



—Ross Kenward photo

Lured into a trap

City junk dealer Abraham Bialoglowski, 60, talks to police after he was jumped by three men inside a vacant house on West Seventh Thursday, beaten and robbed of \$500. The man was lured to the house, supposedly to pick up scrap metal, then attacked by the three armed with knives and a lead pipe. Bialoglowski was left tied up in the basement, but managed to free himself after half an hour and called police from a neighbor's house. The thieves were later seen running toward Granville.

City 'sounds out' Orpheum

By RAY CHATELIN

City council has initiated a study to determine whether the city should purchase the Orpheum Theatre for use by the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra.

The symphony's move from the Queen Elizabeth Theatre (QET) would be part of a plan to turn the Granville area into a pedestrian mall.

It would also fit into redevelopment plans for the provincial government complex along Howe Street and Hornby where the new Vancouver

Art Gallery is expected to be placed.

An acoustics consulting firm, Barron and Strachan, has been hired to conduct testing in the theatre.

A possible rehearsal by the National youth Orchestra may be part of the testing.

Symphony general manager Michael Allerton said Thursday the possible move is a logical one.

Famous Players Ltd. owners of the Orpheum at 884 Granville, announced in February that the theatre interior would be torn out and that

Famous Players was considering placing six to 10 theatres in the shell.

The city's study is being conducted by the Community Arts Council with a special committee consisting of John Dayton and Mrs. Rhonna Fleming.

They were chosen by aldermen Fritz Bowers and Geoff Massey, both of whom are involved in the Granville mall concept and the redevelopment of False Creek. The committee will investigate parking and acceptance by audiences — and the orchestra

of the Orpheum.

Dayton said he hopes to have the report ready for council by the end of September.

Several citizens groups in Vancouver are working to save the Orpheum, the last of the grand old theatres with its seating capacity of 2,872, roughly the same as the QET.

Insurance groups to continue talks

By ALEX YOUNG

A joint insurance industry-government committee is slowly working towards what it terms an "orderly transition" to a government-run auto insurance scheme in B.C.

Canada Manpower representative Don Power said the committee is continuing talks that resumed Thursday after reaching a stalemate on Tuesday.

He said he would not use the word "breakdown" to describe what happened but agreed that difficulties had developed.

However, Power said now that discussions have resumed it is hoped joint statements will be issued by participants in the talks "in a day or two."

In any event, said Powers, all resources of Canada Manpower will be at the disposal of people in the insurance industry who will be affected by the switch to government insurance, as well as to the Insurance Corporation of B.C., (ICBC) the government Crown corporation.

Power would not comment on reports that the govern-

ment agency has created problems in the auto and general industry by beginning to hire away personnel at rates from 30 to 40 per cent higher than those prevailing in the industry.

The industry spokesman on the committee, Don Yokum, representing the Insurance Bureau of Canada, also declined comment on such reports. He did say that "we want to make certain that the people in the industry who will be displaced get in with the ICBC."

"There is a need to staff the government plan," he said, "but there is also a need to continue the industry's service."

The industry will continue to operate as agents for the government car insurance scheme, and also will continue to sell general insurance in competition with the ICBC, which plans to go into general insurance this fall.

Industry spokesmen, however, are saying that they are losing key staff to the ICBC.

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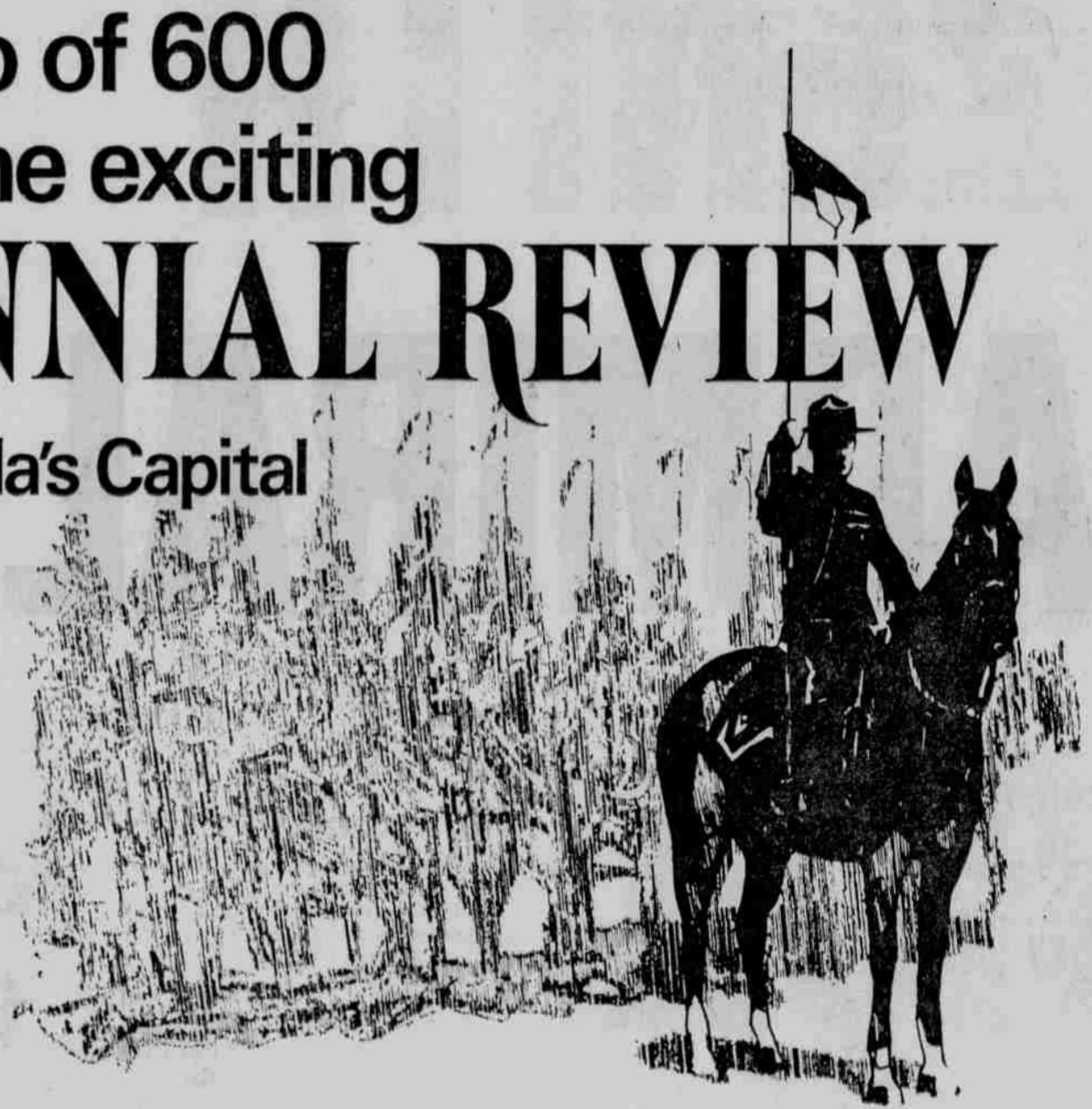
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