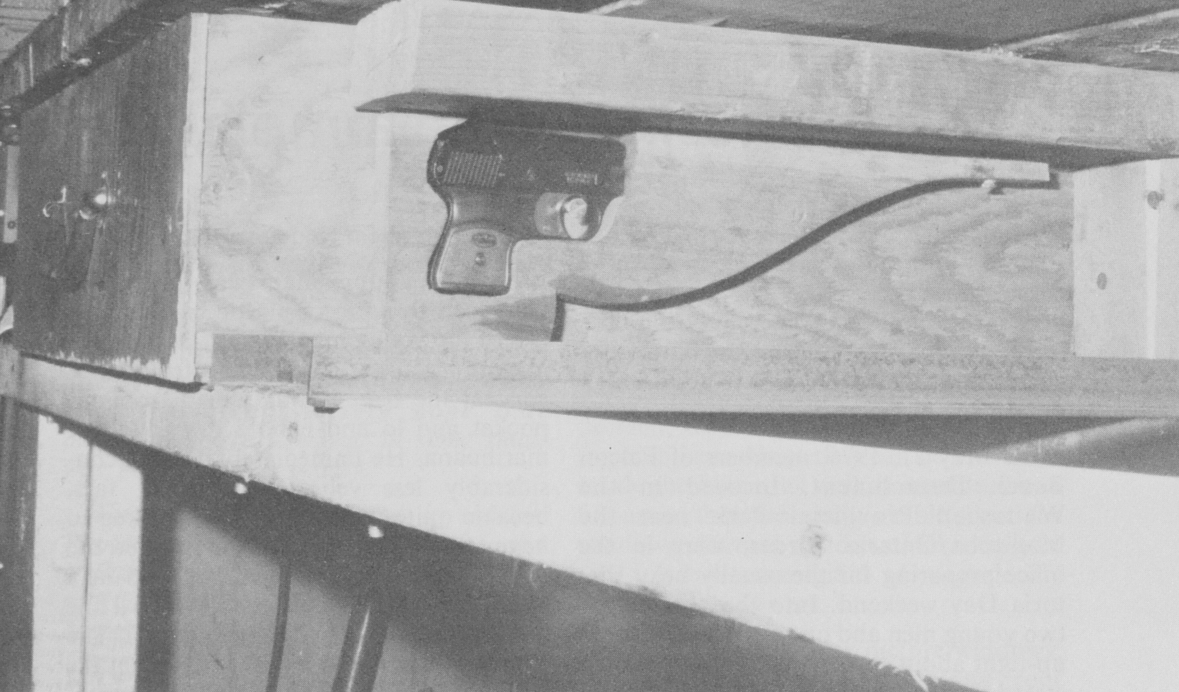




... and they tried to open the cash drawer without making a sound.

## With A Bang

by Cst. Dave DORSEY

On March 10, 1977, Labrador City Detachment received a call for help from a local citizen. Two members drove to his house and found the man was holding two juveniles he had caught trying to steal money from him.

The complainant ran a small skate-sharpening business in his basement, and over the previous two months had been missing money from his cash drawer. The two juveniles explained to the members that, with the help of a friend, they had stolen money from the cash drawer on four other occasions.

Their plan had been simple and effective. While the complainant was sharpening their skates, they would simply just open the cash drawer directly behind him, and take a handful of money. The man could not hear them, as the noise from the sharpener muffled any sound the drawer made when it opened. This time though, the drawer made a lot of noise.

The man knew the thefts were occurring, but did not know who was responsible. He decided to make a device to find out.

He obtained a starting pistol and cut out the design of it on a piece of wood, which he attached to a hinge. He placed this under his work bench beside the cash drawer.

A screw was put in the side of the drawer, so that when the starting pistol was put in position, the screw fit through the trigger guard. When the drawer was pulled open, the screw pulled the trigger and the pistol fired.

This noise could be easily heard when he was using his sharpening equipment. All he had to do was turn his head to see who the culprit was. This is one time a starting pistol was used to finish an event, rather than begin it.