Keen teachers of Northern Corps write of apathy, poverty, needs

A local woman and her Sunday School class have discovered they needn't go out of Canada to find people who need help badly. In fact, they needn't even go out of Ontario, supposedly one of the richest parts of the continent.

The Northern Corps - a dozen and a half ween young volunteers - are sent by the Department of Education to staff public schools in remote areas of the province.

One of them lives and teaches in a trailer on a railroad siding. Others have schools - but no electricity or water.

They find few congenial friends but much poverty, Ignorance and

Often the scholars are brighteved Indians - without a bright fut re. Often they are of other nationalities whose parents' lack of English hampers them.

Mrs. Alf Long, R.R. 4, Acton, wrote to these young people and asked them what they needed.

A sheaf of letters came back, and two of the teachers even came to visit. Now she has a long list of requests for the schools and while her Sunday school class at the United church has sent a few things, many more are needed.

One letter begs for "books, books - books

Other needs are for playground equipment, games, maps, a flag, pictures, records, puzzles, old magazines in good condition.

Also: money for subscriptions to magazines such as National Geographic or Macleans, to tell the isolated youngsters about the world and about their own unknown country.

Another angle: . money for

mailing the packages. A large map of Ontario, in the entrance hall at the United Church, indicates where the plucky teachers are, and some of them have sent Mrs. Long their photographs which she put on the map. She is putting a carton in the church near the blg poster and hopes anyone with used books, magazines and games

will bring them in and leave them

for mailing, The church is often open in the daytime when the Rev. Turner is. "Working downstairs; and there are groups meeting most evenings. Or confact indefatigable Mrs. Long berself.

Enchanting names like Sultan. Shining Tree of White Fish Falls sometimes belie the attractiveness of these locations in the

Other places with Northern. Corps schools are Allan Water. Umphrieville, Mine Centre, Auden, Oba, Savant Lake, Gogama, Island Falls, Boar Island, Ramsay, Go Home Bay, Franz, Caugnashene.

Some had taught before; some were recruited at Teachers' College. (One went north after. ply, although they did provide three years at Cooksville.) They

all attended an orientation course at Bracebridge. There are two husband and wife teams in the current group of teachers at 16 places.

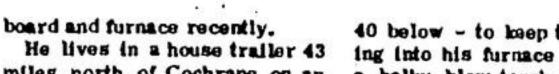
School books and certain supplies are provided, but the local school boards cannot meet all the cost of maintaining a school. Help comes from the Department of Education to make sure the children at least get a chance.

A glimpse of their problems comes in their letters. . Alan McDhee at Franz describes a once thriving railway centre dissolved to a "handful," of 50 adults and as many children, most of them Indian .. The school board wants the ratepayers to approve a new school, with electricity. but they grot so abathetic they. are not particularly in favor even with special 90 per cent

prants. His 31 pupils are "bright and eager." - He, especially needs maps, magazines, printary level.

. Terry Wills of Island Falls says he could give & list of his needs the length of his arm. in the first of his three recent letters to Mrs. Long. He especially' would like maps, a record player, a film strip projector, sports equipment, and even a flag. (Attention, LO.D.E.)

Some things are simply too expensive for the board to supnew texts, bookshelves, black-



Books, books, books!

miles north of Cochrane on an C.N.R. siding: 14 students go toschool in one half and he lives - with leaky pipes in November and frozen ones by January - in the other half. Town is 35 miles. away. To get to his school, you drive, then walk three miles along the railroad track.

· His January epistle describes getting up 'as' many . as three . times a night sometimes - at-

Three regional development

councils are now involved in co-

ordinating planning for the Nia-

gara Escaroment - Central Ont-

ario, Niagara and Georgian Bay.

ment committee are Mrs. A. J.

MacArthur, representing Halton,

conciling the conflict between

preserving the aesthetic and re-

creational values of the escarp-

ment and maintaining the econ-

omic value of production of mat-

amount of gravel and pit and

quarry lands in the three town-

CORDC area.

in the late fall,

ships of Nassagaweya, Esquesing and Caledon. These three are some of the main areas of sand and gravel operation in the

The Niagara Escarpment stretches like an enormous, rocky finger, 450 miles from Queenston to Tobermory - right across the heart of Southern Ont-

In the south, under its shelter, fruit of all kinds grows exuberantly. Midway up the province; its slopes are scarred with gaps where men and machines tear gravel, sand and limestone from its crust. In the north, the echo of gunshots hangs among the trees

It is dotted with parks, ranging from the elaborate, green love-

liness of the Niagara Parks Com-

mission to the rough-and-ready naturalness of the Bruce Trail.

The gravel from its sides -- particularly in Nassagaweya, Esquesing and Caledon Toownships -has built hundreds of miles of

roads. (Tons of it went into the smooth ribbon called 401 high-

Thousands of tourists gape at

its most famous feature, Niagara

Falls, every year -- yet at Milton residents blandly refer to it

The eight conservation author-

ities whose jurisdictions cover

the escarpment have suggested

to the parks integration board (a

committee of cabinet ministers

K. C. Lindsay

will partially

retire this year

Esquesing council revealed

plans to partially retire clerk-

treasurer K. C. Lindsay when

salary adjustments were made

ulated a large fund of invaluable

knowledge since he has been

township clerk, notified council

early in January he intended to

partially retire this year. Mon-

day he revealed plans to work only

three days a week and his salary

Assistant clerk Del French will

take over some of Mr. Lindsay's

duties and he was appointed

deputy-clerk and tax collector

with two readings of a by-law at

a salary of \$6,100 per annum.

ed will receive \$5500 per annum

while assessment commissioner

A. W. Benton's salary was set at

\$7,000. Cierical assistants in

the township office will receive

There was big excitement in

Mama waited outside anxious-

"Well what did my little man

"In one day you learned to

"How should I know?" answer-

ed Henry. "I don't know how to

the home. ' Little Henry was

starting school today.

learn on his first day?"

result.

"I learned to write!"

write? What did you write?"

An assistant assessor, unnam-

was adjusted.

Mr. Lindsay, who has accum-

public at the Monday meeting.

as "the Mountain."

Involved also are the vast

erials for roads and buildings,

an ex-officio member.

Members of CORDC's escarp-

Special committee

co-ordinates planning

Niagara escarpment

40 below - to keep the oil flowing into his furnace by applying a balky blow torch to the line, And his propage for cooking won't

run in the cold, either. Bob Cotey at Obe is considered to be in one of the most difficult spots. In his one-room school with one window, he has 24 publis at "as many levels" -French, Italian, Portuguese, Finnish, German, Indian and English

In most cases English is not athilts. He lots the children come, boat or skidoo. back to school, some nights to

or newspapers in the homes. Electricity is supplied by the C.N.R. but last year he was without power for five weeks - three them in a row. Water is carried from a well. A man

comes in to look after the coal furnace "when he's sober." Lucky in one regard, his "outdoor" privy is in the basement. The worst problem at Oba is alcohol - and subsequent fights.

The teacher was at first the only one who could-play an instrument; .. now . he Ja teaching others the gullar and plano. His school is also used for church, bhigges, weddings and Clabe de art

David Spinney gets a kick out of calling himself "principall" of the little one room school at Auden, and he had some of his 37 pupils write charming letters of thanks for their Acton supplies. He lives in excellent ac-

funorals.

New members at Y's Men

them prospective new members.

Money was raised for the Bishop Fund by a Chinese auction and a volloyball game was played afterward.

The club is planning a ladies' night in March.

parks planning) that higher grants be provided. The extra money hear mayor.

> There were 17 guests at the last Y's Men's meeting, some of Speaker was Mayor Les Duby who spoke on regional develop-

Tomorrow night's speaker is

Nigerian student at O. V. C.

spoken at home, and of course commodation -three rooms aside there are few books, magazines the school. Fort William LO.D. E. helps him with books but he needs pictures, maps, atlases, magazines.

His pupils "are satisfied with a little or a lot, and they don't know how to use either one satisfactorily."

From Bear Island, an Indian reserve in the centre of Lake Temagami, Barry Tate cites the natives loss of pride. He managud to get the unused commun-He says he has had to act as lity hall opened again. Some peacomaker several times. Why . groups already help their many drinking? ' Therd's nothing destitute families. He trayels else to do, either for children or . five: miles to the mainland by

He says his main concern is the health of the complete half uninsulated board time in the of his pupils by

what to do about this one.

delegate to France

ference at Nice, France, Dick Loove showed slides and spoke to the Acton Rotarians at their regular Tuesday dinner meeting. He also showed slides of Norway, where he visited his son, and Monte Carlo.

Mr. Looye, president of the Georgetown club, also took the opportunity to sell tickets here to the Don Cossack chorus concert at Norval Mar. 18.

Now that the club's roster is up to 20, the system of fines at meetings is to be re-instated. The Rev. A. H. McKenzle has agreed to donate a special Mexican pottery container for

Jim Ledger is hoping the local

A delegate from Georgetown endance at the governor's ball at to the Rotary International con- the Royal York, Toronto, Mar. 2. There were guests from Georgetown, Guelph, and Orangeville at the meeting. Rotarians

The life is lonely, says Marg-

aret Peeves of Sultan, "But I

never regret coming." She went

there from three years at Cooks-

ville. Her children have never

learned the joy of giving, and

She has a special problem -

a graduate of her school, 15, who

went on to LaSalle high school

in Sudbury, in the four year

course, and who needs money to .

continue. His Diher works in a

lumber camp, his mother is in

hospital. The family is not on

welfare, or relief. - just can't

Sudbury is \$80 a month.

make ends meet. His board in

"Never have I seen a more

that so hopeless . . . he is de-

they become discorraged."

and advice to older publis

deserving boy and never have I, ..

Long simply doesn't know

she has introduced Red Cross.

now meet in the Station Hotel. Next week Bruce Carell and Paul Hurley, recent new members, will give classification talks, and Ted Pratt, chairman of the Easter Seals campaign, will have an envelope stuffing bee for Easter seals.

Day off

High school teachers' professional development day was held at Port Credit Secondary School Friday, and the students had the day off. Some enjoyed



Watery winter sun tries to brighten dismal February. (Staff Photo)

North Halton council worry

seeks tacts on merger

resentation and the spectre of a double tax billing each year, members of the North Halton Urban Board have decided to invite a Department of Education representative to their March meeting to answer a pile of questions on the County Board of Education

While the board is made up of delegates from Acton, Milton and Georgetown Councils, the meeting will be held in an auditorium large enough to accommodate a crowd. An open invitation willbe issued to educators, school trustees and municipal councillors from all over Halton County

to attend. The County Board system goes into offect next January, and an

Esquesing assessment \$12,477,395.07

Total rateable assessment for the Township of Esquesing increased \$697,682 in 1967 to a new high of \$12,477,395,07, Assessment Commissioner A. W. Benton told the township council Monday

Farm and residential property accounted for \$10,214,750 of the new figure while commercial and industrial amounted to \$2,262,-645.07.

showed a large increase in res- the Halton County Planning As- be granted with the consent of idential assessment, in 1967 farm sociation will meet with the the planning board for any parand residential were both around Minister of Municipal Affairs 40 per cent of the total assess- and discuss the current problem farm at 36,736 per cent, residen- over 10 acres. Newly-elected tial at 45.128 per cent, com- H.P.A. chairman Maurice F. to be working on a budget of per cent.

Or assessment figure on which selected to meet with the mintaxes can be collected for theen- ister. tire year, there is another \$49,- There has been much discusbe levied for 11 months.

the board. A blueprint for the most councillors or present organization of county boards for school trustees. southern Ontario has been re-

answer all their questions.

town plus perhaps a portion or all is responsible for arrears?" of a township on the board,

Worried over inadequate rep- election is slated for this fall to better acquainted with the overall name the expected 20 trustees to picture of education in Halton than

> Another area of concern is the leased by Education Minister double-billing for education William G. Davis, but Urban costs. According to the blueprint Board members claim it does not the County Board will notify each municipality how much money it They suggested F. J. Thompson must collect to support the county of the Department would be an group, and the municipal office excellent speaker. Plans for the must issue an invoice to each meeting include a talk by the ratepayer, collect the taxes and Department official, followed by turn them over to the County a question period conducted by a Board. Members called it a panel of four Urban Board mem? duplication of the present taxbers who will field queries from gathering system and suggested

> the audience toward the speaker. It would mean a whole new set of Representation for some of the records and twice as much work. smaller assessed municipalities Most agreed the onus for colis one point the board wants clar- lecting costs should rost on the ified. Some members are wor- County Board, not the municipalried that municipal boundary ities. "None of us collects 100 lines will be forgotten and one per cent of our taxes each year. trustee may represent a whole There will be arrears, and who

> wondered one councillor. Others noted a Halton Consult- Acton Reeve H. H. Hinton said ative Committee on Education has the county will be better off with been studying regionalized ed- the County Board of Education, ucation for several years, but and the north of the county will the committee's future looks dim, be able to take advantage of the They wondered why members of high industrial assessment in the this committee are not being con- south. "We have got to keep suited, pointing out they were track of the advantages, too."

Planners to meet minister discuss land separations

Three representatives from it is now, land separations can't

concerning land separations. As for ratification,

cel over 10 acres.

At the Association's meeting ment but the new totals showed about land separations on parcels last Wednesday a budget was drawn. The Association expects mercial and industrial at 18,136 Newton, vice-chairman Ross \$3,100. The major expense is Pearen of Milton and Ed Harrop fees and expenses at \$1,800. In addition to the \$12,477,395,- representing Esquesing were Five hundred dollars goes toward travelling and conventions. \$700 toward technical needs and advertising and \$100 toward a 329 added until the end of Jan- sion on planning boards and mun- dinner. The budget is to be foruary, 1968, upon which taxes can icipal councils about the problem warded to Halton County Council

would speed up purchase of 8,000 acres of escarpment land for parks purposes. Premier John Robarts announced early in the year that the escarpment would be preserved

that reviews and co-ordinates

Zone 1, and Len McNeice, Peel, Zone 2. Mrs. MacArthur Is as a recreation area. The scheme chairman, and Les Duby, Acton --not based on buying all of themayor and CORDC president, is escarpment - would take 25 years to complete, he said then, The three councils involved ex-A Niagara Escarpment Study pect to play a vital role in re-

has followed in the wake of the premier's unnouncement. Its duties, chairman professor L. O. Gertler of the University of Waterloo says, are concerned with the escarpment's potential

and with devising strategy to achieve its preservation rather than considering concepts for its

the extra money. club will have 100 per cent att- skiing.



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