

Aged farmer attacked

Victim choked-robbed

UXBRIDGE — A crazed 25 year old farm worker, accused of tying up, sexually assaulting and robbing an elderly Uxbridge man of \$50, has been ruled insane and committed to the Ontario Mental Health Centre at Penetanguishine.

David Walker, also of Uxbridge, was arrested by Durham Regional Police three

hours after the attack and charged with robbery, buggery and choking. He appeared before Judge Hugh O'Connor in Whitby County Court last week.

According to evidence, Walker visited the 83 year old victim at his isolated township farmhouse. After gaining entry to the premises, he tied the man up in his bedroom, attacked him sexually, then took

a sum of money from his wallet.

The aged farmer managed to free himself and walk to a neighbor's for help. From there he was driven to Uxbridge Cottage Hospital where he was retained ten days.

Psychiatrists who examined the accused, described him as suffering from a personality disorder.

His IQ was placed in the low 60's with virtually no ability to read.

One physician termed Walker's prognosis as "sad". "If he's not looked after, he's capable of killing someone without realizing it," he said. He told Judge O'Connor that because of the victim's age, the farmer could have died from shock.

The Tribune

Second Section

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May turn education system 'upside down'

CLAREMONT — Education in Ontario is on the verge of major change. Lower marks and rising unemployment, are the reasons.

That's why the Ministry of Education wants to see the school system altered from Grade 7 on. It wants also to re-organize technical colleges to eliminate duplication, and set up universities to stress practical courses, such as computer science.

Job training, both at the university as well as the high school level, is the main purpose of education, is the feeling, with less emphasis on the academic side.

Training, Ministry officials say, should be for specific jobs

with specific requirements.

In fact, they say, "the education system must be turned upside down to cater more to job-oriented students than to university-bound young people."

"A good idea," says Durham Board of Education trustee, Linda Carder. The goal of education is to make students "self-sufficient, able to function, achieve their goals, and go on to university."

Students can absorb more than they're currently being taught in high school, trustee Carder says. "I get the feeling we're not teaching them as much as before."

And the reason? "High school teachers are very status

conscious," she says. If a student is on a level where he or she won't be going on to university, the teacher is inclined to give them less attention.

That's one of the reasons why Mrs. Carder is happy that the University of Toronto plans to implement its own entrance requirement tests.

"When the universities aren't testing, we're falling down on the job with respect to giving teachers the proper

calibre of secondary students," she said.

"If the students can't pass, they shouldn't be in university."

"And, if they aren't being taught the proper subjects to pass, then there's something wrong with the secondary school system."

"If there's anything wrong with the U of T tests, it's that they're American. You'd think we'd have one of our own," Trustee Carder said.

Student first

DURHAM REGION — "Nothing else is as important as what goes on in the classroom," according to Art Winter, chairman of Durham Board of Education.

Winter made his comments following announcement that 90 per cent of the \$108 million board budget in 1981, was spent on salaries and benefits for teachers trustees and staff.

However, Winter said the board increased block budgets, (the amount of money given to school principals), who decide how it should be spent.

"We look to administrative and maintenance cost cuts first, before the classroom," he said.

Winter said that, this year the board would be emphasizing co-operative education and examining technical and vocational areas. The latter is something that has been recently stressed by the provincial government, which sees the schools preparing students more for the work force, than for university.

The board will also work toward implementing special

education, he said. The latter must be available for children by 1985.

Among the board's accomplishments in 1981, Winter said, was a motion leading to "total computer literacy" for every student by 1985-86. A computer consultant was appointed last year.

The board also voted to give all children a chance to obtain 1,200 hours in French language instruction by the time they have finished secondary school.

"One of the biggest problems faced by the board, was in the matter of classrooms," Winter said.

"There were classrooms where there weren't children and children where there weren't classrooms," because of shifting enrolment, he said. Portables are inevitable, Winter said. He defended their use, saying: "It's not the building, but what's inside."

Another accomplishment, he said, was setting up the Family Life Advisory Committee, to review sex education courses.

Equestrian champion



Meet a champion. Fifteen year old Michael Clarke of Sheldonbury Crescent, Agincourt, was the 1981 grand champion at the Toronto Cadabra Schooling Show. Michael trains out of the Brock

Hill Farm Equestrienne Centre, R.R. 1, Claremont where the family's horses are kept. He is shown here with "Wilson", a five year old German Hanoverian. —Jim Thomas.

Waste disposal plant

Seek Uxbridge site

UXBRIDGE — Gary Herrema, chairman of Durham Region, says he will meet soon with the chairman of Ontario Waste Management Corp., and Uxbridge Township coun-

cillors, to discuss the possibility of converting 250 acres of Uxbridge's largest gravel pit into an industrial waste treatment centre.

The 500-acre gravel pit is

located on the Uxbridge-Whitchurch townline, north of Lincolnville. Herrema said the pit had been mostly worked out by Standard Aggregates.

He said government officials are interested in the idea. However, Uxbridge Mayor, Bill Ballinger, said he would like to see what benefits the proposal would have for the township, before deciding.

Herrema said he has received comments both for and against the project.

The former mayor of Uxbridge, said the region had an obligation to take care of its own industrial waste, which lately is being illegally dumped down regional sewers.

The waste centres could be operated safely, he said.

At Goodwood

Rare guiding event

GOODWOOD — An event, unique in the history of Guiding at Goodwood, will take place at a ceremony in the Community Hall, Feb. 9.

Four girls will receive their All-Round Cords with Uxbridge Division Commissioner Tessa Dempster making the presentations.

The recipients will be — Jannette St. John, Cathy

Brophy, Melissa Elson and Diana Buchanan. The honored Guides will be advancing into Pathfinders under the leadership of Betty Groff and Susan Buchanan.

On Jan. 12, nine year old Jeannie St. John 'flew up' from Brownies to Guides. In a short period of time, Jeannie has amassed a total of 28 badges, also a unique accomplishment.

Get-tough hiring plan

DURHAM REGION — A management committee's resolution, calling for the Region to adopt a tougher hiring policy until the 1982 budget has been struck, is not tough enough, says Regional Chairman Gary Herrema.

Herrema says Durham should put a freeze on hiring —

period. That way, costs could be cut and tax increases kept to a minimum, he says.

The Region's proposed policy would make it necessary for departments to obtain the approval of two committees of council, before replacing an employee. Now, approval of the department's standing committee is enough.

Herrema said his move would allow the Region to control spending. This year, the employee benefit program will cost an extra \$320,000; up 40 per cent, he said.

The Region's recommended policy has already had its effect. Last week, the management committee turned down a request from its legal department for replacement of a confidential secretary.

Still missing

PICKERING — A 16 year old Pickering youth, missing from his home at 1910 Glendale Avenue since Nov. 1, hasn't yet been located, Detective Henry Raetsen of Durham Regional Police informed The Tribune this week.

Paul Lumsden, a Grade 9 student at Pickering High School, was last seen by his parents around 11 a.m. He said only he was going to the store.

The boy is described as 5'10" tall, 150 pounds with long brown hair. He was wearing a beige jacket, navy blue pants and blue shoes.

Anyone with information is asked to call 579-1520.

Dies of exposure

CLAREMONT — Exposure claimed the life of an area man after he was injured in a car accident, Friday night.

Inspector Doug Bullock, Durham Regional police, said Harvey Williamson, 22, of Ashburn, rolled his car at least three times, after losing control on a regional road north of Hwy. 7.

The auto landed at the bottom of a gully and the driver, suffering a broken leg, was either thrown out, or crawled out. He apparently tried to get back to the road, but failed.

Insp. Bullock said Williamson was wearing only a denim jacket, shirt, pants and snowboots at the time.

Over 300 skaters

UXBRIDGE — The third annual Invationals, hosted by the Uxbridge Figure Skating Club, promises to be bigger and better than ever.

More than 300 entries are expected from thirty communities, exceeding last year's enrolment by about one hundred. The chairperson is Liz Imboden. The chief referee is Tom Nisbet. Competition will begin at 7:45 a.m., Feb. 6 and continue to 9 p.m. The same starting time is set for Feb. 7, concluding around 8 p.m. Awards will be presented both evenings.

"We have no motel accommodation here," publicity chairman Dorothy Simpson explained, "we don't want to bring the skaters back".

A new feature this year will be Dance Pairs. There'll also be Men's and Ladies' Singles and Interpretive classes.

The Uxbridge Club will enter about 20 skaters. The president is Marion Cook.



Sled dog racers battle elements and each other

Joe Bawlin and his team of huskies were one of 140 entries at Pleasure Valley over the weekend for the Maple Leaf Sled Dog

Challenge, in aid of the Easter Seal Society. The five dog teams competed over a 5 mile course. —Jim Holt.

Ignored again

UXBRIDGE — Uxbridge councillor Sandy Ewen feels that, when it comes to favorable publicity, the municipality's being ignored. At least this was his contention with respect to last weekend's Maple Leaf Sled Dog Challenge Races at the Pleasure Valley Outdoor Recreation Centre.

Pleasure Valley, he told members of Council, is located in Uxbridge Township, yet all the publicity related to the event, described the site as "in Claremont".

"I'm really ticked off," he protested, "I'd like to know who was responsible for such information".

Councillor Don Jackson, acting for absent mayor Bill Ballinger, suggested Ewen bring the matter to the attention of the race committee.

An issue of comparable concern, related to a recent meeting of the South Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority. At this session, Uxbridge was listed as being a municipality in the Region of York.

Replied Councillor Gerri Lynn O'Connor: "If York Region wants to pick up our costs, that's great".