

Defendant claims police treatment was brutal

BY SID RODAWAY
An impaired driving charge against a Malton resident has expanded into a major trial, with overtones of alleged police brutality and racial prejudice.

Chiefton McDowall, of Sills Road, was charged with impaired driving and refusal to take a breathalyzer test after a near head-on collision on Etude Drive March 28.

The basic facts of the case seem simple enough with numerous witnesses testifying to McDowall's apparent condition. Scientific analysis of a urine sample, which McDowall claims was taken against his will, showed that he had consumed at least five or six bottles of beer before the accident.

Although McDowall loudly proclaims his innocence in the case, the real issue at stake is the treatment he received at the hands of the

Mississauga police after they drove him from the scene of the accident.

Provincial Court Judge John Ord explained Thursday that in cases where members of the public feel they have been mistreated at the hands of the law, he feels obligated to give them an opportunity to tell their full story—uninterrupted—in a court of law. McDowall was given that chance.

He claimed he had only one or two bottles of beer to drink before the 10 p.m. accident and said he had been on his way back from a liquor store after buying a bottle of whiskey when the collision occurred.

He felt that his apparent grogginess was the result of a blow to the head he had suffered in the accident. The windshield of his car cracked on both the driver and the passenger sides.

Under cross examination

by crown attorney Leo McGuigan, McDowall claimed that all of the crown witnesses—who described his stumbling and seemingly drunken actions before the police arrived—were liars.

His first criticism of the police involved what he called their "sub-human lack of sympathy" at the scene of the accident. He said Constable Daniel Wallace placed the defendant and his four-year-old daughter in the rear seat of the cruiser and refused to drive them to a hospital.

The little girl was eventually given to McDowall's sister who appeared at the scene a short time later.

"All along Wallace never listened to me—all the way to the station I berated him for being heartless," McDowall told the court. He claimed he was never informed that he was under arrest.

The accused said that when he arrived at police headquarters in Cooksville he refused to take a breathalyzer test because "by now I doubted it would be accurate. I had no confidence in Wallace." He said he feared the officers would enter a false figure in the breathalyzer report because they were prejudiced against him.

"Wallace held me and led me to the breathalyzer room. Another officer pushed me violently into the room. My face hit the back of a chair."

In the meantime McDowall went to the washroom and then called his lawyer for the second time that evening. Coordination skills tests were then conducted, although McDowall stated only line walking and coin identification tests were conducted in contrast to the police report which listed a full battery of test procedures.

At 12:25 he asked to go to the washroom again. McDowall insists it was at this point that a urine sample was taken against his will.

The defendant claimed he was finally given two court appearance notices made out to different names and told to go home in a taxi. McDowall refused to take a taxi because he was unemployed and didn't want to spend the money, although he did have enough in his pocket.

In response to his refusal McDowall insists the officers, Wallace and breathalyzer machine operator Constable Brian Kelly, "violently stripped me" and threw him into a cell. He said he fell against the toilet, injuring his back and smashing his glasses.

Fifteen minutes later "someone let me out and called a taxi," McDowall was convinced that the police should have driven him back to Malton so he refused to pay for the taxi. Two officers later returned to his house to force him to pay the waiting cab driver.

McGuigan's cross examination drove at McDowall's basic conflict with the testimony describing his condition by uninformed witnesses. At first McDowall called each conflicting statement a "100 per cent lie" but later admitted "maybe they were telling the truth—but not to insinuate that I was drunk."

He then claimed he couldn't remember all of the "small trivialities." Again he put his unusual actions off to the effects of the accident. One major difference in the testimony of the police and the crown's other wit-

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'Concerns' Shown Over Parsons' Blueprint

Smooth start for region

BY FRANK TOUBY
Peel Region Chairman Lou Parsons, normally brusque and forceful when he chairs meetings, left his caustic side home as he relaxed procedural finery and let the councillors-elect find their way without interference.

Members met last Wednesday in a lengthy session

aimed at organizing the regional government which takes office Jan. 1, 1974.

Parsons, who was appointed to his position by the provincial government, presented a series of recommendations about the form of regional government which he hoped council-elect would approve in principle.

It did, but not without holding up numerous areas of "concern" to be discussed at later meetings.

Members from Mississauga were quick to express "concerns" over various aspects of Parsons' organizational proposals.

In asking for quick appointment of a chief regional

administrative officer, Parsons said in his brief the senior administrator "could assist the chairman (Parsons) in the selection of the rest of the management team."

Councillor-elect Mary Helen Spence (Ward 2) objected to the implication that Parsons would select

the management team and said all of council should participate.

A long debate began on whether the regional government should advertise staff positions nationally. A vote on the issue lost, though Councillor-elect Hazel MacCallion (Ward 9) proposed another

motion, which passed, to the effect that the region would buy ads in the Globe and Mail announcing that the region is now selecting its administrative staff.

Parsons envisioned four council committees: finance, public works, planning and social services. He also tacked on a rider, which Mrs. Spence criticized, that would give Parsons a seat and one vote on each of the committees.

The issue of whether Parsons should be allowed a vote on committees will be hotly debated at future meetings of the council-elect.

The argument for allowing Parsons a vote on committee boiled down to: Since he will be advising the committees because he has inside information, he should be "forced" to put his money where his mouth is by going on record with a vote.

Councillors-elect Ron Searle (Ward 7) and Mrs. MacCallion offered that view.

Opponents to giving Parsons a vote felt it would place too much potential power over the deliberations of council in the hands of a political appointee.

Mississauga Mayor-elect Martin Dobkin said traffic and transportation should be divorced from the public works committee and be handled as a separate committee.

Caledon Mayor-elect Ivor McMullin, who is reportedly seeking the chairmanship of the public works committee, said he favours transportation remaining under public works.

Brampton Mayor-elect James Archdekin agreed with Dobkin, saying councillors-elect "should be cautious about not setting up two committees because we could be cramming in too

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Pilot averts crash with car on runway

An Air Canada pilot spotted a car driving along the runway he was about to land on at Toronto International Airport Saturday night and pulled his aircraft up, avoiding a collision.

Had the pilot not seen the car "it would have been a disaster," according to RCMP officials.

Mississauga police said Monday the pilot saw the vehicle "at the last split second" avoiding a disaster.

The incident occurred about 9:50 Saturday night. The

driver of the vehicle did not know how he got onto the runway but police officials speculated that a gate was left open.

Charged with impaired driving and having an excessive amount of alcohol in his blood is Wayne Edward Howard, 27, of Weston Road in Toronto.

Howard was on an undertaking to appear in provincial court Nov. 19.

The RCMP is considering further charges under the federal Aeronautical Act.

Can Kandu do?

Mississauga was the first port of call for a 4,000 pound female killer whale yesterday.

Kandey, the two-ton leviathan caught off Victoria B.C. was en route to the Marineland and Gamefarm at Niagara Falls. The big lady landed in an Air Canada DC-8 freighter suspended in a huge hammock filled with water and shaved ice.

She is to join the Marineland's male killer whale, Kandu in an act with porpoises. Owner John Hoier hopes the two will mate and produce offspring.

If this happens, it would be the first birth of a killer whale in captivity.

However, it is not known how Kandu will take to his bigger (at 18 feet two feet longer) companion.

The question then, is can Kandu do?

The average Mississauga police officer has a low anxiety level, tends to be energetic and does not possess an authoritarian personality, according to the results of tests done on a representative sampling of local police volunteers.

The tests were conducted by James W. Westcott and Associates Limited, a firm of Toronto industrial psychologists, at the initiative of Chief Douglas Burrows who intends to introduce psychological testing for new recruits.

The psychologists conclude from their tests that the average Mississauga policeman falls at the stable end of the neuroticism scale and is an extrovert rather than an introvert.

A press release from the police department says the absence of an authoritarian personality in members of the volunteer group tested indicates to the psychologists "that these officers are sympathetic toward others, flexible in their beliefs and do not embrace the use of violence."

The tests found that



Tonight's the night for witches, goblins and ghosts. Eleven-year-old Kim Tress, a Grade 7 student at Queen Elizabeth Public School, prepared for Halloween by setting up a pumpkin stand outside St. John's Anglican

Church on Dundas Street Saturday. Kim did a brisk business but finished a distant second when she tried to puff cheeks with a Jack-O-Lantern. (Times photo by Ron Pozzer)

'Socially Mature And Stable'

Psychological tests show our cops are tops

although officers tend to be more confident and self-assured they see the world in pretty much the same terms as the average citizen.

Commenting on the tests, Chief Burrows said Mississauga policemen "are socially mature and stable in their approach to their work and their day-to-day relationship with the public at large." He added that their dealings with the public are likely to be sound "despite the pressures they face as police officers."

Chief Burrows was particularly pleased that the psychological tests showed close correlation with the police department's general knowledge application test. Three of the tests—for intelligence, authoritarianism and anxiety levels—will be incorporated into the evaluation of new recruits.

The increased testing should help ensure that those not likely to succeed with a high standard as policemen would be eliminated, the chief indicated.

"I believe it is my responsibility to use every

available technique to screen police applicants and in particular to eliminate those who may show such traits as extreme aggressiveness, prejudice or possible psychotic tendencies and to ensure the public that everything is being done in this regard," Chief Burrows says.

He adds that modern problems are changing the role of the policeman from law enforcement to "dealing with human relations problems."

School 'Families' Will Be Created

Bureaucracy slashed in Peel school board shakeup



JOHN FRASER

BY SID RODAWAY
In a precedent-setting thrust towards decentralization, the Peel County Board of Education has set up an administrative system of independent community control over schools.

The shakeup hits all levels of administration from education director John Fraser on down—but to the public's eye the most visible changes will be at the local level.

Through a system of so-called school Families, two and sometimes three high schools and all their feeder elementary schools will be grouped under a superintendent as a semi-autonomous school area.

Attendance, academic programs, psychological services and even maintenance teams will all be brought down to the Family of Schools level. All these services are now concentrated in the hands of a complex bureaucratic system centred at the existing school board offices in Cooksville.

The impact of the move, to be instituted in January, can only be estimated. Fraser admits the old method of administration has worked fairly well in many institutions for centuries and may still prove to be the best.

But Fraser, who has worked on the power shuffle since the beginning of the year, is committed to giving back to schools the community identity they once had.

Bigness is now regarded as an enemy, at least when it comes to closing the gap between the front line teacher and the upper echelons of management. Fraser predicts the trend will also reveal itself eventually in the construction of

smaller schools.

He explains that the existing bureaucratic structure was designed in 1969 for a school system of 50,000 students. Now the Peel board must educate 75,000 students with an administration designed for two thirds that number.

In reviewing the chain of command, Fraser says: "This time we started off with the needs of the teachers, not the needs of the high priced help."

To reduce the length of the chain of command the new system will feature only three levels of authority between the top and the school compared to five levels under the existing set-up.

Instead of the present Board of Education—director—superintendent, assistant superintendent—area superintendent—assistant area superintendent route, directives will filter down from the board via the director of education, senior administrative superintendent and finally the newly-created position of superintendent of schools.

The move reduces from 17 to 15 the number of superintendents employed by the Peel board. Administrative costs will rise by \$50,000 a year, however, because of an increase in the number of specially-skilled administrative assistants.

Fraser sees both his and the administration's job as speeding the delivery of services to the classroom level and providing the leadership for the county as a whole.

The five existing administrative areas, designed strictly on an arbitrary basis, will now be divided among 10 superintendents of schools—each with two Families of Schools under his control.

Jack Brown, senior business administrator with the board, says he thinks the new Peel Regional government will eventually follow in the school board's steps towards decentralization.

In his view the central bureaucracy should direct its efforts towards insuring high standards and providing an "umbrella" of basic services. The rest should be left to the community.

As an example of the effect of the re-organization on schools, Fraser says "one high school in a Family may not offer Latin instruction while another does. A student who wants to study Latin could transfer to the second school for that subject."

He foresees teachers with talents in specialized areas, lecturing occasionally at both high schools within the Family.

The new system will not be as unified as the old one and major differences in examination procedures and curriculum could evolve. In fact schools will be encouraged to make many of their courses reflect predominant community interests.

For example the school Family in the Sheridan Homelands might reflect the heavy science background of many residents who work at the nearby Sheridan Park Research Community.

The lack of uniformity between areas of the county will put greater pressure on the board's ability to insure high standards are maintained in all schools and could create some dissatisfaction among parents.

Fraser claims the "core curriculum" will remain the same in each school but flexibility will be allowed in other subject areas. The core curriculum is basically the "Three R's"—beyond these local autonomy will take effect.

He explained that in a rapidly growing county the size of Peel planning becomes a critical job. "Many of our past problems with empty classrooms in one area and an overwhelming demand in others can be counteracted with better planning."

As a result the plan calls for a new planning team to study rates of growth and guarantee schools are built where and when they are needed.

The lengthy 100 page report contains 19 specific recommendations for the reorganization of the board administration. The cost, according to Fraser, is minimal and he claims Peel maintains one of the lowest administrative spending records in the province.

Locally, Families will be established around the following twin high school groupings: Applewood Heights-Glenforest; Gordon Graydon-Cawthra Park; Port Credit-South Peel-Lorne Park; Clarkson-Erindale Woodlands-T.L. Kennedy-Britannia; and Streetsville-W. J. Fenton.