

Blenkarn, Cardarelli plan court showdown

By JOHN CHALLINOR
Times staff writer

Don Blenkarn and Ettore Cardarelli had each other exactly where they wanted each other yesterday — in court.

No sooner had Cardarelli filed a writ in Peel County Court last week, charging Blenkarn with improperly voting in November's municipal election, than the former Mississauga MP filed a notice of motion asking that Cardarelli, a defeated Ward 1 council candidate, appear in court yesterday.

"I want to go ahead with this thing as quickly as possible," said Blenkarn,

a lawyer for 25 years with the Port Credit firm of Blenkarn, Roche, Kerr and Shadlocke. "I want an immediate trial to get this thing out of the way."

Both men appeared in court yesterday to "set the ground rules" for the action, ask for direction as to how it should proceed and to set the Feb. 19 court date.

Blenkarn told The Times Saturday morning the writ Cardarelli filed was "improper," but he ignored its errors because "we want to get on with it." He said Cardarelli did not complete the address and service information on the back of the writ.

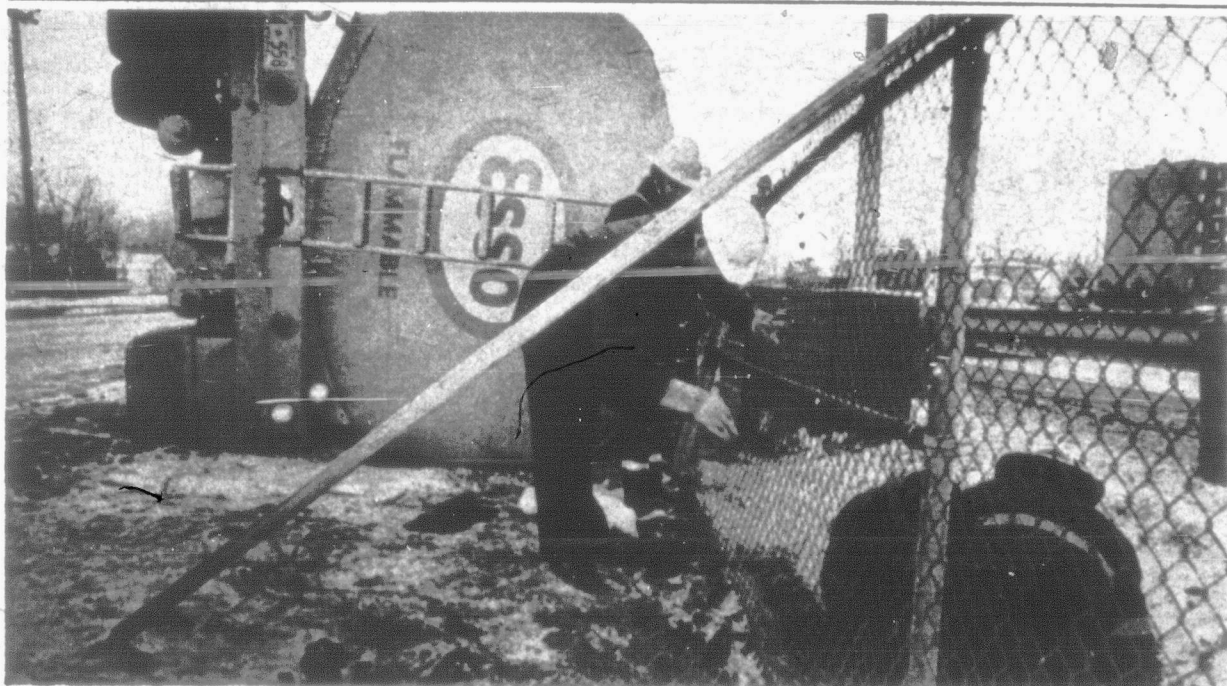
Blenkarn is the Progressive Conser-

vative candidate in Mississauga South in the upcoming federal election.

According to Cardarelli, a director of Peel Region Social Planning Council, Blenkarn has been charged in the civil suit under Sections 96-B and 96-C of the Municipal Elections Act.

The Port Credit resident alleges that Blenkarn voted twice, once in the Mississauga ward where he lives and once in the ward where his office is located — a ward he had no privilege to vote in on Nov. 13.

Cardarelli does not plan to use a lawyer because "it doesn't appear I'm going to need one." However, he plans to call witnesses.



KEN KERR/THE TIMES

Fuel tanker - truck flips

Peel police are investigating an accident on South Service Road at Crediton Parkway, between Highway 10 and Cawthra Road yesterday about 3:30 p.m. in which an Esso tanker

truck flipped over. A second truck was called in so the fuel could be transferred and the tanker uprighted. The operation took until about 11 p.m. No one was seriously injured. There

was a traffic jam on the QEW as motorists slowed to see the accident. Here, flames, tearful the tanker may begin leaking, plug roadside drains.

First official towing call leads to grisly discovery

When Vern Pederson Auto and Truck Collision Ltd. answered its first official call after being awarded a Peel police towing tender Dec. 5, there was no inkling it would lead to a frozen body in a 1977 tan Cadillac and a police investigation reaching into the world of organized crime.

Pederson dispatched a tow truck to the outside parking lot of Terminal One at Toronto International Airport in Malton at 5 a.m. Friday after an RCMP officer spotted the Cadillac, reported stolen Dec. 4.

The car was towed by Pederson's on Drew Road in Brampton.

\$43,000

Shipp pays festival debt

Developer Harold Shipp, past chairman of the 1978 Mississauga Community Fritterfest Festival, has paid the Fritterfest's \$43,000 debt.

Shipp issued a cheque to the festival committee from his corporation Thursday evening. He has postdated it to Jan. 31 in anticipation of what may take place at city council when an audit of the committee's budget and a final report are presented.

"I'm sick and tired of having my name and the committee bashed through the press," he said when asked why he paid the debt. "If there is ever going to be another successful Fritterfest, or any festival next year, the way must be made clear now so the new committee can get on with it." The first Fritterfest was held last year.

The Cadillac's owner, Mary Ann Routley of Gothic Avenue in Toronto, and Metro police arrived shortly after 9 a.m. at Pederson's. Ms. Routley, who opened the trunk, became hysterical when the fully clad frozen body of her fiancé, Edward Peter Neuff, 33, was discovered, police said.

Dr. Tom Daghish, Peel coroner, was called and the car and body were sent to the Centre for Forensic Sciences in Toronto. Peel Police Superintendent Des Rowland said Ms. Routley had last seen her fiancé Dec. 10, before she left for her parents' home for a three-day visit. That was a week

before the couple was to be married.

She last spoke to Neuff Dec. 11, and police say he was last seen Dec. 12 in a Church Street restaurant. He was reported missing Dec. 15.

An autopsy Monday night performed by Dr. Hans Sepp verified the identity of the body as that of Neuff, also of Gothic Avenue. Cause of death was a gunshot wound.

Police are investigating the likelihood of an underworld connection in the slaying. Neuff, had a real estate licence, but it is known he was connected with bookie operations.

Shipp said he took the initiative away from Mayor Hazel McCallion when he paid the debt.

"She expected I was going to come before council with my hat in my hand — begging," Shipp said.

"She's playing Joan of Arc. She's trying to show the taxpayer who's running the city and this happens to be one of her first issues. She's mad as hell about what I did."

McCallion said it was a "very generous offer" and that there "aren't too many that would do it."

The mayor said it is going to take a few years for Fritterfest to catch on and she would like to see the festival continue, "if it doesn't cost too much money."

The city treasurer has accepted the \$10,000 cheque from the committee,

the amount of the loan made to the committee last spring.

"It was understood that this was a loan, not a grant," McCallion said. "They never asked the city for a grant — they may yet. I think it's honorable that they repaid the loan. I also think it's honorable that the committee is looking for a way to repay the debt."

McCallion stressed the fact that because the committee is incorporated, it must incur its own debts.

Ward 3 councillor Frank Bean said the \$43,000 payment is not the solution. "He shouldn't have to pay the debt," Bean said of Shipp.

"There aren't too many taxpayers who want to pay," he said. "They shouldn't have to. The committee will have to come up with a plan."

THE LAW

3 charged with armed theft

Three people have been charged with armed robbery after \$1,500 was stolen at the Berliner German Canadian Club New Year's Eve party.

The three are David James Edward Perkins, 19, a New Year's Eve waiter; Willie Francis Van-Dinther, 21, a dance organizer; and Bruce Alexander Lawson, 18. All

live at 100 Mornell Court in Toronto.

A masked man entered the Teamsters' Union Hall on Matheson Boulevard in Mississauga where the party was being held and took the money at gunpoint.

Investigations by Peel police detectives Peter Kilpin and Roddy Piukkala led to the arrests.

Men given 10-year terms

Luis Alberto Alvin Garcia and Manuel Escalante, have been sentenced in Peel County Court to 10 years in prison for importing

cocaine from Peru into Canada.

The RCMP said the 3.27 pounds of cocaine had a street value of nearly \$600,000.

Attempted murder charges

Robert William Curnoe, 25, of Weston, charged with two counts of attempted murder in connection with the Dec. 23 shooting at the Avion Motor Hotel, will appear in court tomorrow for a bail hearing.

about 1 a.m. The two, Jeffery Myron, 23, of 36 West Humber Blvd. in Toronto, and Michael Anthony Lance, 19, of 48 Delsing Dr., Weston, were sent to Toronto Western Hospital. Myron is in satisfactory condition and Lance has been released. Myron was shot in the face and Lance in the abdomen and head.

Two men were shot in the Leaky Tap beverage room of the motel

Man faces robbery counts

Peel police have charged Gaetano Nino Russo, 25, of Toronto with two counts of robbery.

On Dec. 23, three Metro men were robbed of \$600 by two men in a laneway off Derry Road after a warning shot was fired.

In a second incident, in a North

Service Road apartment, a man was assaulted and robbed of household equipment.

Police are looking for a second man in connection with the case, said to be 27 years of age, six feet, two inches, 170 pounds with hazel eyes and a mole on his left cheek.

High-speed chase ends in crash

Peel police took part in a high-speed chase early Friday morning in which a car went through seven stop signs and four red lights.

Police pursued the car along Dundas Street, up Queen Frederica Drive, west on Burnhamthorpe Road to Meadows Boulevard, a dead end.

The chase ended when the suspect car roared over several lawns, knocked over a tree and crashed into a police cruiser. No one was hurt.

Danny William Martin, 18, has been charged with impaired driving, driving while his licence is under suspension, possession of an illegal drug and criminal negligence.

Police stake-out nets suspect

A Toronto man has been charged with armed robberies after being arrested following a police stake-out of Becker's Milk Store at 713 Indian Road.

A man, armed with a gun, entered the store just before closing time Thursday night, and ordered the owner to hand over \$65.

When Constable John Eldridge entered the store and yelled

"Freeze, police!" the man turned around with his gun pointed at the police officer. The officer fired and missed. The man fled and was arrested later.

Daniel Bennet Macdonald has been charged with eight counts of armed robbery and one count of attempted robbery. The charges follow a rash of milk-store robberies in the area.

Arsonist to appeal sentence

Thomas Albert Coxhead, 24, who was sentenced last month to 10 years in prison for arson in connection with the Texaco refinery fire in Port

Credit Oct. 2, will appeal the sentence.

Coxhead is awaiting processing of a Legal Aid certificate.

Police confronted with shotgun

Peel police, called to a disturbance at 3555 Derry Rd. Saturday just after midnight, found themselves looking down the barrel of a shotgun.

When one of the officers drew his revolver, and the man dropped the

shotgun.

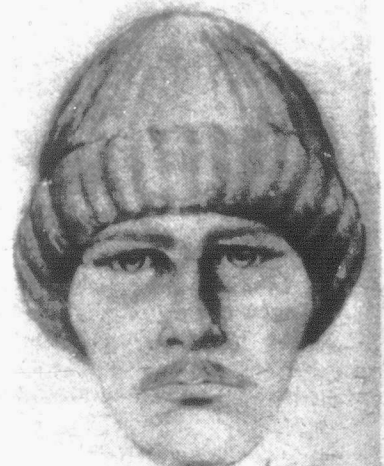
Charged with possession of a weapon dangerous to public peace is Panayiotis Arvanitis, 34, of 3555 Derry Road E., Apt. 1005. Arvanitis will appear in court Jan. 26.

Police seek taxi robber

Police are looking for a fair-haired man, about five foot, 10 inches, who robbed a Peel taxi driver of \$30 and made off with his taxi last Saturday afternoon, leaving the cabbie stranded on Winston Churchill Boulevard.

Police say the suspect got in the cab at the Clarkson GO train station. The suspect was wearing a dark nylon parka and dark woolen toque at the time.

The taxi was found on Wolfedale Road Tuesday morning.



Police think suspect they want in connection with taxi theft looks like this.