

Green, Bowie Offer to Try Juveniles

Prince Georges Trial Magistrates Foresee Authority For Separate Court

Walter Green and Alan Bowie, Prince Georges County police trial magistrates, yesterday offered their services as juvenile court justices should it be decided to create a tribunal for juvenile cases.

Demands for a juvenile court set-up were made following a disturbance that flared up at a minstrel show in the Mount Rainier, (Md.) High School Friday night. The performance was interrupted by a barrage of eggs thrown by students in the audience and several adults were pelted.

Both police magistrates said they believed the Legislature could confer the necessary power upon them to permit the handling of juvenile cases separately from criminal offenses.

This arrangement, they explained, would save the county the expense of setting up an entirely new branch of the judicial system at considerable cost to the taxpayers.

Judges Green and Bowie were appointed justices of the peace and designated police trial magistrates under the reformed justice of the peace system approved by the 1939 State Legislature.

Judge Green said it might be possible to get a ruling from the Attorney General permitting Judge Bowie and himself to sit also as juvenile court judges. In that case, Judge Green said, it would be unnecessary to have the Legislature confer authority on them to hold juvenile court sessions.

Under the present system juvenile cases are handled in the same manner as other cases. Proponents of the juvenile court plan have pointed out that it would save youngsters who get into trouble from the disgrace of having a police record while at the same time provide punishment for their offenses.

William A. Carson, chairman of the county board of commissioners, said he was "heartily in favor of some sort of juvenile court set-up." The commissioners, he said, would be glad to cooperate in working out some plan.