

Chief Adamson on courts

Administrative changes due

By GARFIELD M. PAYNE

Metro courts are overloaded and will become increasingly so unless substantial changes are made in their administration, Police Chief Harold Adamson said Feb. 13.

Lawyers are often guilty of using procedures that delay the administration of justice, Adamson told the audience of 200 students in Osoogde's moot court.

He particularly criticized lawyers who jockey their cases to get them before more favourable judges; who force remands because they have taken cases which compel them to be in two courts simultaneously; and who abuse the right of their clients to

choose a jury trial.

Adamson said that large expenditures on court staff and facilities would be necessary to clear the present backlog of cases.

He cited the proliferation of minor traffic offences from 746,000 in 1970 to over a million in 1972 as evidence for the necessity of such expenditures.

Adamson also suggested reorganization of the courts so that police officers would not be used for tasks such as the transport of prisoners and court security.

The use of police in the latter role aids the misconception in the public mind that the courts are run by the police, he said.

Adamson said the delay in the administration of justice has seriously affected the operation of the bail reform act since people cannot be tried rapidly; when they are left on bail they tend to commit crimes similar to those for which they were first arrested.

Where the courts might have granted a conditional or even an absolute discharge they are now forced to hand down a jail sentence, he said.

Delay in the administration of justice often results in inconvenience to the witnesses who may be called at a trial causing them to become reluctant to volunteer information.

Adamson emphasized the need for further studies of the processes in the administration of justice to suggest what was necessary to make it more rapid and efficient.

CKRY cuts broadcasts

By WARREN CLEMENTS

Radio York has curtailed its late night broadcasting for the next week to deal with an internal staff shuffle.

The station will not broadcast this weekend, and weekday broadcasts will end at 8 p.m., instead of the usual midnight sign-off.

Station manager Claude Vickery explained that the station is undergoing a reorganization of announcing staff, and that "communications problems" among the 25-man volunteer staff have forced them to reduce the number of staff to approximately 18 persons.

"Many of them are relatively inexperienced," Vickery explained. "We try to help them along and tell them where their strengths and weaknesses lie."

"But most of the inexperienced personnel are here on weekends, when none of the other members are around to help. For that reason we're getting fewer people to do greater hours, and trying to spread out the experienced people."

He added that many hours have been lost because announcers have

academic commitments which tie up their time, and that the temporary cutback "will protect ourselves against losing these hours."

Vickery said operations during the past three weeks have been further complicated by work on the network's closed-circuit system by Western Telephone and Telecommunications, the firm contracted to install several new speakers across campus.

The broadcasting cutback is expected to end by next weekend.

Performing Arts losing money in this year's series

By MICHAEL BARRIS

York would have to sell at least 1,100 Performing Arts series tickets for every concert to "break even" with the cost of publicity and attractions, series director Douglas Buck has told Excalibur.

Burton Auditorium seats 610.

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