

600 won't cross Texaco, Gulf pickets

By SID RODAWAY

Montreal based strikers set up small rotating picket lines at both Gulf and Texaco oil refineries in Mississauga early Tuesday disrupting operations as many of the 600 area Oil Chemical and Atomic Workers (O.C.A.W.) International Union members refused to cross the wildcat picket line.

Montreal based strikers closed down both the Mississauga Gulf and Texaco oil refineries early Tuesday as 600 area Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers (O.C.A.W.) International Union members refused to cross the wildcat picket line.

Many Texaco workers coming on shift at 12 a.m. Tuesday refused to cross the picket line set up by half a dozen striking Montreal oil workers. Later that morning the day shift at Clarkson's Gulf refinery followed suit with some staying out and others going in as the Montreal strikers shifted their efforts to the Gulf plant.

Illegal wildcat strikes first hit Montreal refineries on Friday after oil companies there refused to meet workers' demands for a hefty mid-contract pay boost to counter the effects of inflation on the cost of living.

The 31 month contract covering O.C.A.W. workers here doesn't expire until Jan. 31, 1976 but a wildcat strike had been rumored here over the weekend.

Discontent over the lengthy contract resulted in initial talks between management and workers on Dec. 8. According to O.C.A.W. Local 9593 International Representative John More, the union requested a \$1.50 an hour across the board wage increase to be added to the 1976 raises already built into the present contract.

BULLETIN

Oil workers at Gulf and Texaco Oil Refineries were expected to return to work today (Wed.) after a 24 hour wildcat strike. Union representative John More hoped new talks starting today with management officials would lead to an acceptable solution to the workers cost of living demands.

So far neither Gulf nor Texaco has responded to that request with a firm counter-offer. Shell Oil, not located here, had offered seven per cent effective Jan. 1 but More claimed "that was not enough." "This leaves us in a position of our people not being very happy," More said. "I talked to Texaco and Gulf last week and told them

they didn't have much time left."

Union officials cannot legally encourage or participate in a wildcat strike and More explained that he could not keep his men on the job indefinitely if management refused their requests. He spent the day Tuesday trying to convince his men to return to work.

Workers now earn net wages and benefits ranging from \$5.25 to \$6.85 an hour. The existing contract, with a year left to run, provides for a four and a half per cent increase next October but the companies had promised to move the effective date back to July and hike the raise to six and a half per cent.

Gulf Refinery manager Fred Atkinson told The Times that his firm had voluntarily given its 400 workers a half month's wages last summer to help counteract cost of living increases. In addition Gulf added another two per cent on Dec. 1 to the 11 1/2 per cent increases already made during 1974.

"The company has indicated it is prepared to meet inflation," Atkinson said Monday, just 15 hours before the wildcat walkout hit Gulf.

He admitted that management had made no firm counter-offer to the union in response to their \$1.50 an hour demands but Atkinson explained that "we've told the union we are prepared to examine economic conditions in 1975 and act in a suitable way."



Montreal oil workers set up their wildcat picket line at Port Credit's Texaco Oil Refinery at 12 a.m. Tuesday. They moved to Gulf Oil in Clarkson shortly after 7 a.m. (Times photo by Stan Carmichael.)

Hundreds mourn 3 brothers

Over 100 mourners attended the funeral Monday of the three Mississauga brothers tragically killed in a car-train accident at a railway crossing near Alliston last week.

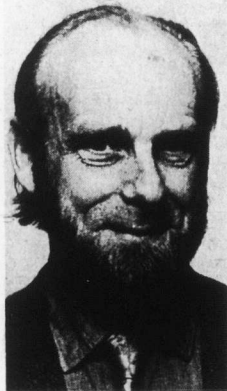
Hans Nielsen, 24, an electrical engineer, Henning, 20, an engineering student at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, and George, 16, a student at Applewood Heights Secondary School were killed when a north-bound train travelling at 50 m.p.h. struck their car as they were returning Thursday evening from a one-day cross-country skiing trip in the Barrie area.

Police said the car apparently stalled on the tracks of a crossing without signals or barrier gates, and was dragged over three-quarters of a mile after being rammed by a CP freight train.

The brothers are survived by their parents Verner Nielsen, 53, and Ellie, 51, of 1100 Burnhamthorpe Road, and sisters Lillie, 27, of the same address, and Liz, 22, of Wellesley St., Toronto. An older brother Eric, 30, lives in Whitty and works as an engineer with the Toronto Transit Commission.

Funeral services for the three brothers were held at St. John-the-Baptist Anglican Church at Cawthra Road and Dundas Street. The family has lived in Mississauga for the past 15 years. The Niensens immigrated to Canada from Denmark in 1957.

See photo, page three.



Dr. Reg. Bannister



Detectives examine the body of Marie Lewis, 42, who was killed by a shotgun blast to the chest in the Play Land parking lot on Dundas Street Thursday. Her estranged

husband Charles Lewis, 45, has been charged with murder punishable by life imprisonment. (Photo by Alex Kalnins.)

Woman slain on birthday

By JAMES BAILEY

A 45-year-old Toronto man, charged with the murder of his estranged wife on her birthday last Thursday, is in fair condition in Mississauga Hospital.

Marie Lewis, 42, of 3046 Jaguar Valley Blvd. died instantly after being struck in the chest by a blast from a sawed-off shotgun in the parking lot of Play Land Club at 1554 Dundas St. She was thrown about 10 feet by the force of the blast.

Charged with murder,

which is punishable by life imprisonment, is Charles Lewis, of 64 Moncton Ave.

The couple had been married for two years, and separated for the past year. There are no children.

Witnesses said Mrs. Lewis, a waitress at Debrad Tavern which is part of the Play Land complex, arrived at the parking lot at about 9:50 a.m. in a taxi.

They said when she started the engine of her car, which was parked in the lot, a man

removing an envelope from Lewis' car.

The witnesses said Mrs. Lewis got out of her car and approached the man. Then a shotgun blast was heard. A second blast was heard moments later.

Constable Raymond Fowle found Lewis lying beside his wife and suffering from a wound to the lower abdomen. He was rushed to Mississauga Hospital by ambulance in serious condition.

A detective was seen

removing an envelope from Lewis' car.

Dr. John Dodd of Streetville pronounced Mrs. Lewis dead at the scene.

Police seized a single-shot 16-gauge sawed-off shotgun and a box of shells. On Monday detectives recovered the missing pieces of the shotgun in the Mill Rd. area near the boundary between Mississauga and Toronto.

Lewis underwent emergency surgery immediately after the shooting, and had a second abdominal operation Thursday night. He is expected to recover.

Inspector Des Rowland and detective Jim Wingate of the Peel homicide squad are continuing the investigation.

'Doctors quiet, children die'

The doctor who spearheaded a group's effort to have anti-abortion members elected to Mississauga Hospital Board last February has moved from the city "to be free of my colleagues so I could speak up."

Dr. Reg Bannister last year charged the hospital's abortion committee with

"rubberstamping" abortion applications. He moved to Preton in August.

He said one of his reasons for leaving was that "doctors don't want to make waves. They keep quiet and let children die."

Dr. Bannister said in a telephone interview that he did not believe the abortion situation had improved since 1973 when 252 pregnancies were terminated and only one application refused.

"I'm sorry to say we made no impression. We had them running scared but things are going on the same way as they were before."

Dr. Bannister was the spokesman for a group of about 225 anti-abortionists who took out membership in the hospital association shortly before last March's

general meeting. Then hospital board chairman Murray Eades described the move as a "guerrilla assault" by the anti-abortion group.

The lobby failed to have a member elected to the board "because we were poorly organized and weren't aware of procedure," Dr. Bannister admitted.

However, a second attempt will be made to force the abortion question at this year's meeting, the group's secretary, Jane Foley, said this week.

"We can't let it go, but we certainly don't want a confrontation."

She believes abortions are still running at about 17 per cent of live births at the hospital.

Planner weighted city argument, OMB is told

By JOHN STEWART

A lawyer for Ture-Anderson Ltd. suggested to a Mississauga planner at an Ontario Municipal Board hearing Monday that he had worded a letter sent to various agencies to give weight to the city's proposal rather than the developer's.

John Sopinka asked Andrew Adamson of the planning department if the wording he used in a covering letter sent to the board of education, the Region of Peel and others didn't provide "extra im-

petus" to the city's proposed plan of subdivision for lands in Lorne Park.

The controversial site has been the subject of a planning fight for three years. Residents have constantly opposed efforts to allow a shopping plaza in the area south of South Sheridan Way and north of Indian Rd.

The OMB hearing was adjourned in September when chairman W.T. Shriver and D.S. Colbourne complained the city had failed to circulate the proposed subdivision plan to the

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Demeter's bail attempt nixed

By JAMES BAILEY

Peter Demeter's bail application has been denied.

In his written judgement, Mr. Justice Arthur Jessup said yesterday "the applicant has not established that his detention is not necessary in the public interest. The application is therefore denied."

Defence lawyer Edward Greenspan may, still, apply to Ontario Chief Justice George Gale for a review of Jessup's order before the entire Court of Appeal under Section 608 (1) of the Criminal Code. Such a move is extremely rare however, and unlikely to succeed, according to sources.

Demeter, who has been in custody in London's Middlesex County jail since his conviction for the contract murder of his wife, will shortly be transferred to Kingston penitentiary.

Edward Greenspan, one of Demeter's defence lawyers told the packed courtroom that his client had not breached the conditions of \$75,000 bail while he was awaiting trial. He also indicated that Demeter could put up \$210,000 towards his bail. About half of the money is Demeter's and

\$100,000 trial cost 'not accurate'

The estimated \$100,000 cost of the Demeter trial reported to Peel regional administration and finance committee is "not entirely accurate," says police chief Doug Burrows.

He says the Demeter investigation is continuing, and he will not intend to release the final cost until it is concluded.

Burrows says the total cost will eventually be released to the committee through the board of police commissioners.

Peter Demeter, a wealthy Mississauga builder, was convicted in the murder of his wife, Christine. His life-term sentence is presently being appealed.

the remainder would be made available by friends and by his cousin Steven, who has custody of the Demeters' young daughter.

Mrs. Demeter was found bludgeoned to death in the garage of the couple's Mississauga home in July of 1973.

Demeter's conviction in his wife's slaying came following a sensational trial which lasted three months. Defence lawyers have filed an appeal in the case, citing over 60 grounds for dismissal of the conviction because of errors in law and judgement by Mr. Justice Campbell Grant.

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Chomski goes home

Accompanied by detectives armed with shotguns, Walter Chomski returned to his Lorne Park home Sunday, four weeks after a bomb exploded under his car and shattered his right leg.

Chomski left Mississauga hospital on crutches, wearing pyjamas and a dressing gown.

He appeared to be pale and drawn as he was assisted into the unmarked police car in which he was driven home under heavy guard.

Chomski, 45, was injured Dec. 12 when a dynamite bomb wired to a battery-powered detonator exploded under the accelerator of his blue 1973 Lincoln Continental in the garage.

Chomski's right leg was

amputated at Mississauga Hospital several hours later.

Chomski is married and the father of three children. He is described police as an investor in stocks. He was alone at the time of the blast.

In 1970, Dr. Morton Shulman, MPP for High Park, charged in the Ontario Legislature that Chomski

was connected with organized crime and involved in an international bookmaking syndicate with the Stefano Maggadino family in Buffalo.

In their investigation of the bombing, Peel Regional Police detectives are following up leads in Mississauga and Toronto.

No suspects have been arrested.

Fraud bust

A series of raids by a combined force of detectives from the Peel Regional and Metropolitan Toronto fraud squads on Monday has resulted in the arrest of four people in connection with the uttering of \$7,000 in forged checks.

Police said company

cheques were stolen from firms in Mimico and Long Branch in June and October. A total of 60 forged payroll and personal cheques were passed in plazas in Mississauga and Toronto.

Charged with conspiracy to commit fraud are Maurice

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His right leg missing to the knee, attempted murder victim Walter Chomski is helped into a waiting police car before returning home Sunday from Mississauga hospital under heavy police guard. (Times photo by James Bailey.)