

size and take credit for a job well done. But times are changing. Police forces are beginning to make the effort to bring the public into their confidence. Significantly, your Association has taken the initiative in generating the idea for a "Canadian Police Week", held for the first time in May of this year. Here in London, the area police forces sponsored a public education week in the Wellington Mall, and I read in the July issue of the *Canadian Police Chief* that the City of Edmonton Police Department is continuing their "Police Expo" as an annual event.

Modern law enforcement techniques and budget and manpower restrictions have meant the decline of the foot patrolman - the man on the beat. In many communities, the loss of this opportunity for daily face-to-face citizen contact has led to an increased isolation from the people. To overcome this isolation, police administrators are developing programs that help to restore the policeman-citizen interplay that is so necessary for public confidence. The "unit beat" system developed in the United Kingdom where police officers live in the area that they patrol is being adapted to the North American scene. Patrolmen are not rotated from area to area or by shift, but are left for reasonable periods in a given location so the people in the area become acquainted with the officer and he with them. A mutual trust results....

NEED FOR UP-DATED POLICE FACILITIES

Because of the increased demands being placed today upon our law enforcement agencies, more money will have to be spent to provide our police forces with modern equipment, facilities and techniques. Since most of the daily enforcement of the Criminal Code is a provincial responsibility, the provincial attorneys-general bear the burden of up-dating local police facilities. (In Ontario and Quebec, there are provincial forces as well, and my colleague, the Solicitor-General of Canada, is responsible for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.)

The modern criminal operates in complex areas: syndicated crime, bankruptcy and security fraud, gambling, narcotics and the infiltration of legitimate business. Sophisticated police methods must be used to bring him to justice. The cost of the continuing education required to keep a police officer's knowledge up-to-date will be high. Let me emphasize that when I speak of the continuing education of a police officer, I am not referring only to the specialist or senior members of the force. More and more, the patrolman will be called upon to make decisions that will require a greater understanding of criminal law and procedure. Canadians must be prepared to pay for the increased standard of service. We will have to pay higher wages to attract and retain the men and women who will be required for the ambitious programs that I foresee for the police force of tomorrow....

CIVILIAN CONTROL OF POLICE

I have spoken of the need to confirm the public sense of trust in the police forces that serve them. I believe that the vast majority of Canadians do support our police. But I have indicated some of the ways in which we can help nurture and reinforce that trust and to develop a sense of community, based on mutual respect of citizen and policeman.

The essence of our democratic parliamentary system of government is public responsibility and public accountability. In my view, no public official should be beyond the reach of the elector or his representative. Persons assuming public office, both elective and appointed, carry a difficult, and oft times frustrating, burden of public responsibility in the efficient discharge of their office. It is within this context, then, of accountability to the citizens of Canada that I suggest that control and supervision of the police should be vested in members of the public who are directly or indirectly responsible to the electorate. At the risk of once again trespassing on areas of provincial jurisdiction, I have already put forward the idea of having laymen sit on police commissions. I realize this proposal is a delicate matter that requires judicious handling if we are to avoid the pitfalls of either hampering police operations or intruding on legitimate matters of internal police administration. I realize, too, that difficulties and discord have arisen in some jurisdictions in the United States, where civilian review boards were established. However, I am equally confident that with judgement, common sense and goodwill we can do much to avoid similar mistakes in Canada.

We do not question civilian control of our military forces, nor do we see anything particularly disturbing about entrusting the education of our children to popularly elected school boards. The RCMP remains responsible to the Solicitor-General of Canada and through him to Parliament. I believe that the image of the police in this age of confrontation would be much improved by making it possible for citizens to become actively involved in the general supervision of their local police force. A Police Commission with laymen representatives would become a bridge between the police and the community. It would act to discharge the polarization that often develops when the public looks upon a police force as an authority alien to a community rather than one of its necessary components.

Laymen members could either be elected directly or appointed from the local municipal or metro council, but in any event, they should be prepared to devote substantial amounts of time to the position. In this regard, I question whether a municipal councillor would have the time in addition to his other duties to fulfil the role of the Police Commissioner. We operate our educational system on the basis of split responsibility and I am naive enough to believe that we could find citizens who are truly interested in promoting increased service by the police and enhanced understanding of police work in the