglas Wise, Riverview Rd., Markham.

In Maple, Dr. Walter Jurczak, Malaren Rd., had an air conditioner taken from a rear window in his office at the Maple Plaza.

Firefighters' dance winners

The Vaughan Professional Firefighters' 10th annual dance was recently held at La Gondola Banquet Hall. The lucky winners of the door prize, a color T.V. were Mr. and Mrs. Rick Patrick of Kipling Ave., Woodbridge.

## Rape trial resumes Dec. 10

An 18-year-old Richmond Hill bank teller last week told an Ontario Supreme Court jury a cab ride here last Christmas Eve led to rape and death threats by the cab driver.

The trial resumes Dec. 10.

The driver Douglas Thompson answered her call for a cab to take her from a party on Maple Grove Ave., Oak Ridges, to her parents home on Elm Ridge Dr., she said.

Instead he drove her to a narrow laneway off Dufferin St. and raped her on the front seat of the car, she testified.

"If I had tried to stop him, he would have killed me", she said, describing repeated threats.

Lacked teeth

After she had been raped, the woman said, the driver began

apologizing and saying "no girls would go out with him because he didn't have any teeth".

She said Thompson drove her to a house in Richmond Hill and then to the Emerald Isle Motel on Yonge St., Thornhill.

She paid Thompson \$7 for cab fare.

"I didn't have much choice. If I hadn't paid the money, where would I have gone from there?" she told the court.

Called police

She said she agreed to go to the house and the motel because Thompson promised to let her use a telephone.

No one was at the house, but upon reaching the motel she called her sister and police, she said.

The woman said Thompson wanted her to pay the money as her share of the motel room, but she told him she only was paying it because she owed him cab fare.

Questioned by Defence Counsel Norman Drenfield, the woman said she could not recall asking the motel's 15-year-old night manager for the money back after the police arrived.

"If I asked for it back, it would have been out of disgust", she said.

Trial suspended

When the court was told the accused man was taken to hospital, the trial was suspended.

The jury of seven women and five men was sent home.

The trial resumes Dec. 10 before Mr. Justice William Donohue.

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