It's Costly Program In Ottawa Region

.. The Hallon Hills regional government becomes official on January 1, 1974. Will It work? How much will it cost? The following report by Mac Johnston of The Herald's Ottawa Bureau looks at the Ot-

tawa-Carleton regional structure five years after its birth as an indication of what we might expect.

OTTAWA - Opinions remain divided on its merits and success after five years of regional government in Ottawa-Carleton.

Regional Chairman Denis M. Coolican says regional government has matured. He said. acknowledges that costs have risen, but says that the population is greater and services better, particularly

planning. "More and more people on the council take a broad outlook and wear a regional hat when they sit on regional council. And the system has the advantage that you don't neglect things locally -- even though you have an overview," Mr. Coollean said.

Regional councillor Dr. W. A. Taylor, reeve of Osgoode Township, says he felt from the start that regional government was an unnecessary step.

"I was very apprehensive from the start about the possible costs that might be involved ... and the intervening years have proven that the costs far, far exceeded my expectations," he said.

COSTS TOO MUCH

(Herald Photo)

winner's stroll down the

French numbered 25,015, or

Some authorities consider the

This vehicle is now available

most complex to be the Austra-

centre of the hall with crown

and bouquet.

eight per cent.

SNOW QUEEN

ceremony at Sacred Heart

Church hall last Saturday

evening. Miss Saunders is

shown here taking the

most often in the home by

In metropolitan Hamilton,

57,190 people, or 11.5 per cent,

In metropolitan London,

population spoke English in the

home. There were 12,630, or 4.4

per cent, who declared they

In metropolitan Kitchener,

languages other than English

Cindy Saunders won the title

of Snow Queen of the

Georgetown and Area

Snowmobile club at a

in 1961 to 13.4 in 1971.

of 699,000 in 10 years ..

were 2,900,000 bilingual people Italian.

1961 the number was 493,270. Italian,

other than English or French English.

in the home, while 203,595, or or 4.6 per cent.

in Canada in 1971, an increase

Although the British Isles

per cent of Ontario residents,

85.1 per cent of the population

said they speak English most

were the mother tongues of 16.2

32.6 per cent.

Bilingualism

Is Increasing

The percentage of people in '78,303 in 1961; this was an in-Canada who speak both English crease of 104 per cent.

and French increased from 12.2 Other languages were spoken

A report published by 458,595, or 17.4 per cent, in-

Statistics Canada shows there cluding 189,420 who spoke

Ontario's population included spoke languages other than

716,065 people, or 9.29 per cent, English in the home; of these who said they were bilingual; in 22,210, or 4.4 per cent spoke

were the ethnic origin of 59.4, 268,790, or 94 per cent of the

often in the home. Languages could speak both French and

per cent, but only 10.3 per cent 25,290, people, or 11 per cent,

report they speak these other spoke languages other than

languages most often at home. English most often at home,

Ottawa-Hull, 374,680, or 62.2 per German. Both English and

cent, spoke English most often French were spoken by 10,410,

33.8 per cent spoke French. In the metropolitan area of

Those who could speak both St. Catharines-Niagara, 41,800 languages numbered 196,750, or or 13.8 per cent, spoke

In the census metropolitan most often in the home, in-

area of Toronto, there were cluding 10,720 who spoke 159,815 people who reported French, and 13,390 who spoke they could speak English and Italian. Those who said they

French in 1971, compared to could speak both English and

In the metropolitan area of including 10,030 who spoke

Dr. Taylor, a veterinarian, says it costs too much to administer regional government: "You know, bigness doesn't always mean more efficiency. In fact, I think it means the

He believes that since the province created the region, "it's their baby and they're making damn sure it doesn't die of storvation. The province is pumping in an awful lot of money. Whether that'll be the policy tomerrow or not, I den't know, but if it isn't, we're in

However, Dr. Taylor says: "I'm wise enough to know it's lian aboriginal language in here. I think it's up to us to Arnhem 'Land, Andiljangwa, make it work."

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of the two-tier system now in these things from Toronto."

Mr. Marchington views authority for land-division himself as a "constructive committees and committees of critic." He says the county adjustment, approval of zoning system "really didn't do its job bylaws, solid waste disposal Police officers from Milton with respect to planning and and policing which some detachment of the Ontario social welfare."

CAN'T STOP

"You can't go back, you can't stop, you've got to keep moving ahea, but when you move ahead you've got to know where you're going and how much it will cost," Mr. Marchington

He feels that "control of these sophisticated forms of government has slipped from the political level to the ad-

Ottawa Mayor Pierre Benoit advocates a one-tier system. but he says he's open on the divided one in which the two co-ordinate their activities. Mr. Benoit says he realizes

and their sense of identity. while indicating political orientation toward bigness or orderly ones." centralization.

He advocates centralization of local government, saying he is "accomplishment oriented and centralization is more effective."

SENSIBLE PLANNING The mayor says benefits to

Ottawa have not been tangible financial ones, but intangible ones, such as "planning on a more sensible basis, drawing off pressure from the city." Mr. Benolt says everyone

"must look beyond the strict political boundaries set up 100 years ago and must developcities people can live in, not just

A developing trend is the desire of the province to give more decision-making power to regional governments, says Mr. Coolican. CORSAGE

He says the ministry of in-

Both Dr. Taylor and Frank tergovernmental affairs has Mr. Coolican says: "It really asked if he sees the benefits of Marchington, reeve of Tor- "become impatient...They're depends who you're talking to regional government. bolton Township, are advocates determined to decentralize and who has had the latest

> Possibilities here include councillors are particularly Provincial P.lice investigated reluctant to take over because 61 general occurrences during they envision greatly increased the week ending Nov. 24.

Mr. Coolican does say: "I were: three break and enters, think we're going to get ad two thefts, one disturbance, ditional responsibilities before three domestic complaints, one the plan is approved if we're building found insecure by prepared to take them over." officers on patrol, two persons

GREATER POWERS

have greater powers, but Reeve Act, one drug seizure, and one Marchington feels the province trespassing complaint. ministrative level, the is simply "shoving back on the The remaining occurrences equipped to meet with its clear.

narrow tax base." parallel tiers (urban and rural) their own course to meet local total property damage was needs.

Mr. Marchington says the this would ignore the historic existing conditional grants aspects of some communities "influence the municipality when setting priorities so that the priorities aren't necessarily Draper Dobie

Ottawa Mayor Benoit says the system is working, "not as well as it could and not as badly as it could."

He says the province's latest direction of promoting restructuring of county systems rather than forming regional systems is the same in conceptual terms, but "politically, at the provincial level, it's a hell of a lot more saleable. I would think that's the primary motivation,"

And, on whether the balance of power lies with elected officials or the administration.

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THE WELL DRESSED

WEARS

FROM

Phone Brampton

"I haven't seen them yet. I'm experience they didn't like." expecting them. It's getting

Finally, Dr. Taylor was near Christmas," he replied.

Four drivers have been summoned to appear in Provincial Court at Milton for traffic violations associated with their respective collision and more charges are pending. Included in this number

reported missing and later located, one assault, one Many of the newer regions violation of the Game and Fish

bureaucracy," and that there is municipality another were relatively minor in nature a "tendency to accept this as responsibility which it is ill- and required little time to

This same reporting period If there are increased local saw officers investigate responsibilities, there should be fourteen collisions involving 22 precise setup. He would like a greater income, he said, in-vehicles. Four of these complete one-tier system or a cluding more unconditional collisions resulted in injuries to grants so municipalities can set drivers and or passengers and

estimated to exceed \$8,400,00.

& Co. Ltd.

have been attributed to inattentive driving, following too closely, failure to yield the right of way, improper and unsafe passing and speed too fast for road, weather or traffic con-

Causes of these collisions

ditions.

THE UNEXPECTED A high contributing factor to many collisions is the unexpected act of the motorist, who either "doesn't know how to drive correctly", or else "totally disregards both the rules of the road and consideration for others."

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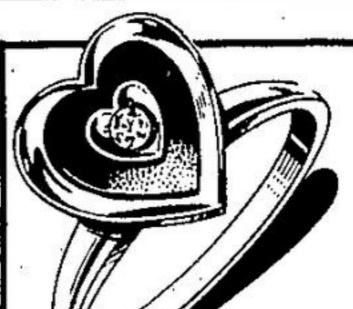
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