



The girls in pioneer style costume are, from front, Juli Ann Clow, Allison Moore, Della Goskill, Wendy Brown, and Heather Clarke. Limehouse public school pupils who are dressed this way to promote their school's

Old Tyme Garden Party coming up June 27. Features will include a parade, amusement booths, home baking, entertainment and a dance. The school is raising funds to ease educational tour expenses.



DIVE FOR LOOT

Scuba divers in the Credit River at the foot of the River Driver dam weren't paddling around in the churned water for the fun of it last week. They were acting for police

following a tip that loot from a recent theft had been dumped at the dam site. They came up with a cash register among other items.

Bruce Trailer Tells Escarpment Meeting

Rural Townships Have Outlived Usefulness

by Gene Meese
 The search for policies to preserve the Niagara Escarpment is shaping up as a basic conflict between a rural way of life and urban needs for breathing space.
 A provincial task force established to recommend means of protecting the escarpment last Wednesday night held its first public hearing in Milton District High School. In a session lasting more than three hours, the nine-member commission heard a variety of public suggestions, ranging from outright provincial acquisition of the entire escarpment to development control through zoning.
 Calls for the most complete provincial authority came from city dwellers, especially some representatives of the Bruce Trail Association. Residents from the rural areas closer to the escarpment, however, were less willing to see the 465 mile greenbelt put totally in provincial hands.
RATIONAL
 "The most rational use of the escarpment is as a recreational facility," said W. D. Brown, of the Toronto Bruce Trail Club. He claimed rural townships have outlived their usefulness as economic units and have become unable to meet public needs, despite their feelings that they should be allowed to develop near the escarpment.
 "The economic arguments of all the reserves in Ontario won't diminish the need for open space," he said, noting that 80 percent of Canada's population

now lives in cities and towns. "Residential development of the escarpment is scandalous."
FOR THE PEOPLE
 He urged the province to acquire escarpment lands as they come on the market and hold them "in perpetuity for the people of Ontario."
 Brown admitted the need for the development of aggregate resources, but would limit quarrying and other mining operations to an area at least a half mile from the escarpment. Asked how the province would finance such acquisition policies, he said financing was not his responsibility, but noted that the publicly unsolicited Ontario Place cost the government \$23 million, while the total value of escarpment land was \$12 million in 1969, according to an escarpment report by Waterloo University professor Leonard O. Gertler.
 "The people want to be able to use the escarpment," he said. "Nobody asked for Ontario Place."
PROVINCIAL CONTROL
 Bruce Trail Association secretary Ray Lowes echoed Brown's call for complete provincial authority, saying planning for the escarpment should be a Queen's Park function totally out of the hands of the local municipalities.
 Another Bruce Trail representative favored unilateral provincial control along the entire length of the escarpment.
 However, while some environmentalists would have

given immediate control to the province, representatives of the rural communities nearest the escarpment were not so easily convinced.
CONCERNED TOO
 Nassagaweya Township reeve Anne MacArthur, known as the Voice of the North, noted that the concerned citizens who would readily give total authority to the province ignored the fact that local officials were elected because they, too, were concerned.
 She said Nassagaweya had moved to amend its Official Plan to block the construction of another quarry, but had been stymied by the Ontario Municipal Board, a creature of the province.
LIVE THERE
 "If you have the idea that the province is a fond mother that's going to look diligently after you, you'd better change your ideas," she said.
 Mrs. MacArthur called for increased co-operation and communication between the province and the municipalities, but noted that Nassagaweya, with more than 3,000 acres currently under conservation, "is pretty well doing its bit for the urban roomers."
 She said she has lived on the escarpment all her life and knows from experience that the people who live there care, as much or more than anyone else, about protecting it.
OLD FARMER
 Mrs. MacArthur's feelings about the escarpment were amplified by a north Halton resident who described himself



GIRLS TOP DRIVERS AT HIGH SCHOOL

Driver education instructor Ted Scott, left, and Paul Armstrong of Armstrong Insurance, right,

presented awards to the top student drivers in the two most recently completed driving courses at the high

school. Holding their awards are Shirley Levers, left, and Connie Allan.

need open space, but the rural sector does not want to be bankrupted by population pressures.
FIVE MORE
 After the meeting, task force chairman S. J. Clasky said the group had anticipated the urban-rural clash, but could only hope there is some solution. He was not sure.
UNPAID SERVANTS
 Other spokesmen for the rural area nearest the escarpment were also concerned with a possible provincial takeover. They felt it would destroy the local assessment base and make the rural communities the unwilling and unpaid servants of urban desires.
 At the close of the meeting, the task force was faced with a seemingly insoluble urban-rural dilemma. City dwellers want total provincial control, rural residents do not. Urban areas

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