

FRONT PAGE, "THE NEWCASTLE HERALD", TUESDAY APRIL 28TH, 1981.

\$50,000 reward on city murder

A \$50,000 REWARD has been issued for information about the killing of a Newcastle man in a public lavatory late last year.

The NSW Police Minister, Mr Crabtree, announced the reward in the latest issue of the *Government Gazette*.

He said police were trying to track down the killer or killers of 69-year-old Richard Slater, who was savagely beaten to death in a lavatory at Birdwood Park, Newcastle West, on December 19.

Mr Slater was on his way to The Store to buy a lottery ticket when he was killed. He usually bought his tickets from Hustlers but on that day had decided to try The Store's lottery office because it might change his luck.

Mr Slater, who lived in Cooks Hill, is survived by his wife, Gwen, and their only child, Mrs Julie Williams, of Sydney.

The Minister said the reward will be payable to anyone providing information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for Mr Slater's death.

The Governor, Sir James Rowland, also will be advised to pardon any accomplice who did not actually commit the crime but provided the necessary evidence.