

Two Fined For

July 1971

Illicit Still

Moonshine Operation Proves Expensive For Its Operators

By RITCHIE GAGE

Two Greater Winnipeg men, who pleaded guilty Monday in provincial magistrate's court to possession of an illicit still, were fined by Magistrate Lawrie Mitchell.

Stephen Turko, 55, of 269 Dufferin Avenue, Suite 418, was fined \$1,000 or 100 days in jail, and Anthony Solnick, 51, of 552 Cherrier Street, St. Boniface, was fined \$1,500 and because he had a previous conviction for a similar offence was sentenced to eight months in jail.

Robert Crump, prosecutor for the federal department of justice, told court RCMP investigators had arrested the two men April 5 at the site of the plant in a house at 401 Bonner Avenue, North Kildonan.

Police reports estimated that the still had been producing 50 gallons of illicit liquor a day five days a week. The still was broken up following the raid in April. It was also linked with a number of cases of polluted water in the area.

The Kildonan-East St. Paul health unit, checking on complaints of water contamination in the area, theorized that the break up of the still caused liquid wastes to seep into well water in the area.

A spokesman for the health unit said that the men had used their well to cool their cooker, and when the operation was stopped the basement water slowly seeped into the depressurized well pipe.

The fermentation odor was reported by about 11 residents in the area. They haven't used the wells for drinking purposes since the odor was detected. A local elementary school had been using bottled water when bacterial contamination was detected. The health department spokesman said the school's well is just about cleaned up, but the odor from residents' well remains.

The health department spokesman said that because the chemical seepage drained down the well pipe it got into the water table and affected similar wells in the area.

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British Prices Tumble

LONDON (AP) — Prices of consumer goods came tumbling down in the wake of tax cuts and Britons looked forward today to a spending spree.

Tax cuts announced in Treasury chief Anthony Barber's summer mini-budget covered almost an entire range of consumer goods—except food.

And by ending all government control on instalment buying — Britons call it "the never-never"—he brought a new car or colored television within reach of millions who were previously obliged to wait.

Barber's cuts were prompted by an urgent need to stimulate industry and cut unemployment, now running at 800,000.

In a full year they leave the taxpayer with £235 million (\$564 million), which otherwise would have gone to the government.

Barber could afford it because Britain now is running a £600 million profit on its annual trade with the rest of the world.

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Two Fined For Having A Still

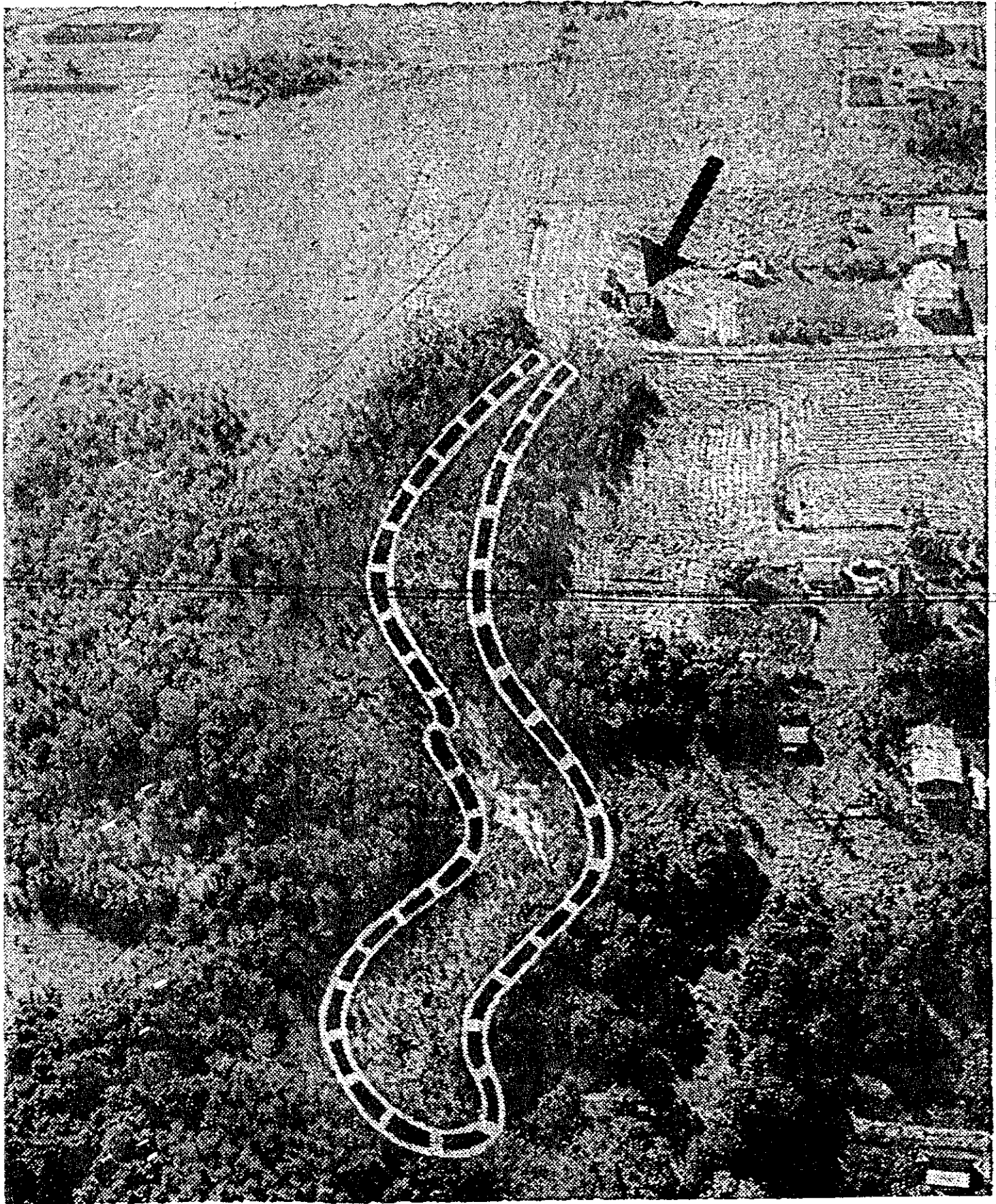
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The spokesman said that about 11 residents had been bringing in water for drinking purposes because of smell of fermentation from their wells.

The situation has existed since May and the health spokesman said that although the bacterial contamination is lessening the smell remains.

A large area of trees behind the illicit plant were killed off by the pumping of a considerable amount of liquid waste "wash" into the ground during a two-year period.

The health official said that the pumping of the wash into the ground had created a slough but it would not affect wells because the water table was too deep.



The black arrow marks the site of the still in North Kildonan. The dashes outline a strip of frees killed from liquor waste "wash" from the illicit still.

