

Police, Court Under One Roof Bad Image

LINDSAY (ENS) — The linking of police quarters and magistrate courts in the same building goes a long way to destroying the image of justice, an audience was told Tuesday by C. O. Bick, chairman of the Toronto Police Commission.

Mr. Bick, born in nearby Cannington and educated at Lindsay Collegiate Institute, told Kiwanians that it is wrong for the image of justice to have police and courts linked in the minds of the public.

(At the present time Lindsay magistrate's court is being held at the Ontario Provincial Police detachment building.)

"We go a long way to destroying the image of justice by holding court sessions in the same building housing police quarters."

The guest speaker termed it "utterly wrong" and he said he is completely opposed to police operating in the same building as that used for court proceedings.

Magistrate Bick also had criticism of the manner in which habitual liquor offenders are being dealt with.

"This squirrel cage routine is degrading for police officers — they are nothing more than street sweepers when they are dealing with chronic drunk offenders," he said.

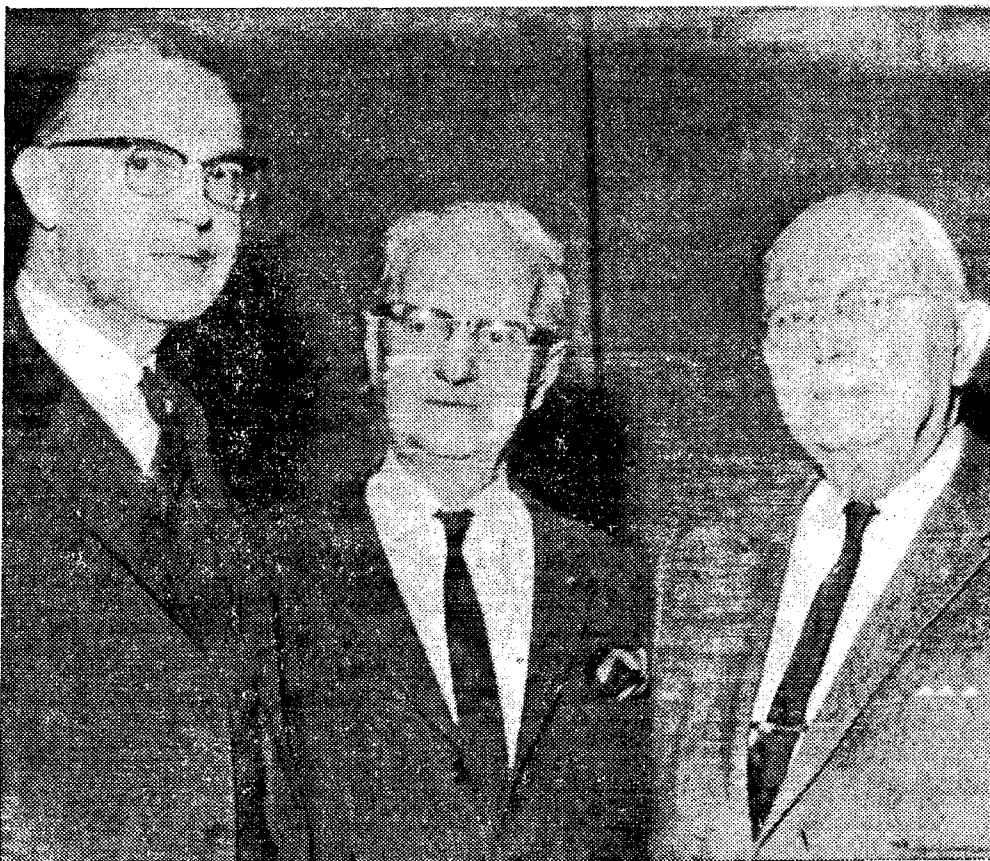
If a start is to be made on dealing with this problem, it has to be from the standpoint of health, the commission chairman said.

He indicated that it is hoped this year to establish an intoxication centre to handle some of the worst offenders.

"There is no more reason for taking an intoxicated person to jail than there is for a person found in a mentally-deranged condition," maintained the speaker.

The long-range hope is that more modern and humane ways will be found for treating these people.

Past presidents of the service club were honored during the noon luncheon. Among those attending was Dr. Harry Sharpe, member of the club when it received its charter in 1922.



—(Examiner Staff Photo)

TORONTO MAGISTRATE ADDRESSED SERVICE CLUB
Magistrate C. O. Bick, Dr. Harry Sharpe and Ford Moynes