

Chief Bruce Crawford

## Reports region's crime up 8.1%

**YORK REGION** — The crime rate in York Region has risen 8.1 per cent in the first three months of this year, according to statistics released by Police Chief Bruce Crawford to the Police Commission.

The number of break and entries continue to increase and assaults are also listed as being responsible for the expanded rate. Thefts under \$200 were down but thefts over \$200 increased by 41.

While the number of cleared offences has dropped from 58 per cent last year to 53 per cent so far this year, Chief Crawford expressed satisfaction with the rate. He felt it is still high compared to the provincial 1973 rate of 29.9 per cent.

Board members were told the department has received 51 complimentary letters compared to 131 letters of complaint. According to Chief Crawford all complaints have been investigated by senior members of the force and the investigation of allegations in one letter led to a disciplinary trial in which the offending officer was convicted under the Police Act.

"It is too early in the year to consider that the increase in crime will indicate a trend for the balance of the year," Chief Crawford said.

Board members were told that an accurate tally of every call for service is logged (up 21 per cent over 1973) and the chief remarked, "The calls are increasing at an alarming rate."

Concluded Board Commissioner Ray Twinnay, "The situation is well in hand. As crime goes in the Region the picture looks good."

### "REALTOR PUSHES SPRING WITH 50,000 SEED PACKETS"



After a long cold winter, Realtor Robert Shea, President of Thos. N. Shea Ltd., decided to help push the onset of spring by having his staff distribute 50,000 packets of flower seeds throughout this area. "We are hoping that our flower seed campaign will give everyone a little lift."

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Easter bunny — large size

Rabbits are popular pets, but few in Stouffville can match the size of this one. Dawn Wideman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Wideman, Rupert Avenue, won this beauty in an Easter draw sponsored by Widfield's Drug Store in the A and P Plaza. — Jim Thomas.

## Youth guilty after chase

**STOUFFVILLE** — A 17-year-old Stouffville area youth who led police on a high speed chase through Aurora and Newmarket, pleaded guilty to impaired driving in Provincial court last week.

Heinz Dieter, told police after the chase that he couldn't remember anything about it afterwards and was fined \$100 or 50 days and his licence was suspended.

Police testified that Dieter, who works as an apprentice for his father, was followed as he drove his van northbound on Yonge St. in Aurora at speeds of 70 and 80 miles an hour.

At the Mulock sideroad in Newmarket, police said Dieter made a U-Turn and headed back to Aurora in a southerly direction.

"It's early for you to be starting this sort of thing," Judge R. G. Pearce told the youth, he added that he would place the accused on probation for one year because of the conviction and warned Dieter, "This court will not tolerate breaches of probation, you had better stay out of taverns and abstain from any alcohol."

## Wrong priorities raise MP's ire

**YORK SIMCOE** — The government is showing "no proper sense of priorities" in presenting a bill to protect the Canadian Football League at this time, York-Simcoe MP Sinclair Stevens said this week.

Mr. Stevens cited housing, inflation, energy and taxation as more pressing problems. He intends to vote against the bill.

"In my view the government should not attempt to regulate professional sport which is a business," he said. "It is entertainment."

He added that the government should be more concerned with the promotion and development of amateur sport and physical fitness.

The MP said the legislation may be "unconstitutional" because it goes beyond the powers of Federal jurisdiction.

"It appears to me that the proposed legislation would not in any event protect the CFL," Mr. Stevens concluded.

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