

JAN 30th 1981

## FIREMAN

## LOSES HIS

## BLONDE WIG

A LONG blond wig and women's clothing worn by a 35-year-old fireman when two police patrolmen saw him in a quiet country lane were ordered to be destroyed by a court yesterday.

Magistrates at Long Ashton, near Bristol, also ordered the destruction of a truncheon found between the front seats of his broken-down car after the policeman had stopped to offer assistance.

KEITH REES, married with two children, who pleaded guilty to carrying an offensive weapon, said he carried the truncheon for protection after he and his wife had been threatened.

The court clerk, Mr Harry Blake, said: "You are charged with carrying an offensive weapon, not being dressed up, but it is rather unusual."

Rees, of Englishcombe Road, Hartcliffe, Bristol, replied: "I was carrying out a rather childish bet with someone else. Unfortunately, the police took a different view of it. It bore no relationship whatsoever with the truncheon."

He was fined £75 and ordered to pay £15 costs.