

Courtland awakes to jewelry theft

Residents of Courtland were shocked to find when they woke up last Friday morning that three masked men with submachine guns had broken into Cadman Jewellery Manufacturing Company and took two rings valued at \$2,500 and \$50 in cash.

The thieves had also taken \$40,000 worth of gold and silver from the company vault but had dropped it when they were apparently frightened by an approaching police siren.

OPP Chief Inspector F.R. Blucher, community services branch, said the three men entered the home of Wesley Dickinson, 31, general manager of the company, held his wife at bay, and forced Mr. Dickinson to open the vault. The men used the automatic weapons to fire shots into the company vault to convince Mr. Dickinson that they meant business.

The men described as speaking with a French accent abducted Mr. Dickinson but later released him in Pointe Claire, Quebec, a suburb of Montreal.

An OPP spokesman said the Cadman company's 1975 Matador car, believed to be used as the get-away car, was recovered early today on Regional Rd. 13, a half mile north of Highway 3.

Tracking dogs were brought into the area but apparently came up with no

clues.

Police combed the Montreal area for the bandits but no trace of them was found. It is now believed that the bandits are waiting out the search somewhere in Montreal.

Next door neighbour, Steve Ritter, R.R. 2 Courtland, said he went out to check his barn at 10 p.m. and saw nothing wrong when he looked at the Dickinson property.

After he made an additional check at 11 p.m. he went back into his house. Later he heard a knock at the door. He opened it to find an OPP constable.

The constable told him to turn off his lights and that there was nothing to worry about.

Mr. Ritter said he learned from one of the company employees that Mr. Cadman had gone to Montreal about two or three weeks ago to attend a jewellery exhibition.

Mr. Cadman and Mr. Dickinson live in the plant compound as do some employees and tenants.

A family member said no one knew the whereabouts of the watchmen.

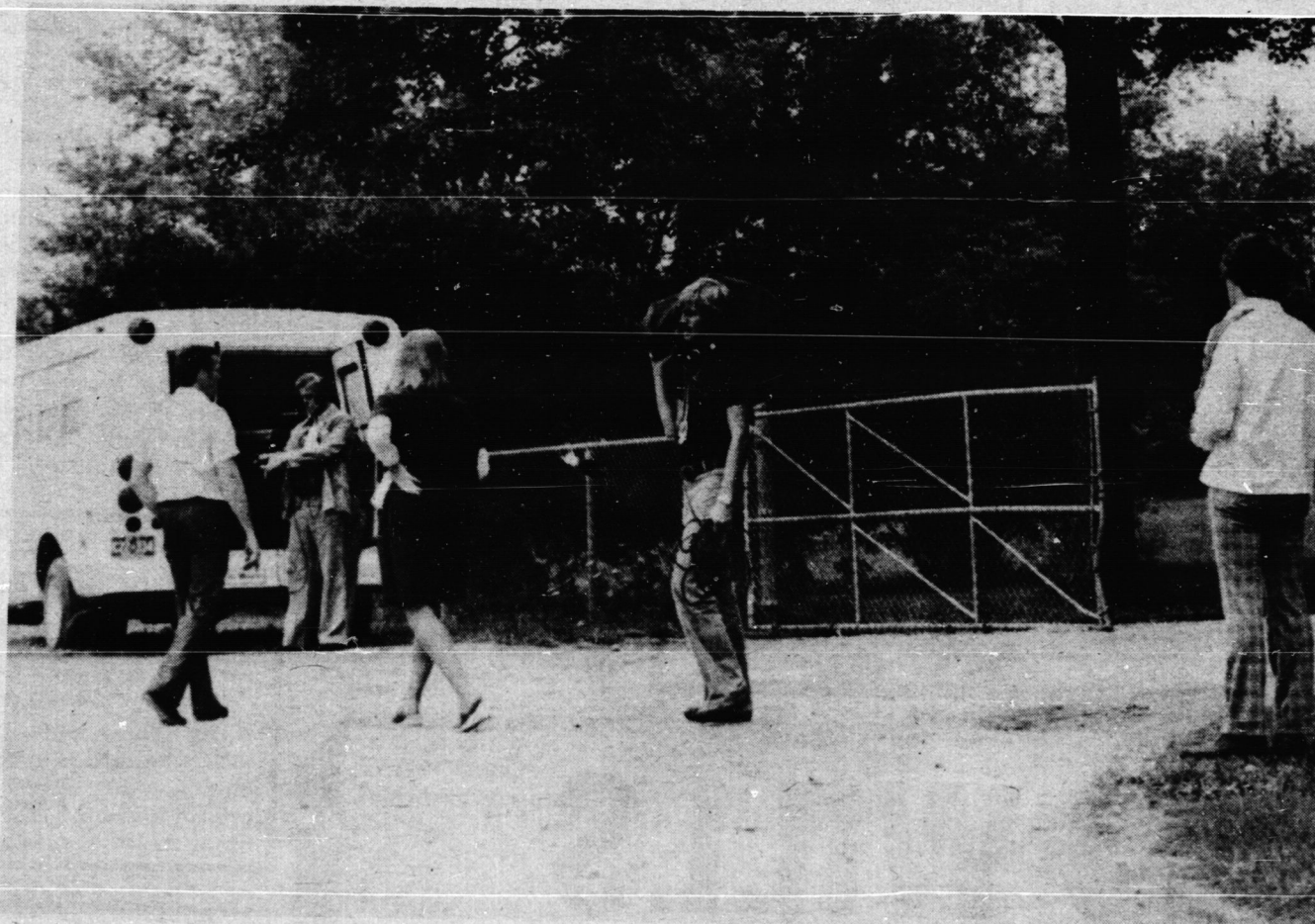
The watchdogs normally allowed to roam in the plant when it is closed were locked up in the cafeteria and in the watchman's room.

The family member said there were strong suspicions that information was released somehow from inside the plant.



Last Friday morning the Ontario Provincial Police could be found conducting their investigation at the home of

Wesley Dickinson. The compound was sealed off to all but police and family. (Staff Photo)



The robbery at the Cadman jewelry firm in Courtland brought newsmen to the area from all over Ontario. Here

CBC cameramen are shown in front of the bus which they rented to take their crew out to Courtland. (Staff Photo)

Kiln fire

The Township of Norfolk Fire Station No 1 Langton was called out 9:30 a.m. Wed. August 13th to their first kiln fire of the season on the farm of Michael Thodt R.R. 2 Langton, three miles southwest of Langton on the corner of Concession 9 and

the Hazin Road. The kiln was beyond saving when fire fighters arrived. They concentrated on saving buildings nearby. Estimated damage of kiln \$3300.00 and sand leaves contents \$1500. which is partly covered by insurance.

Lightning strikes

A freak fire occurred in the farm of Philemon Heye R.R. 1 Langton on the East Quarter Line two miles east of Langton.

During the severe thunder and lightning storm on Wednesday morning, lightning came in through the top vents of the greenhouse that were open setting fire to

the muck. Fire Chief Max Moore and Captain Jim McKillen removed a wheel-barrel full of muck to keep the fire from spreading throughout the greenhouse.

The open tap vents through which the lightning came were scorched around but did not catch on fire.

Region to decide if press covers committees

by Richard Houghton

Anyone wandering into the regional council chambers in Cayuga last Thursday afternoon could have been startled into thinking that a coup d'etat or a bloodless revolution had taken place at the regional level.

For sure enough, there at the council table were the members of the press who are usually banished to the press gallery. They were sitting in the seats of the councillors that they have often criticised so strenuously.

However, what was taking place wasn't a take over of regional council by the members of the press, but a meeting between the Chief Administrator of the region Dan Ciona, the regional chairman John McCoombs, the chairmen of the regional

committees, and the press. The committee chairmen present were David Peirson head of Planning and Development, Gordon Miller in charge of Engineering, Roy Whitehead in charge of Finance and Administration, and John Roxburgh Jr. head

of Health and Social Services.

Most of the discussion at the meeting centred around whether in future committee meetings of the region would be open to the press or not.

Planning and Development Committee meetings are

open to the public at the present time, but council will be making a decision in the near future which will unify all committees to one policy on this issue.

Regional Chairman John
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