



POLICE INSPECTOR William Wright was feted at a retirement party in his honor

last night at the Croation Hall. About 350 persons attended the dinner - dance.

Shown grouped along this portrait of Mr. Wright are from left, Ellis Morningstar,

Welland MPP; Chief Albert Shennan; Mayor Allan Pietz and Mr. and Mrs. Wright.

The portrait was presented on behalf of the Welland Police Club. Tribune photo

Inspector Wright Honored For 29 Years Police Work

Yesterday was William Wright's big night.

The former police constable, sergeant, chief and inspector had a retirement party given in his honor at the Croation National Home by the Welland Police Club.

As several speakers noted, the 350 persons who attended the occasion were a reflection of the esteem Bill Wright was held in by co-workers and friends.

It was a fitting tribute to a man who gave almost 29 years of his life to police work.

"The lad from Wigan (England) has done very well for himself," said police chief Albert Shennan.

"As chief of the Niagara Regional Police Force, I can honestly say Bill Wright has done an excellent job in this past year. I know Superintendent (Lincoln) Baker and the men in Welland division will miss him."

POPULAR OFFICER

B. P. Davies, QC, vice-chairman of the Niagara Regional Board of Commissioners of Police recounted a number of cases from Inspector Wright's days of the old Crowland police department.

"Bill has been a really popular officer", Mr. Davies noted. "He has grown with the region, took his place with a new force and done a commendable

lice department now Superintendent of the regional force's St. Catharines' division. "His 'His juvenile delinquents became teachers, very few became criminals. His secret of success was his honesty; his main creed was that he believed in treating everyone the same way he wanted to be treated himself."

Other tributes were paid by Welland Mayor Allan Pietz, Superintendent Lincoln Baker, Welland MPP Ellis Morningstar, Constable Steve Brlek and master of ceremonies Trevor Matthews.

Several presentations, including a portrait of Mr. Wright, a stereo set and silver tea service and tray were made to In-

spector Wright and Mrs. Wright following the dinner.

He also was given a testimonial from the Niagara Regional Police Association making him a life member of that group.

"I thought a lot about what I would say tonight but none of the words would be me as you know me," Inspector Wright said.

"There has been good and there has been bad, but I have always tried to do what I thought was good for the people I served and the police I served with."

That, in essence, was probably the best summation of William Wright's 29 year and three month career in police work.