

Red Cross homemaker service gets cash boost

The Red Cross Society's visiting homemaker service has earned a \$28.9 million boost from the provincial government.

The money will mean a raise of more than \$2 an hour for Red Cross Homemakers. It will also make the position more attractive during recruiting periods.

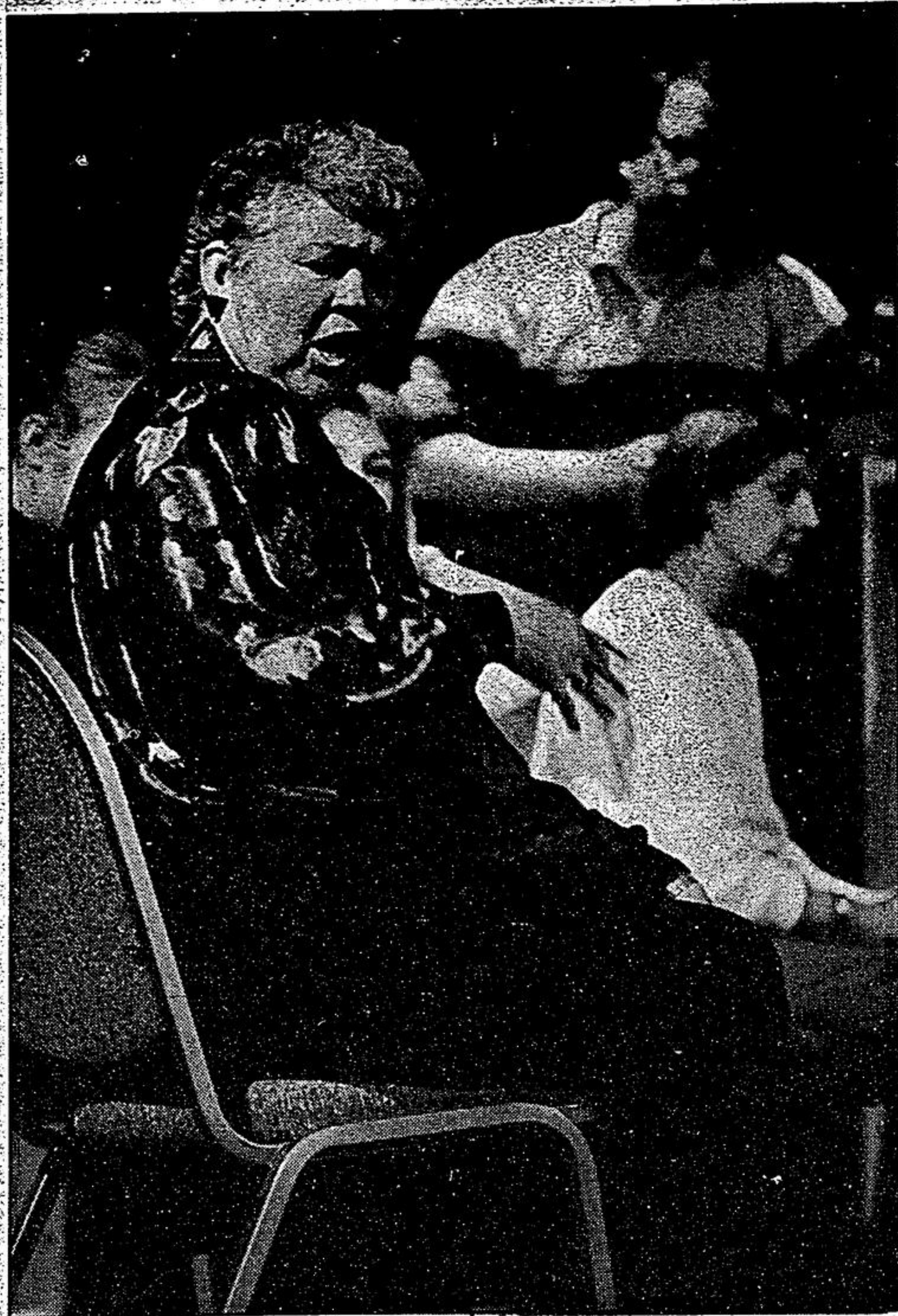
Barbra Trahan, director of Home Support Services said in a press release, "Our homemakers are a very essential link in the social health care treatment of individuals. The government increase permits us now to financially recognize

the significant contribution of homemakers, in addition to the personal appreciation they receive from their clients."

The government package also includes funding for homemaker training and travel time between cases.

Red Cross homemakers visit the elderly and disabled on a regular basis and perform basic housekeeping chores. Their mandate is to help these people remain in their own homes rather than be institutionalized.

Their visits also provide a link to the outside world.



Photo/RICK MADONIK

Marilyn Hoskins, in the role of Thelma Alban, rehearses her part in the Jack Sharkey play *Par for the Corpse*. The latest production by the Uxbridge Players is once again directed by Barb Brooks, and runs Nov. 17, 18, 24, and 25 at the Uxbridge Music Theatre.

Uxbridge Players begin new season

DEB BODINE CHAMPION
Correspondent

For a fine night's theatrical entertainment, Uxbridge residents need not trek down to the big city — exciting drama is happening right in our own backyard.

The Uxbridge Players are kicking off their seventh season at the Uxbridge Music Hall with *Par for the Corpse*, a rib-tickling homicidal comedy written by Jack Sharkey.

Set in the Catskill Mountains at the rustic retreat of an absent-minded novelist, Alexandra Ellis, the who-dunnit is very much in the vein of the popular television series *Murder, She Wrote*. When Alex's guests begin arriving for a party that somehow slipped her mind, the cast of 10 characters is introduced through a hilarious barrage of one-liners.

As the plot thickens, members of the audience and cast alike will be drawn into the dastardly drama and will undoubtedly be speculating about the murderer's identity.

Par for the Corpse is the third Uxbridge Players' production directed by Barbara Brooks. Last year she successfully brought to the stage the female version of *Odd Couple* and *Don't Tell Mother*.

In fact, Ms. Brooks has a lengthy history with the Uxbridge Players, and has experience in every aspect of the theatre both on and off stage.

With such a large cast, and the nature of the play being a homicidal comedy, Ms. Brooks says she has found her task "very challenging" — but her pride and confidence come through loud and clear.

"This is a very technical play," she said in a telephone interview. "There is a lot required from the sound and set people. The props are absolutely phenomenal."

The cast, which is made up of mostly local residents, has been rehearsing three times a week to prepare for the upcoming four performances. That's quite a commitment, since most cast members also work full-time.

Ms. Brooks herself is the president of Sunderland Creamery — "a very full-time job," she said.

The Uxbridge Players have a slogan: "Come Play With Us," and basically that says it all.

"We have a lot of fun," said Ms. Brooks, who explained that involvement includes social events and theatre outings throughout the year.

"And we love new members," she added. There are plenty of jobs to be done, even for the stage-shy.

Barb Brooks says she has three personal goals for the Uxbridge Players: to put on a very good performance for a paying audience; to obtain new members; and, last but not least, to have fun.

"I feel very confident that we accomplish those goals," she said.

Performances are scheduled for Fridays Nov. 17 and 24, with coffee and dessert served (\$10) and Saturdays Nov. 18 and 25 with a roast beef dinner by Frank Van Veghel (\$22.50). Tickets for all 8 p.m. performances are available at Radio Shack/Yellow Brick Road on Brock St. W. in Uxbridge.



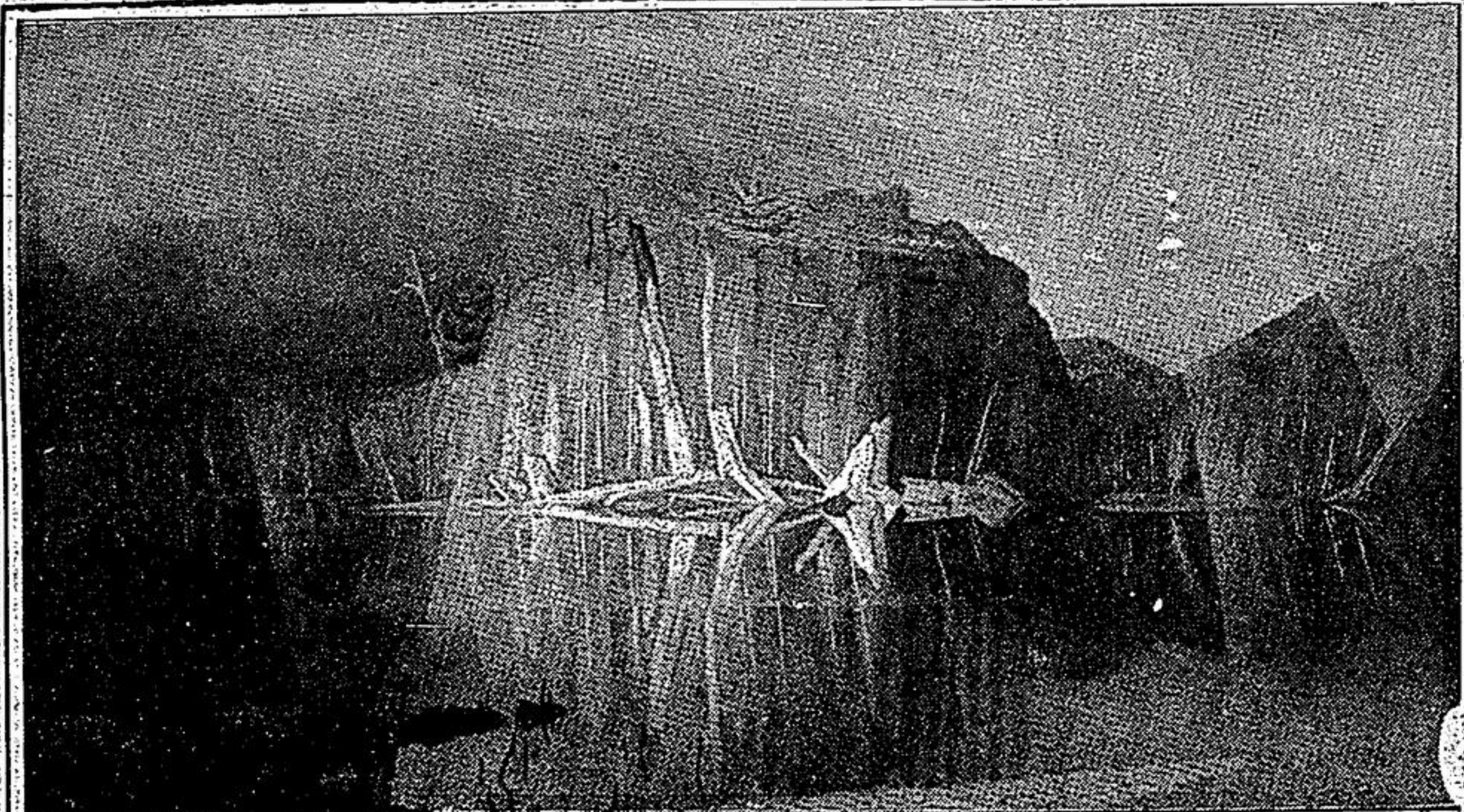
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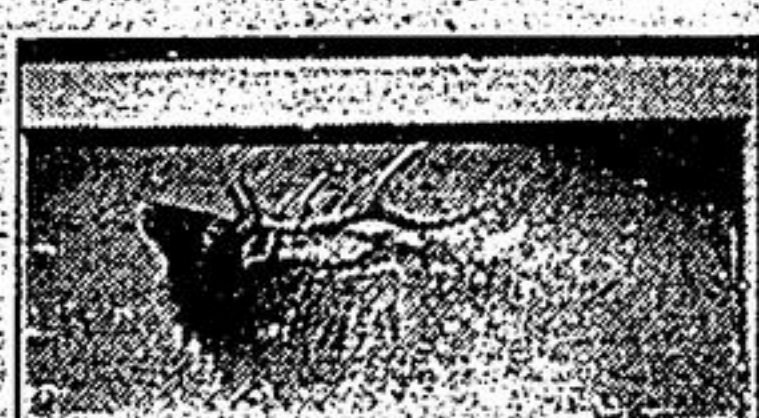


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Crime stoppers Drugs stolen from pharmacy

By SGT. GARY MCBRIEN
York Regional Police

Toronto and Regional Crime Stoppers and the York Regional Police are asking the public's help to apprehend the men responsible for an armed robbery in the Woodbridge area.

On Thursday, Oct. 12 at about 4 p.m., two unknown males entered the Henderson Drug Store on Willis Rd. in Woodbridge.

Suspect 1 who was armed with a hammer, made his way to the drug dispensary and confronted the pharmacist. He ordered the pharmacist to hand over all the bottles of percodan. The suspect was handed four bottles of the following drugs; Percocet, Oxycodone, Oxycocet and Percodan.

Suspect 2, who was armed with a knife, told the cashier to open the cash register. He scooped a quantity of bills from the till and both men fled on foot from the store.

The wanted men are described as follows:

Suspect #1 — Male white, 18 to 19 years, 5'5". He was wearing blue jeans, sweater with a hood and possibly running shoes.

Suspect #2 — Male white, 18 to 19 years, 5'5". He was wearing a dark colored sweater, jeans and running shoes.

A re-enactment of this crime will be shown on City TV tomorrow on the 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. news.