

Detectives appeal for rape witnesses

DETECTIVES LAST NIGHT appealed for three people to come forward in their hunt for a Cardiff rapist.

They believe they may have been in a narrow city lane about the time a 26-year-old woman was raped. Detective Chief Inspector Bob Evans, who is leading the hunt, said, "We are particularly anxious to contact these people for their help."

The woman, a newcomer to the city, was attacked when she got lost in narrow lanes late at night near Newport Road, Roath.

She was dressed in a black skirt, pink blouse and cream jacket, and was walking a dog on a lead.

Detective Chief Inspector Evans, head of Cardiff Central CID, said the woman had been visiting her mother in Gwent and returned to Cardiff on Sunday night.

She got off a bus in Newport Road about 11pm and planned to walk to her home in Claude Road, Mr Evans said. A short distance along Partridge Street she took a wrong turning into the Elm Street Lane.

A man approached her in the lane and she asked him the way to Claude Road. He directed her into another lane leading from the Elm Street Lane to Teal Street.

Think again, Edwards tells Gwynfor

THE PRESIDENT of Plaid Cymru, Mr Gwynfor Evans, should consider the consequences of his proposed hunger strike, the Secretary of State for Wales, Mr Nicholas Edwards, said last night.

On last night's BBC *Panorama* programme about the fourth television channel, Mr Edwards was asked what advice he, as a Welshman, ought to give Mr Evans.

Mr Edwards said Mr Evans ought to give the Government's plans for Welsh television a chance to succeed because both the Government and Mr Evans had ultimately the same objective — to provide a comprehensive television service to Welsh-speakers.

He said the Government would not lose face over changing its mind about providing a wholly Welsh fourth channel. It had looked into the issue and decided that it posed too many problems.

Licence fine will be deducted from pay

When a teacher appeared in court at Ruthin yesterday for non-payment of a £50 fine imposed for not buying a television licence magistrates ordered that the cash should be deducted from his salary.

Iestyn Jones Evans, of Llandyrnog, near Denbigh, a chapel deacon and father of two, had refused to buy a licence as part of the protest against the Government decision not to have all Welsh language programmes on a new fourth channel. He said he had placed his licence fee in the special fund administered by Plaid Cymru. The magistrates made an order for the deduction of £5 a week from his £90 take home pay in order to pay the fine.

Footsteps

But before she reached the turning she heard footsteps behind her and was pushed to the ground, turned on her back and raped.

She told police she recognised her assailant as the man she had asked for directions.

A special incident room was set up at Rumney Police Station, and yesterday detectives were making house-to-house inquiries in Partridge Street.

Mr Evans said police were particularly anxious to contact three people thought to have been walking through Elm Street Lane at the time of the offence.

The woman described her attacker as a man aged 20 to 24, about six feet tall, well built with medium-length straight hair, smooth-skinned, wearing a light cardigan and dark shirt.

Co-op considered

People who lost their jobs at a valley clothing factory are meeting union officials today to discuss setting up a workers' co-operative. More than 40 people lost their jobs at Johns Fashions, Bargoed, when it closed last week. Transport and General Workers' Union official Mr Bill Tobutt said, "There is a full order book there."

Manager foiled robbers