

THE LAW

By JIM ADAIR

Demeter movie rankles Peel chiefs

Peel Regional Police are examining their legal position and looking closely at a movie based on the Demeter murder case, which Deputy Chief William Teggart says is "obviously trying to make the police look bad."

The movie, I Miss You, Hugs and Kisses, claims to be fictional, but the basic plot follows the Demeter case, and the leading characters resemble their real-life counterparts. The movie has yet to be released, but has been viewed by Teggart and police chief Douglas Burrows.

"It doesn't approach the truth, and it is void of the facts," Teggart said yesterday. "It portrays the police as being inept, and it portrays Demeter as being framed," he fumed.

Demeter was convicted of arranging the death of his wife Christine

after a long murder trial in 1974. After the case, Mr. Justice Grant stated he had rarely seen such a professional and thorough job as that conducted by the Peel force.

Teggart declined to comment on what, if any, measures would be taken by police concerning the film. But he said he and Burrows were upset because citizens and new Canadians might get a misconception of justice here if they viewed the film.

He said the movie portrays the chief of police as being of low education, and it states he was the employee of a hardware store before becoming chief.

In May, Burrows told a gathering of realtors that the movie was "garbage."

Weapons charges against man, 35

A Stainton Dr. man has been charged with three counts of threatening death and one count of possession of a dangerous weapon after a 10-month-old baby was abducted Saturday.

Police said a man visited his former common-law wife in Toronto, and the pair had a fight. The man grabbed their baby and left the home, driving to his residence in Mississauga. He then called the woman and threatened to kill the baby, himself, and any

policeman who came near him.

Metro officers managed to convince the man over the phone to give himself up, and he surrendered to Constable Wayne Rennie of the Peel Regional Police. A .22-calibre rifle and 36 rounds of ammunition were confiscated, but police said the gun was not loaded at the time of the arrest.

Charged is Gary Roger Zenhenko, 29.

Man charged in alleged abduction

A man carrying a loaded rifle with a telescopic lens was arrested outside the Peel Regional Police headquarters last week in Brampton.

Raymond Francis Babin, 35, has been charged with carrying a conceal-

ed weapon, possession of a dangerous weapon, and assault with intent to resist arrest.

Police said the man's motives were unclear. He will appear in provincial court in Brampton July 22.

600 pounds of grass seized

Seven people were arrested and about 600 pounds of marijuana seized over the weekend by the RCMP drug squad at Toronto International Airport.

Five people, four from Ontario and one from Vancouver, will be charged jointly with importing a narcotic after a total of 415 pounds of marijuana was discovered in their suitcases by Canada Customs officials.

Charged separately is a Toronto woman found with 90 pounds of marijuana in her suitcases. A charge of possession of a narcotic for the purpose of trafficking was laid against a man carrying 10 pounds of the drug in his bags.

In all, 12 suitcases were seized. None of the accused are from Mississauga.

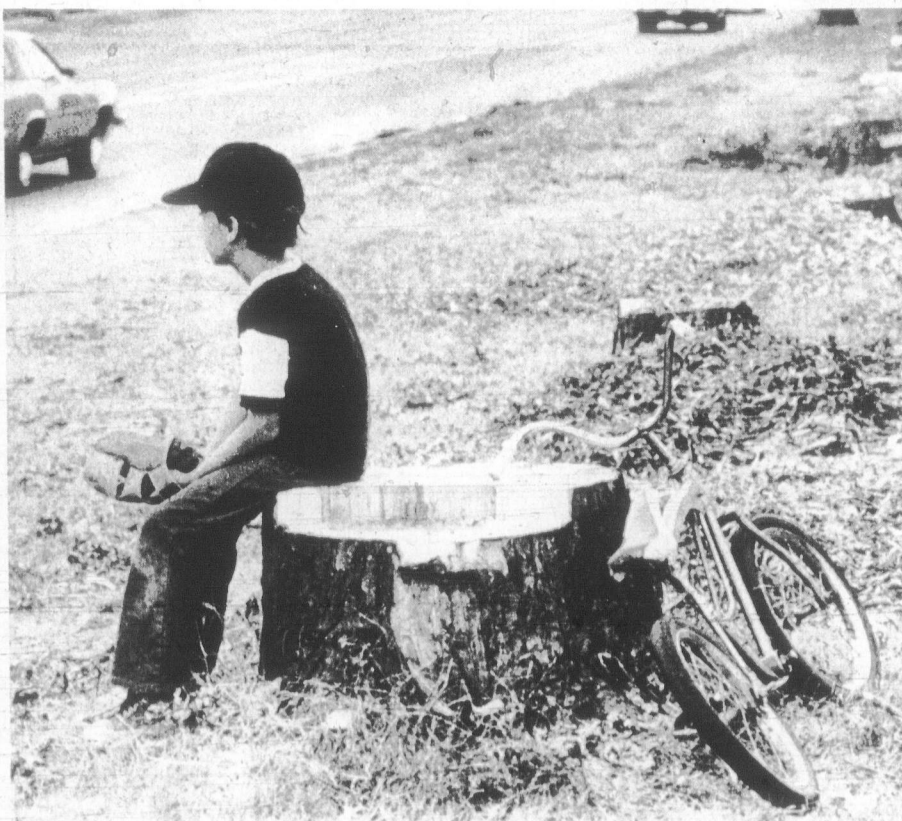
McLaughlin selling

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In Montreal itself McLaughlin hopes to start work again soon on its 862-room Sheraton Montreal Hotel after the shell of the structure sat untouched for almost two years. The new agreement with Sheraton (the original was with Holiday Inns) will help find the required \$27 million in financing needed to finish the project. It also required McLaughlin to purchase the old and failing 1,100 room

Sheraton Mount Royal on May 1 of this year.

Problems at Grouse Mountain Estates near Vancouver are expected to be minimized with the construction this year of 426 new homes at the base of the Grouse sky ride. Approval was also received in March for McLaughlin to start work on a 205-unit apartment building on part of its 50-acre holding in Southfield, Michigan.



No shade now, just a place to sit

Times photo by KEN KERR

Region's chainsaws make residents mad

By JOHN STEWART

Times Staff Writer

A resident was told to get out from under trees being felled along Cawthra Road if he didn't want to get struck with one.

Garratt MacMillan of Green Meadow Crescent says that a supervisor for region of Peel contractors removing trees for a road widening project, "grabbed me by the shirt" and told him to get off the site, swearing in the process. "He told me that if I stood under a tree he'd fell it on me."

MacMillan got out of his early morning shower last Tuesday to find his wife upset that a number of trees were being removed. "We were totally unaware that they were going to cut down any trees," he said.

"There was no one there of any authority to verify that those trees were the ones which should be removed," added MacMillan. He was also upset that the contractors, Kilmer Van Nostrand Limited, went down the line of trees, scoring each one with a power saw meaning they would have to be removed in any case.

MacMillan finally reached mayor Ron Searle who put a stop-work order on the removal until he got some more information. The mayor told residents all the trees being removed were planned to be taken down several years ago for the project.

After further investigation, ward 4 councillor Larry Taylor contends that the regional forces took down at least five trees unnecessarily. He says they are outside the 12 feet required for pavement and curbs to make Cawthra four lanes wide. In a letter to the chairman of the region's public works committee, Taylor says "there was a regional commitment to the residents of Cawthra Road that only those trees within the pavement portion of the new road would be destroyed."

Taylor is also upset that he wasn't notified before work began so he could tell residents. He's asked the region to change its procedure to allow such notification.

The president of the local Cherry Hill ratepayers association has also written to the region complaining that residents were "put off and put

down" when making on-site inquiries about the work.

Lynne Morrow of Green Meadow Crescent said workmen wouldn't talk to her when she first went out at 7:15 a.m. to complain about the tree removal. Some of the trees were just outside the Morrrows' backyard.

After complaining to the

workmen, Mrs. Morrow turned around to walk away when a tree was felled very close to her. "I could feel the breeze," she says. Asked whether she thought the action was intentional, she replied that it was "probably just carelessness or lack of concern." She said the workmen were "very rude" to MacMillan.

Welfare moms mistreated Crozier says

By SID RODAWAY
Times Staff Writer

The 1,364 welfare mothers in Peel are being locked into a continued reliance on public handouts instead of being helped to become self sufficient, according to Peel Social Services commissioner Jim Crozier.

There are an estimated 902 such women receiving long-term family benefits from the provincial government, while another 462 were listed in May as receiving direct short-term welfare payments from the region of Peel, according to a report by Crozier to regional council's social services committee yesterday afternoon.

He called for a more aggressive program to avoid these women being "locked in" to the welfare system. "Not only for their own sake, but also for the obvious impact on the taxpayer."

Crozier calculated even at the minimum benefit rate of \$220 a month for each single mother, that at least \$290,400 is being sent to mothers each month in Peel by the provincial and regional governments.

He stated there was a real need to amalgamate some aspects of the two programs so that efforts aimed at helping these people can be better co-ordinated.

To do it, however, would require more case workers and more day-care programs. He said, this move to get women off welfare would become even more necessary when rental rates charged on subsidized housing rise this fall from 20 to 25 per cent of the recipient's income.

Crozier concluded that a real decrease in welfare costs will depend on the availability of more jobs and job training programs. "With more emphasis on the right to work versus the right to welfare."

The report was received by the committee.

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Topsoil?

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Searle says he has sold 10,000 yards of the material, with only two complaints. "I don't have the time to worry about one complaint," he snapped. "If there are any deficiencies we remedy them but I'm afraid I don't know what he's talking about."

The material came from the identical pile as all his other topsoil, which Searle says is from an area used as a market garden in Burlington for 50 years, and where three cash crops per year were grown. "You don't grow three crops on clay and asphalt."

If MacIntyre was unhappy with the product, he shouldn't have signed to accept it, maintains Searle. "This is a joke to me. Everybody else can be as happy as can be but one fellow screams and yells and it's a big thing."

An observer seeing MacIntyre's lawn for the

first time this week remarked that, "I've seen clay with more topsoil in it than that."

T. F. Knight, one of MacIntyre's neighbors who helped him spread out the material says, "it definitely doesn't look like real earthy topsoil. It seems to have some clay mixed in with it and a lot of sand but you sometimes get that with topsoil."

"His (Searle's) biggest mistake was not coming down to talk to Mac," continues Knight. "That's what really made him suspicious. If he'd taken the time to come down and assure him it was all right, I don't think there would have been a problem."

So while Wesco maintains there's nothing wrong with its product, the Port Credit neighborhood will just have to watch the MacIntyres' front lawn to see if grass can grow through

topsoil or clay, or whatever the contentious material on the lawn, really is.

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