

# Fund Lack No Longer Bar to Court Action

Gone are the days when a person was unable to acquire the services of a lawyer because he lacked the financial means, although many people do not appear to realize it.

According to Halton County legal aid director Warren Durham, if more people knew about the legal aid system they would rest easier in their beds.

"The system covers the whole civil field, not just the criminal area," Mr. Durham said.

"If more people knew about this they wouldn't have to worry so much."

## LEGAL AID

Mr. Durham said the legal aid counselors had been successful in helping many alleged offenders of the law in Halton.

"There have been many cases where they have not been saved because they didn't know their rights," he added.

He said the system had helped many people by saving them from acquiring criminal records for the rest of their lives.

"I feel it is doing a better job than at first anticipated," added Mr. Durham. "It's going ahead remarkably well; it's helped a lot of people."

He said many legal aid clients and many who know little about the system, have been "extremely insecure about some problems."

"They are scared to go to a lawyer — often because they reckon they don't have the money."

"Now a lot of people come here, and I can often help them on the spot," he added. "This gives them assurance; it helps them resolve things."

## NO BUILD-UP

Mr. Durham said there was no build-up of cases as a result of the legal aid system in Halton County.

"Every complaint I get I investigate personally," he said. "In all cases I have found that the person complaining was offered an application for legal aid by duty counsel."

He said counsel takes applications for it on the spot, and reports to Mr. Durham's office. Mr. Durham then contacts the department regarding the application.

Applicants are interviewed and the family services department contacts the Hamilton office, where recommendations regarding legal aid for the applicant, are made and mailed to him.

"Everything is moving through quite rapidly," Mr. Durham said. "There's no pile-up of applications, although they seem to come in waves. They are usually dealt with within two weeks."

## NO DISCRIMINATION

"There's no discrimination between those people with money and those without, now the system is under way," Mr. Durham said.

"If you can't afford a lawyer you can now have one."

One thing the legal aid director has to beware of is the person who claims legal aid when he can afford to hire a lawyer.

"We are on the alert for them," Mr. Durham said. "The area director has the authority at any time to have family ser-

## Brampton Service For Mrs. T. F. Macdonald

Funeral service was held on Friday, February 23, at Brampton for Eva Mildred Macdonald, who died in Peel Memorial Hospital on Tuesday, February 20, in her 84th year.

She was the former Eva Mildred Owens, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Owens.

Her husband predeceased her in November, 1962. Surviving are her family, Eleanor, Margaret (Mrs. A.H. McKane), Owens and Fraser, four grandchildren, Murray and Dianne McKane.

and was born near Glen Williams. She was married in 1910 to Thomas F. Macdonald and lived in Chinguacousy Township until they moved to Brampton in 1947.

She was an active member of the Union Presbyterian Church and later attended St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Brampton.

Funeral service was conducted by Rev. John McBride, at the McKillop Funeral Home. Pallbearers were Terry Anderson, Bruce Anderson, Bonner Gamble, Duncan Macdonald, Arthur Macdonald and Clarence Anderson. Interment was in Brampton Cemetery.

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Jowen and Gwendolyn Macdonald, and one sister, Edith (Mrs. G.A. Anderson).

Funeral service was conducted by Rev. John McBride, at the McKillop Funeral Home. Pallbearers were Terry Anderson, Bruce Anderson, Bonner Gamble, Duncan Macdonald, Arthur Macdonald and Clarence Anderson. Interment was in Brampton Cemetery.

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