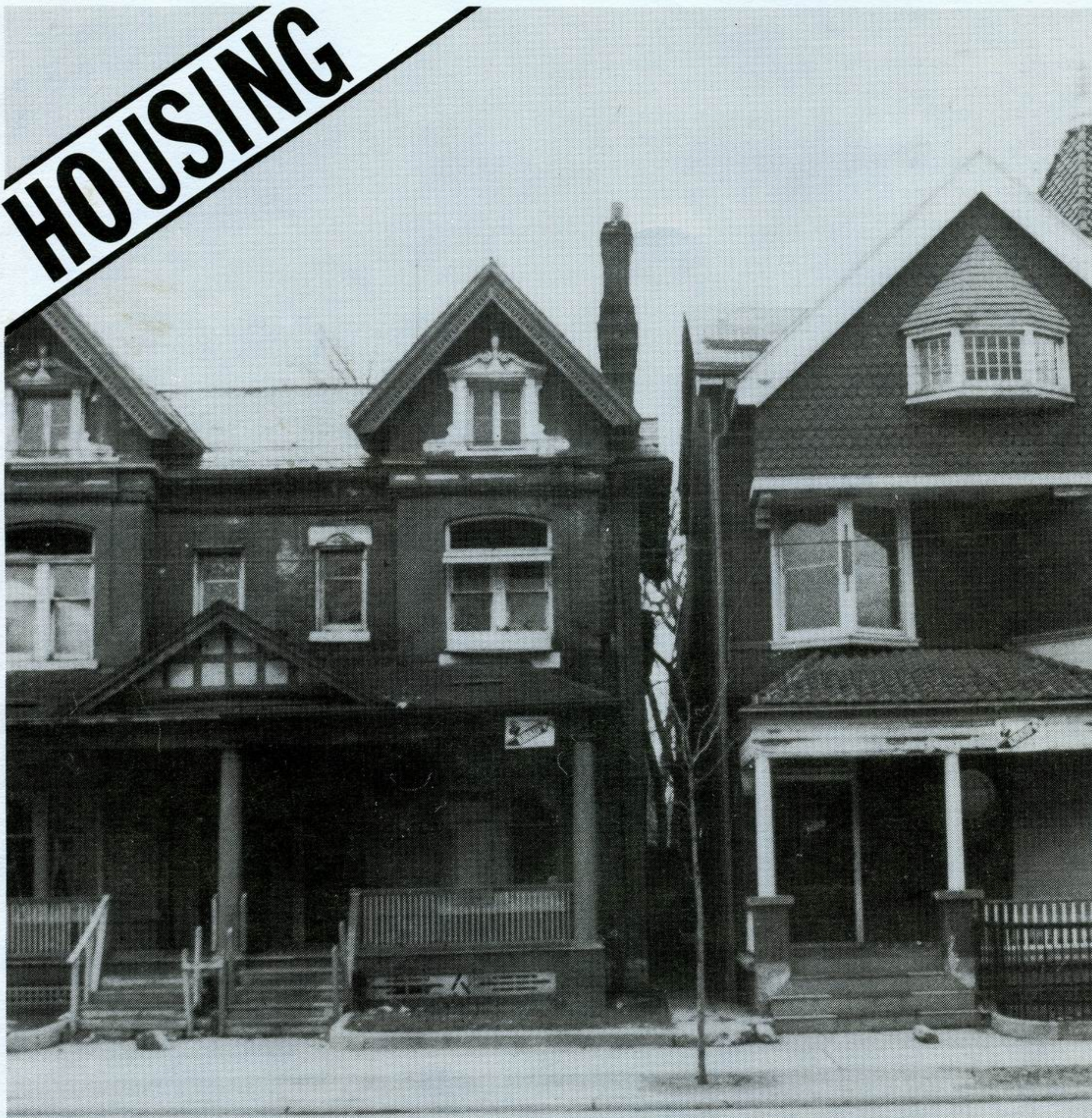


CONNEXIONS

December 1982

Volume 7, Number 4

HOUSING



ALSO INSIDE:

Native People

International Development

Work

Community

We're changing...

At CONNEXIONS we are always concerned to improve the service we offer our readers. During the summer, we asked our subscribers, funders, and contributors to respond to a questionnaire and give us feedback on how they use CONNEXIONS and what they would like to see from us in the future. In September, we met for two full days to discuss the questionnaires, to review our financial situation, and to plan for CONNEXIONS' future. We would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of our learnings and decisions.

You have already, no doubt, noticed one change. After some research by our new staff person, Ulli Diemer, we discovered it would be cheaper to use typesetting and we have started to do so with this issue. Not only will typesetting reduce our production costs, but it will make each issue thinner and, therefore, cheaper to mail. Unfortunately this one move will not answer all of our economic woes. We were badly affected by last January's increase in postal rates and find ourselves living closer to the wire than we had expected. For this reason, we have decided to produce only four issues per year, rather than the five we have been producing in the past few years.

So much for the bad news . . . on to the good news! We were very pleased with the response to our questionnaire. The response rate was about 25% (very good, we're told by the statisticians) and represented a good geographical cross-section. We discovered that about half the respondents had used CONNEXIONS to develop new contacts with other social change agents. We wondered why more weren't using the publication as a networking tool and thought this might be because we had not discussed with our readers how we thought CONNEXIONS

might be useful to individuals and groups working for social change. We did learn that our readers find our summaries most helpful when they outline resources produced, or describe groups, or present analysis of an issue or situation. On the other hand, fewer of our subscribers were interested in hearing others' strategies for change. This was somewhat surprising to us, as we had assumed it was very important to include strategies in our summaries. Both these learnings — on the use of CONNEXIONS as a networking tool and on our readers' particular information needs — suggested that we need to work at developing more regular and reliable forms of feedback and information sharing with our readers. We will be working on this in the future.

When we asked what kind of format you would like to see for CONNEXIONS in the future, we received some very helpful suggestions. More than two-thirds of our subscribers want us to continue producing theme-centred editions. Some of the broad areas suggested for future issues were: the peace movement today, native issues, and housing (we guessed that one right!), the economy, the churches and social change, health, Asia, and Southern Africa. More than half our subscribers also invited us to include lead articles or an editorial from the CONNEXIONS collective on the theme. We found this an exciting possibility and, after much reflection and discussion, we decided to move on to a new format. Beginning with the next issue on "Women and Men", we will include commentary and more in-depth coverage of the issue with our summaries. We look forward to your comments and criticisms on these new directions.

Thank you for your continuing support,
The CONNEXIONS Collective.

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M5S 1X7

(416) 960-3903

CX 2627

RIGHT TO FIGHT

Headlines Theatre, 2349 West 10th Ave.,
Vancouver, B.C.
(604) 738-7872

45 min., videotape, 1981.

Available through: IDERA Films, 2524 Cypress St.,
Vancouver, B.C. V6J 3N2; and Rev. David Smith,
C/O B.C. Conference of the United Church of Canada
1955 West Fourth Ave., Suite 200, Vancouver, B.C.
or from DEC Films, 427 Bloor St. W., Toronto
Write for details on rental or purchase.

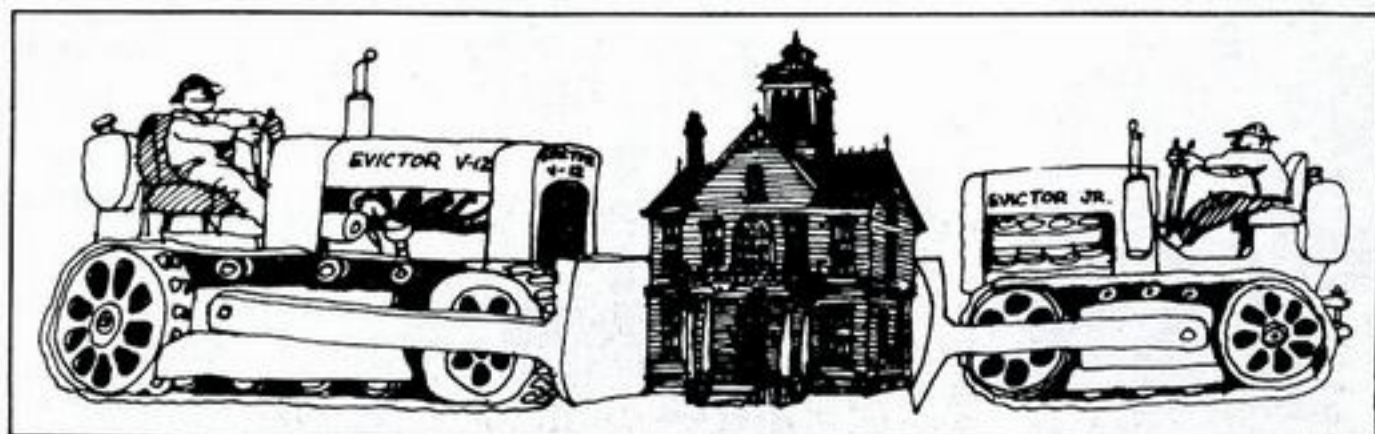
RIGHT TO FIGHT is a video documentary that combines theatrical skits, interviews, and footage of demolitions and organizing efforts to highlight the critical housing situation that faced Vancouver residents in 1981.

In Part I, "The System", a tenant and landlord are pitted together in a game-show style contest; the landlord eventually wins, entitling him to evict the tenant and develop the property "with absolutely no moral scruples". The theme of housing as a profit-making commodity is made clear in this segment.

Part II "The Victims", includes interviews with a senior being displaced by a demolition, a renter moving for the third time because of renovations, and a couple who have given up and are leaving the province. At a non-profit rental agency, we meet two of the 800 people who apply each month for assistance in finding housing; over half of these applicants have nowhere to go when they come to the office. Interviews with both provincial and federal housing ministers (who each insist that the other has responsibility for housing) complete this segment.

Part III, "Organizing", provides examples of people collectively fighting the disappearance of affordable housing. The efforts of tenants' groups, seniors' groups and coalitions are shown. The international nature of the housing problem is made clear by footage of squatters in Amsterdam.

The Headlines Theatre Group "brings front page issues alive" by performing plays like *Buy Buy Vancouver* (upon which RIGHT TO FIGHT is based) in churches, community centres, union halls, and schools on a "pay what you can" basis. Following the community tour, an educational event with information booths and speakers is held. Headlines is currently developing a production on militarism and disarmament.



CX 2628

NO LASTING CITY

Larry Bantleman, First United Church,
320 East Hastings St., Vancouver, B.C., V6A 1P4
48 pages, May 5, 1981. Write for details.

Larry Bantleman has assembled information on the growing housing crisis for low income people in Vancouver in order to determine a way that First United Church can "provide low-income, low-rent housing in the Downtown Eastside".

This crisis in housing is affecting many sectors of the Vancouver housing market. There have been large increases in both population and prices. Thus, purchasing housing is beyond the reach of most residents and rental housing is disappearing due to conversion to condominiums.

The Downtown Eastside, according to the report, is becoming the only area in the city where low and fixed income residents can find affordable, if "lousy" accommodation. The old hotels in this area are in great demand and many are in great need of repair.

However, the pressure on these hotels is also greatly increasing, partly in relation to the new B.C. Place development nearby. B.C. Place will have tourist-oriented exhibits, theatres and luxury accommodation. Hotels in its vicinity are already feeling the pressure to convert to more expensive tourist units. In the Downtown Eastside, this is also happening. The Stratford Hotel was evicting its low-income residents at the time of this report in order to renovate and raise rents. There is also substantial redevelopment in the Chinatown area of the Downtown Eastside.



There have been and continue to be some significant efforts to preserve low-income housing in the Downtown Eastside. Current efforts cited in the report include a number of sleeping room type facilities and a few self-contained units like that of the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre. However, the community workers contacted by the author felt that the number of self-contained units was clearly inadequate.

This leads the author to conclude that First United Church could use its space to provide such units. After reviewing the redevelopment projects of other United Churches across Canada, the author proposes that First United rebuild on its present site and include low-income housing for Downtown Eastside Residents. His examination of the CMHC financing options suggests that the project is feasible.

CX 2629

**FIRST UNITED CHURCH SOCIAL
HOUSING SOCIETY**

320 East Hastings Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6A 1P4
(604) 681-8365

Low income housing in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside has become more and more endangered. The eviction of long-term, low income residents from the Stratford Hotel and the release of a report on the housing situation in the area (**No Lasting City CX 2628**) sparked First United Church's involvement in the direct provision of social housing. In September, 1981, the FIRST UNITED CHURCH SOCIAL HOUSING SOCIETY was legally incorporated as a non-profit corporation. Its mandate is to develop affordable housing in the City of Vancouver for those with low, fixed, or medium incomes.

Extensive interviews of community groups, street workers, and area residents were undertaken to determine the most suitable forms of housing. Sites, including that of the church itself, were explored and negotiations with architects, CMHC, and the City of Vancouver began. The final plans for the first development are for 70 self-contained units on seven floors with units for singles, seniors, and families. Tenants will be selected by the Downtown Eastside Tenant Selection Committee. The site at 501 East Hastings was purchased by the City, and will be leased to the SOCIETY on a long term basis.

This project is the first housing of any significance to be built in the area during the last 15 years. Money from church sources and the strong commitment of SOCIETY members were necessary components. The SOCIETY plans to initiate further projects, and is willing to share its experiences and learnings with interested groups.



CX 2630

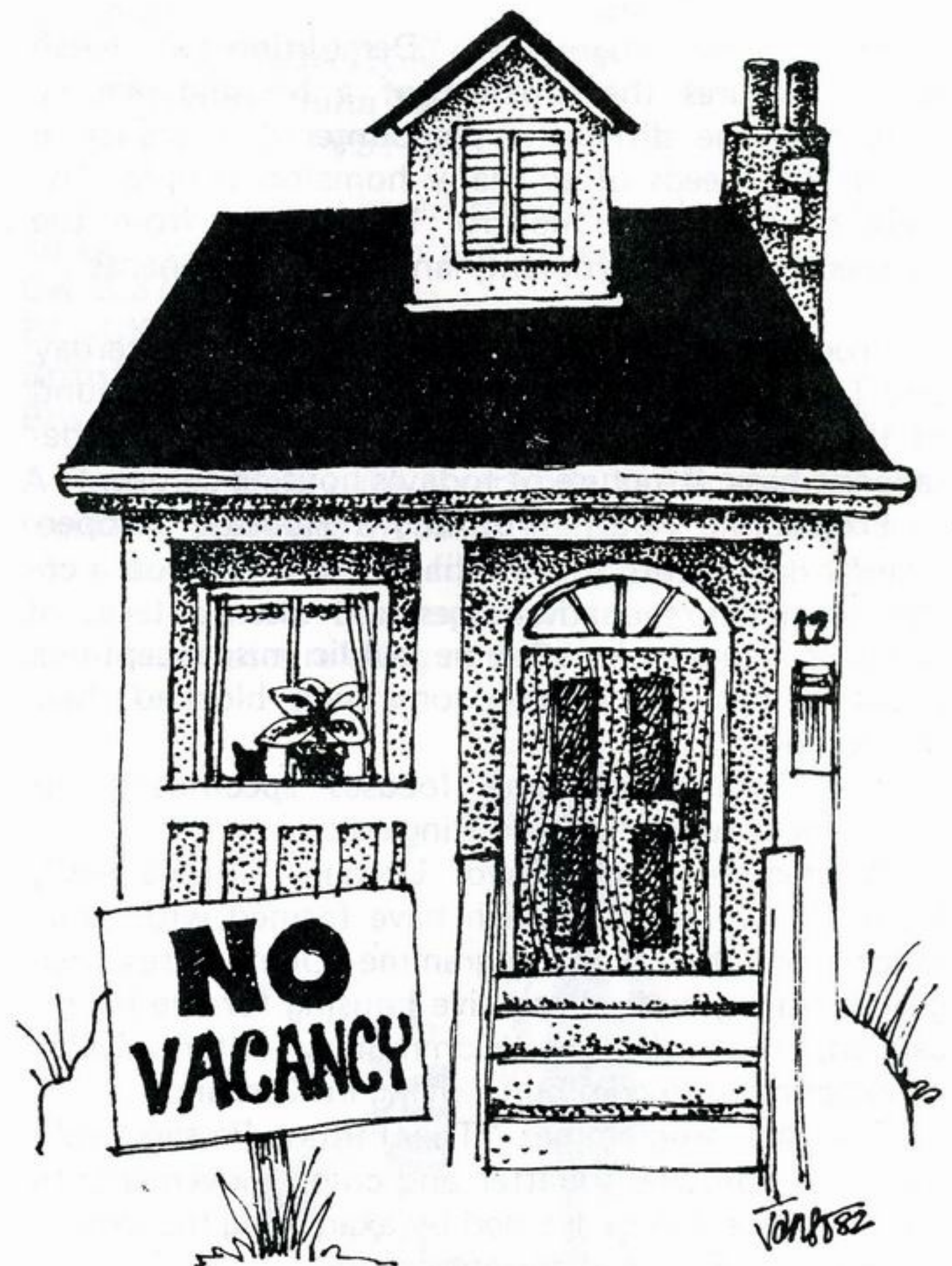
HOUSING RIGHTS COALITION

C/O 4804 Main St., Vancouver, B.C. V5V 3R8
(604) 876-2928

In June of 1981, a group of people met to discuss the grim housing situation in Vancouver, where demolitions, evictions, a low vacancy rate, and exorbitant rents were precluding affordable, decent housing for a growing number of residents. The HOUSING RIGHTS COALITION was formed with the following principles of unity:

- To promote recognition of Canada's signature on the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, which states that shelter is a basic human right.
- To promote the concept of democratic community control and planning for urban land, as opposed to urban land being treated as an instrument of financial speculation and a commodity of the market place.
- To encourage education, organization and unity amongst community groups and tenants.
- To preserve and advance tenant rights and interest in public policy.
- To preserve and advance the right of citizens to obtain affordable housing.
- To maintain a democratic, grassroots organization of community groups to achieve the aforesaid goals.

Representatives of co-ops, tenants' associations, rental agencies, and churches joined the COALITION and work began in the areas of advocacy, public education, and lobbying. Currently, the COALITION is focusing its efforts on the inclusion and development of affordable housing on the massive B.C. Place site, located near downtown Vancouver.



CX 2631

RED DOOR RENTAL AID SOCIETY

4804 Main St., Vancouver, B.C. V5V 3R8

(604) 876-2928

In addition to providing a housing registry and individual advocacy, the RED DOOR RENTAL AID SOCIETY is active in lobbying for more affordable housing in Vancouver. The SOCIETY has produced and presented several briefs on such topics as demolition control and discrimination. It is an active member in the Housing Rights Coalition.

CX 2632

B.C. HOUSING: SEARCHING FOR ALTERNATIVES

Vancouver Co-operative Radio (CFRO 102.7 FM)

C/O Programming Co-ordinator,

Vancouver Co-operative Radio, 337 Carrall St.

Vancouver, B.C. V6B 2J4

(604) 684-8494

The seven programmes in this documentary series look at British Columbia's housing crisis and focus on co-operative housing as a possible answer. The first programme presents an overview of the housing crisis and shows what the tight housing situation has meant to tenants, landlords, and the B.C. government. A look at New York's desperate housing situation is used to underline the need for immediate alternative solutions.

The second programme, "Demolition Hits Kitsilano", features the director of a housing registry explaining the difficulties encountered in trying to handle the needs of so many homeless people. The issue of demolition control is explored from the perspectives of government, landlords, and tenants.

Programme Three, "Housing Co-ops: Yesterday and Today" takes a look at the historical background of the housing co-op movement in Canada, and details the basic structure of today's housing co-ops.

Programme Four, "Forming a Housing Co-operative", documents the mechanics of setting up a co-op, examines the advantages and disadvantages of doing so, and looks at some public misconceptions about co-ops which have sometimes blocked their development.

The fifth programme focuses specifically on government support for housing co-ops.

Programme Six, "Two Unique Alternatives", looks at two groups which have formed with assistance from the co-op programme. One is a resource group dealing with alternative housing for the handicapped; the other is "Community Alternatives", an experiment in communal living in Kitsilano.

The last programme, "The Future Perspective", looks to Europe's squatter and co-op movements to see if lessons can be learned by examining the experiences of our European counterparts.

CX 2633

TRANSITION HOUSE — HOW TO ESTABLISH A REFUGE FOR BATTERED WOMEN

Flora McLeod, Social Planning and Research,

United Way of the Lower Mainland,

1625 West 8th Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6J 1T9

(604) 731-7781

118 pages, January 1982. Write for details.

The late 60's and early 70's saw a great increase in community-based services organized by women for women and children. Supported by a combination of volunteer work and short-term grants, women's health centres, newsletters, action groups, and drop-in centres grew as a part of the women's movement. Such centres attracted many women, including those who were beaten by their husbands. In 1971, Chiswick Women's Aid Centre in London, England became the first transition house specifically designed for battered women. Two years later, three transition houses were opened in Canada. Although many others have opened since that time, the need by far exceeds the resources available. The severe shortage of affordable housing in most Canadian cities has put further demands on transition house beds.

The task of establishing a transition house is time-consuming and complicated. (Experience has shown that it takes two—three years of work to open a new facility.) TRANSITION HOUSE — HOW TO ESTABLISH A REFUGE FOR BATTERED WOMEN is a pragmatic "how-to" handbook that outlines in detail the steps involved in developing a transition house. Information and examples are provided for each stage of the process, from the initial stage of establishing basic values and goals, to forming a society, fundraising, preparing pamphlets, public relations work, to the actual opening of the house. There are additional sections on administration and management, record-keeping and accountability, and long term considerations.

Although the information is in most cases specific to British Columbia, the manual would be a useful resource in the other provinces and the territories.

CX 2634

MUNROE HOUSE

YWCA, 550 Burrard St., Vancouver, B.C. V6C 2K9

(604) 683-2531

When it opened in 1979, MUNROE HOUSE was Canada's first "second stage" house for battered women and their children. The concept was developed because of the concerns of transition house workers, who believed that many women were "forced" to return to a battering situation because of a lack of alternatives. The time limit set in most transition houses is often insufficient to address the range and complexity of problems faced by a battered woman.



MUNROE HOUSE is operated by the Department of Support Services of the Vancouver YWCA and funded by the B.C. Ministry of Human Resources. Located in a residential neighbourhood, it consists of six self-contained units, with a total of 21 beds. Two staff act as co-managers and work out of an office located in the HOUSE. There are no live-in staff; one co-manager is on call after hours and on weekends. An Advisory Committee, made up of representatives from the YWCA, the Ministry of Human Resources, area transition houses, and the co-managers, is responsible for policy, guidelines, and staffing. Since 1979, sixty families, all referred by the six area transition houses, have stayed at MUNROE HOUSE for periods of up to six months.

In December 1980, the Women's Research Centre (301 — 2515 Burrard St., Vancouver, B.C. V6J 3J6) published "A Review of Munroe House: Second Stage Housing for Battered Women." The purpose of this research was to:

- (i) document and analyse how Munroe House meets the needs of its residents; and,
- (ii) build an understanding of the concept of second stage housing by providing a description of Munroe House, for the benefit of organizations and individuals involved in working with battered women.

The method used in the research includes an evaluation process for ongoing use by the Advisory Committee of MUNROE HOUSE.

CX 2635

**MENTAL PATIENTS' ASSOCIATION
HOUSING PROJECT**

2146 Yew St., Vancouver, B.C. V6K 3G7
(604) 738-2811

For over a decade the MENTAL PATIENTS' ASSOCIATION has been providing communal housing with a self-help approach to individual development for people who have been recently discharged from an institution. Its latest project, the Phoenix apartment building, contains fourteen suites, laundry facilities, and a common area for group activities and meetings.

Residents are assisted by two co-ordinators in setting employment and/or educational action plans as well as clarifying other personal goals. Group programmes focus on increasing the individual's awareness of mental health-related issues and money management. Guest speakers, resource people, and community support groups are utilized in providing guidance for tenants.

Rent is based on the B.C. Ministry of Human Resources' maximum shelter component or, in the case of an employed individual, approximately 25 per cent of monthly gross income. Residents are expected to keep their suites reasonably clean and to participate in general building maintenance. An advisory committee reviews applications and selects tenants by interview.

CX 2636

COAST FOUNDATION SOCIETY

2940 Main St., Suite 205,
Vancouver, B.C. V5T 3G3

Offers community-based services (including housing) to ex-psychiatric patients in Vancouver.

CX 2637

BLACKOUT

British Columbia's Anarchy News Service

Box 65896, Station F, Vancouver, B.C. V5N 5L3

A four to eight-page flyer-style publication which regularly addresses housing issues. A typical recent issue discusses ways of fighting off evictions, depicts a police-squatter confrontation in Amsterdam, and compiles quotes relating to B.C.'s housing crisis.



CX 2638

COMMUNITAS INCORPORATED

Suite 200, 10123 — 112 St.,
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 1M1
(403) 422-1171

COMMUNITAS INCORPORATED is a non-profit corporation whose goal is to provide individuals and community groups with the information, resources, and tools they require to develop an environment over which they have control. To achieve its goal, COMMUNITAS works in four areas: a shelter resource programme, research and publications, information centre programme, and printing services.

In its shelter resource programme, COMMUNITAS assists those individuals and groups who wish to develop their own housing project. The assistance begins at the initial development and core group formation stage and includes help with feasibility studies and development right through to the construction and post-construction stages of a project.

In its research and publications work, COMMUNITAS undertakes specific research projects, usually in collaboration with other organizations. Its most recent research, being done for the Co-operative Housing Foundation of Canada, focuses on the possibility of developing land trusts in this country. COMMUNITAS publishes several resources of use to those organizing a housing co-op, including a series of pamphlets called, "How To . . . Paperwork for Co-op Housing".

COMMUNITAS operates a library for use by the public. It includes materials on housing, economics, neighbourhood and community planning, land tenure and use of media. The library also contains a number of ½ inch video tapes which can be used by community groups and organizations.

CX 2639

HUMAN SETTLEMENT PROGRAM

Box 50, 10766 — 97th St.,
Edmonton, Alberta T5H 2M1
(403) 424-4272

HUMAN SETTLEMENT PROGRAM founders believe that our society must be transformed to one whose primary concern is the quality of human relationships, with stewardship of limited resources, fair distribution of the essentials of life, and attention to spiritual as well as material needs. Survival is seen to depend on developing the strength and diversity of small cohesive family units and communities. Co-operation, self-reliance and local interdependence, personal and institutional responsibility are valued.

The aim of the PROGRAM is "to facilitate the creation of a futuristic vision of human settlements that is globally responsible and human enlivening". This the PROGRAM does by networking among the individuals and groups in Western Canada who are working on issues related to care of the environment, use of energy, provision of shelter, and nurturing of community life. The PROGRAM provides information, advice, resources, and inspiration. Issues addressed are as varied as: the redemption of work as livelihood by exploring opportunities for job sharing, joint venture, cottage industries, barter; gardening, agricultural land and wilderness preservation; shelter re-design, solar and wind power, frugal living; communes and co-ops, learner centres; nuclear disarmament, fostering world citizenship; spirituality, and "lifestyle as celebration".

The PROGRAM grew out of a Habitat Festival for the Eighties held in Edmonton two years ago. It was initiated through the support of the Alberta Conference of the United Church and now operates with an ecumenical advisory and policy board. A number of projects and activities are underway around the province. The group hopes to start a newsletter and is planning a province-wide Futures Conference to be held in Calgary soon.





CX 2640

THE RIGHT TO HOUSING — A HUMAN RIGHT

Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission,
Rm. 802, Canterbury Towers, 224 — 4th Ave.,
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 5M5
(306) 664-5952

In February of 1982, the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission granted legal approval to the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation to design special programmes to increase adequate housing for Natives. According to statistics provided by the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation (SHC), only 11 per cent of Native people who need affordable housing presently have it. In response, the SHC has developed a five year plan which contains special measures to improve and expand housing opportunities for Native people. The plan projects that by 1985, 21.7 per cent of all housing units administered by SHC will be occupied by persons of Indian ancestry.

The proposal to provide housing specifically to meet the needs of persons of Indian ancestry was submitted to the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission for legal approval. Without legal approval, programmes which display a preference for a certain group of people run the risk of violating the provisions of *The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code*. However, the Human Rights Code provides for certain groups of people who have experienced disadvantages and inequities because of their race, sex, marital status, physical disability, etc.

In order to ensure that long term positive changes result from SHC's special programme, approval was subject to a number of conditions agreed to by SHC. Of particular interest is a condition which stipulates that all housing units designated as Section 40 housing under the National Housing Act, be turned over and administered by native non-profit organizations. In compliance with this condition plans are currently underway to transfer housing units to native organizations in a number of centres. SHC is also being required to develop a plan of action which will assess housing needs for persons with physical disabilities.

Although the legal approval given by the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission applies to a very small programme, it is significant because it is the first step toward ensuring that equal opportunities exist with respect to public housing in Saskatchewan.

CX 2641

DOWNTOWN CRISIS HOUSING FOUNDATION

1517 — 11th Ave., Regina, Saskatchewan
(306) 525-3591

To study the problem of suitable housing for socially and economically handicapped men in Regina and suggest action, a group of concerned citizens began meeting in 1979. In 1980, the DOWNTOWN CRISIS HOUSING FOUNDATION (DCHF) was organized as a formal step toward a solution. The group obtained assistance from Canada Mortgage and Housing (CMHC) and did a comprehensive study of the situation facing older men who live on low incomes or welfare in downtown Regina.

These men have lived simply and independently for many years in older hotels. They now face an extreme problem because most of the older hotels have been destroyed as the city core of Regina is being "revitalized". The men have no place to go. Other agencies like public housing or the Salvation Army are not the answer.

The CMHC-sponsored study recommended construction of a 30 — 50 unit hostel. Negotiations are now underway between CMHC (federal), Saskatchewan Housing Corporation (provincial) and the City of Regina. DCHF hopes a facility will be built soon with the participation of all three levels of government.

More information about the strategies used by DCHF is available from its office.



CX 2642

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE STUDYING RESIDENTIAL SERVICES IN SASKATCHEWAN WITH LONG-TERM PSYCHIATRIC ILLNESSES

The Mental Health Association in Saskatchewan,
1810 Albert St., Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 2S8
(306) 525-5601

33 Pages, 1982. Write for details.

A survey of existing residential services, gaps in services, and recommendations for the upgrading of residential facilities for persons with severe psychiatric illnesses in Saskatchewan.

CX 2643**WINNIPEG HOUSING CONCERNS GROUP, INC.****470 Stella Ave., Winnipeg, Man., R2W 2V1****(204) 589-8058**

The WINNIPEG HOUSING CONCERNS GROUP, INC. grew out of the frustration and anger of tenants and community workers who previously dealt with landlords, courts and the welfare system on a piecemeal basis. The WHCG now works collectively on education, support, and advocacy with low income people for adequate housing and has been assisted by Legal Aid counsel. Membership is .50 cents until incorporation fee is paid. Recent activities include delegations to the Law Amendments Committee of the Manitoba Legislature on the Rent Regulation Review Bill and Amendments to the Landlord and Tenants Act.

**Cityhome®****CX 2644****CITY OF TORONTO NON-PROFIT HOUSING CORPORATION (CITYHOME)****180 Dundas St. W., 14th Fl.,****Toronto, Ont., M5G 1Z8****(416) 367-7472**

The CITY OF TORONTO NON-PROFIT HOUSING CORPORATION (CITYHOME) and the Housing Department of the City of Toronto are large-scale land assemblers, diversified developers, and managers of rental accommodation in the City of Toronto. The Housing Department, directly responsible to City Council, acquires and assembles property and carries each project through the planning, design, and zoning process. CITYHOME, accountable to a Board of Directors consisting of the Mayor and six Members of Council, is responsible for construction and operations.

CITYHOME was established in 1974 to provide affordable rental accommodation for low and moderate income families and for the traditional inner-city "roomer". The housing stock for these two groups of urban renters was being drastically reduced by demolitions to make way for highrises (often luxury towers) and office complexes, and by "white-painters" moving into the city centre. Since 1974, CITYHOME has developed over 30 projects, a dozen of which are located in the downtown area. The projects include restored Victorian rowhouses and newly built or renovated low and medium-rise apartment buildings. All are designed to fit into existing neighbourhoods.

The option of building large public housing developments solely for low income families was rejected as "a disservice both to the people being 'helped' and

to the community at large". CITYHOME opted instead for mixed income projects. At least one-quarter of the units in each CITYHOME project are available to families, seniors, and individuals requiring rent-g geared-to-income housing. These tenants are charged approximately 25 per cent of gross monthly income. To be eligible for these units, applicants must be 60 years of age or older, have at least one dependent, and/or be disabled. One year residency in Ontario is also required. (As of November 1982, the waiting period for subsidized units is 1½ — 3 years, with over 3,000 people on the waiting list.) The remaining 75 per cent of CITYHOME units are rented at the lower end of market value.

CX 2645**FRED VICTOR MISSION:****A MODEL FOR LONG TERM COMMUNITIES****139 Jarvis St., Toronto, Ont., M5C 2H6****(416) 364-8228**

This mission of the United Church of Canada is situated in the downtown core of Toronto. For some time it has been making the distinction between "shelter" and "housing". The MISSION has opted to create long term housing while maintaining its traditional programmes which include a 120 bed hostel and 67 bed senior citizens home for men.

In the last six months mission staff, other skid row workers, and the men using the MISSION have created a model of long term housing. It is hoped that the model will be affordable for people living on social assistance as well as reproducible on a large scale by the MISSION and others in the community.

Some important factors in the model are:

- maximum privacy for individuals
- minimum anonymous space
- maximum choice and opportunity for individuals and groups to relate to each other or remain private.

Preliminary architectural drawings show a building with nine floors and a capacity for 77 beds in 17 units. Size and density limits are dictated by city zoning for the site being considered. Each floor will have one 4-bedroom and one 5-bedroom unit. Each unit will have its own kitchen and the units will share common lounge. Three kinds of staff functions are integral to the model:

- problem-focussed support for individuals, units, on floors provided by agencies and services in the community
- facilitative staff to raise issues and problems not articulated by residents
- administrative/landlord function.

The MISSION also produces a Spring and Fall Newsletter that analyses the current skid row scene and describes the MISSION's ongoing response.

CX 2646

HOUSELINK COMMUNITY HOMES

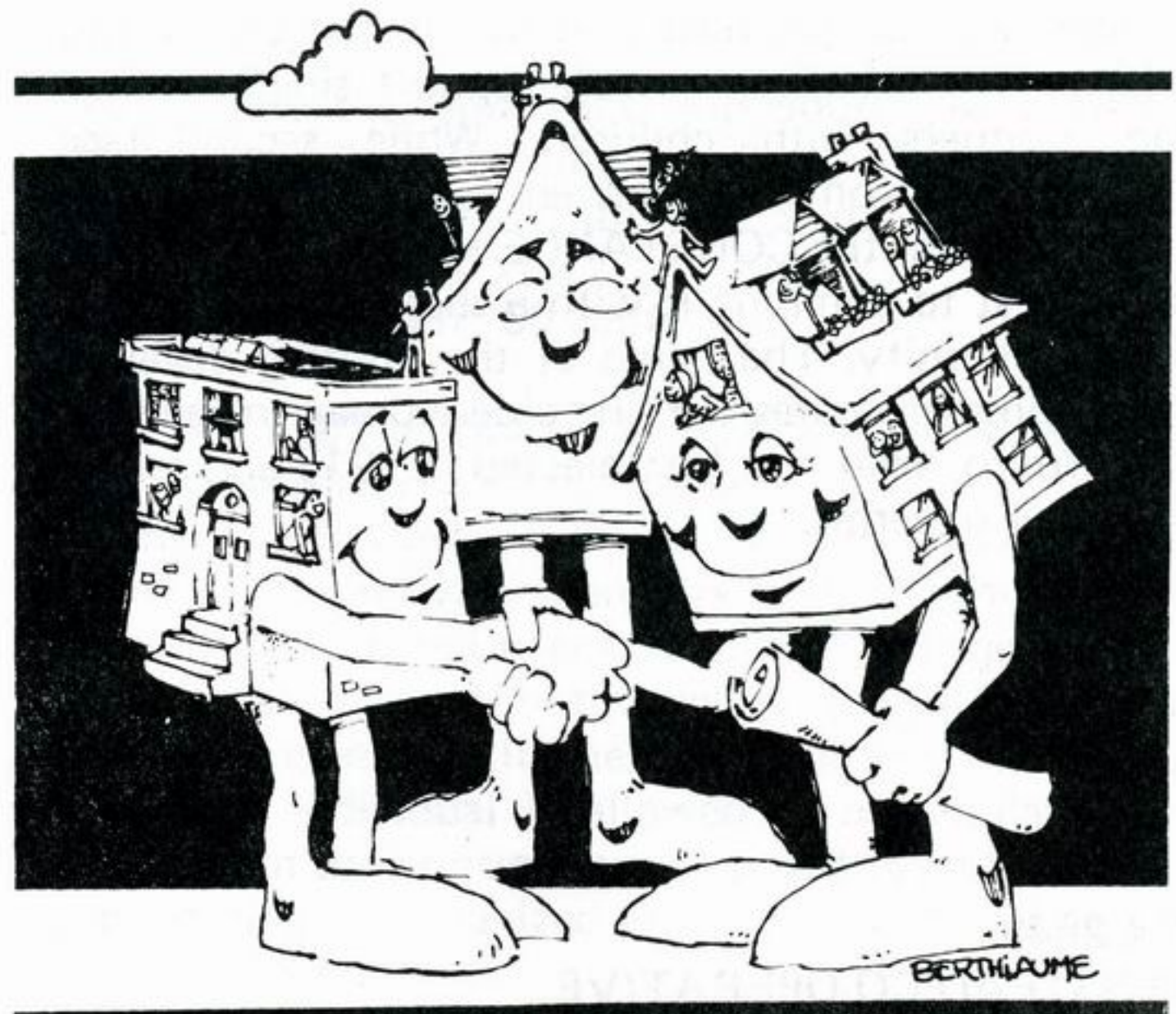
509 Bloor St. W., Toronto, Ont., M5S 1Y2

HOUSELINK COMMUNITY HOMES is the largest community-based alternative housing programme in Ontario. Developed as a non-profit volunteer organization in 1976, HOUSELINK develops and supports self-financed, unstaffed, affordable co-operative housing for people who have received psychiatric treatment. Currently the organization operates twelve co-ed, co-operative apartments, townhouses, and houses across Metropolitan Toronto. Each co-operative accommodates four or five people who establish their own house rules and choose their own house-mates. Residents may stay as long as they choose. Support is available to each co-operative from a volunteer house co-ordinator. Volunteers are selected for their ability to relate to people and be a friend. Their role is not that of an interventionist. Rather, they seek to foster and facilitate the independence of the house through social visits and house meetings.

HOUSELINK employs seven full-time staff who are selected on the basis of their commitment to alternative services and their experience in the mental health field. The organization is operated by its membership, which includes all current and former residents and other interested individuals who believe in the HOUSELINK objectives. At monthly open meetings, members are invited to raise, discuss, and make recommendations on policy matters to the Board of Directors. The Board is composed of 14 people, one third of whom must be resident, ex-patient members.

Unlike many other housing programmes, but consistent with HOUSELINK'S belief in residents' right to make their own decisions, HOUSELINK does not insist that its residents be involved in day-time activities. HOUSELINK believes that peer accountability and support, together with a feeling of personal autonomy are more positive motivators than agency rules and regulations. HOUSELINK does provide a social recreational programme, offering a variety of activities, which are planned and implemented by a committee comprised of residents and members.

HOUSELINK hopes to develop about eight more units by 1985. Consistent with the organization's commitment to co-operative housing, it is seeking to create some of these new units within larger co-operative development projects in Toronto. HOUSELINK has also purchased housing with assistance from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.



CX 2647

CONSTANCE HAMILTON CO-OPERATIVE

C/O The Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto
299 Queen St. W.

Toronto, Ont.

The CONSTANCE HAMILTON CO-OP is a newly-opened housing co-operative for women in Toronto. A key element of the housing complex is the inclusion of communal-style second-stage housing for women in transition. The combination will provide women moving beyond crisis situations with the support of a permanently-established community and the opportunity for contact with other women who are managing their lives and can serve as role models.

Planning for the 31-unit co-operative began in 1980, in response to the concern of a Toronto alderwoman about how to best provide housing for women once they leave emergency shelters or hostels. The stacked townhouses are built as three sides of a square around a central park area. One corner of complex contains the communal house, which has bedrooms for six women and additional sleeping space in the lounge areas to accommodate visits from children or friends. The units in the co-op were designed using input from prospective residents who wanted "a sense of community and some flexibility built into the layouts so that people could share or co-exist comfortably if they had to", according to the group's architect. One unique feature is the switching of living-rooms and kitchens in the design, so that the latter are near the front door. The women saw this as a way of enabling them to dispose of groceries conveniently.

About 25 per cent of the one, two and three bedroom units in the co-op will be subsidized, and there is already a waiting list for those units. Residents of the communal house will pay a shelter allowance, or 25 per cent of their income. The house will be staffed.

Men will be permitted to live in the co-op, but priority will be given to sole-support single women and mothers with children. While second-stage housing for women has been established in other urban centres, the CONSTANCE HAMILTON CO-OP is the first to combine it with a surrounding supportive community. The name of the housing development commemorates the first alderwoman in the City of Toronto, who was first elected in 1919 and served a number of terms.

CX 2648

INNSTEAD CO-OPERATIVE

126 Hiawatha Rd., Toronto., Ont.

(416) 469-4995

This co-op is unique in Canada in that it operates on the basis of an internal subsidy/surcharge system for rental payments. At present, about half of the units in the co-op are subsidized. While that system is consistent with members' emphasis upon egalitarianism and the sharing of material goods, it is no longer in accordance with government regulations governing housing co-ops. Continuance of the INNSTEAD programme represents a direct challenge to government policy since 1979.

INNSTEAD housing co-op is comprised of 67 units in 45 renovated and energy-efficient houses, scattered throughout an old working-class neighborhood in Toronto.

Members of INNSTEAD are currently re-evaluating their policies. One concern is that, while the co-op wishes to house as many low-income families as possible, there are limits to how much of their disposable income other members may be willing to share specifically in this way. Also at issue is whether the use of gross income is the most appropriate measure of "need" in determining subsidization, since some individuals may be only temporarily poor (e.g. students) or have voluntarily chosen poverty. The raising of such issues reflects similar dilemmas faced by other collectives who endeavor to translate their egalitarian philosophies into action.

CX 2649

THE BATTLE OF BEECH HALL

28-min. 16 mm colour film

Sales: 133 Wilton St., Suite 324

Toronto, Ont. M5A 4A4

Rentals: 56 Sparks St., Suite 401, Ottawa, Ont.

The events depicted in this film began when without warning politicians in Toronto's Borough of York decided to phase out Beech Hall, a subsidized seniors' apartment complex, to make way for a new development. The residents, some in their 80's and 90's, were asked to vacate the premises. But the surprised politicians soon discovered that it would take more than an eviction notice to oust the residents of Beech Hall.

THE BATTLE OF BEECH HALL documents the determined struggle by these seniors to save their homes, a struggle that led to the creation of the city's first housing co-operative for seniors.

THE BATTLE OF BEECH HALL challenges our perceptions of old people and calls into question conventional government approaches to treating the housing the elderly. The struggle waged by the Beech Hall seniors demonstrates dramatically how co-operative housing can provide an important alternative that not only helped these seniors save their homes, but also satisfies their basic demands for respect, independence, and community.

CX 2650

BLEECKER STREET

E. Kolompar, R. Astley, and J. Marshall

25 min., 16 mm. black and white film.

Available from DEC Films,

427 Bloor St. W., Toronto, Ont., M5S 1X7

(416) 964-6901

Through the courts, through City Hall, and out into the streets, the residents of Blecker Street, a poor working class neighbourhood in Toronto, carried the battle to save their homes. Meridian Development Corporation, with the help of the police and City Hall, eventually won and the residents were evicted. BLEECKER STREET documents their strength and perseverance and contains lessons for those engaged in similar struggles.

Available for rental or sale throughout Canada from DEC Films. Price list available upon request: approximate range \$30 to \$60 for rentals.



CX 2651

LANTANA NON-PROFIT HOMES CORPORATION
761 Queen St. W., Toronto, Ont., M6J 1G1

This corporation provides consultative expertise and project management skills on a contractual basis to groups seeking to organize and build co-operative housing. It has development branches in the following areas:

- architecture and new construction
- renovations
- member education, self management
- administration and finance.



CX 2652

WINDSOR COALITION FOR DEVELOPMENT
797 Giles Blvd. E., Windsor, Ont., N9A 4E5
(519) 258-4501

This coalition of United Church people and Roman Catholics was formed in 1970. Initially it created a home repairs service as a response to the difficulty poor people were having in finding and maintaining themselves in adequate, affordable housing.

The COALITION also established educational programmes related to housing such as a Public Forum series one of which discussed guaranteed annual income. Teach-ins on poverty and justice were also held in schools. Most recently a Third World Resource Centre was created whose purpose is education and action on international poverty.

In 1977, the COALITION became involved in the purchase of housing for non-profit rental. It now houses 150 people in 64 units (duplexes and two small apartment buildings) in downtown Windsor. A management committee of tenants, accountable to a board of directors, is responsible for the care of these properties.

For its next project the COALITION hopes to establish a small-scale food outlet for the purchase of food on a non-profit basis.

CX 2653

HEBDO-CO-OP

newsletter of the Montreal Co-op Housing Movement
4338 rue des Erables, Montreal, Que., H2H 2C5
English edition: 137 — 45th Ave., Suite 3
Lachine, Que., H8T 2L8
24 pages. July 1982. 50 cents.

The July, 1982 edition of HEBDO-CO-OP is a special issue on housing co-ops in Quebec.

The main objective of rental housing co-ops in Quebec is to provide members with housing which meets their financial needs. Members manage the co-op themselves, usually through a general assembly meeting of members. In these self-managed co-ops, no one single individual is allowed to accumulate any equity from the housing, nor to profit from the rents. The housing is recognized as a basic right and necessity, not a commodity.

Until the late '60's, housing co-ops in Quebec were more often than not simply construction co-ops whose activities would stop once the houses were build.

In 1967, with the creation of the Societe D'Habitation du Quebec (SHQ — the Quebec Housing Corporation), the co-op movement changed. La Federation Co-op Habitat was set up to build non-profit rental co-ops on a large scale, thereby creating a new kind of housing co-op.

The co-op housing movement has grown considerably in the past couple of years; more than three hundred co-ops have formed all over the province. Early on in their history, these new co-ops felt the need for common action in order to react more effectively to the different government programmes. The co-ops also wanted to exchange services and pool their experiences. At a provincial assembly held at Lac Sergent in October, 1979, the co-ops agreed that the development of the Quebec Housing co-op movement should depend on legally incorporated regional organizations. In April, 1982, the Department of Financial and Co-operative Institutions gave the organization a subsidy in order to hire a staff person to develop the regional federation. More information about these regional organizations can be obtained from the publication.



CX 2654

LES COOPERATIVE D'HABITATION

Confédération des Syndicats Nationaux (CSN)

1001 rue St.-Denis, Montréal, Qué.

24 pages. dec., 1980.

"Ce dossier d'inscrit dans une série de documents qui se proposent de soulever des débats sur les "points chauds" concernant le logement et l'environnement. Ces documents publiés par la Confédération des Syndicats Nationaux (CSN) collaborent à l'élaboration de plates-formes de revendications et à développer des actions communes en solidarité avec les groupes populaires actifs sur ces fronts.

La solution de la coopérative d'habitation a toujours soulevé des débats majeurs chez les groupes préoccupés par la question du logement. Pour certains, c'est la seule solution actuellement aux problèmes de logement des travailleurs. Pour d'autres, c'est un choix parmi plusieurs dont la co-propriété alors que pour d'autres, cette solution est considérée comme une "fausse piste drainant beaucoup d'énergies sans espoir de grands résultats".

Il est essentiel de clarifier au départ ce qu'est la coopérative d'habitation. Dans une coopérative, la propriété appartient à un collectif, que les membres habitent ou non la propriété. Les logements sont donc loués par la coopérative et les membres ne peuvent y faire de profits. On confond souvent cette formule avec celle de la co-propriété, formule qui consiste à acheter un logement dans une propriété partagée par plusieurs acheteurs.

Les coop, sont largement subventionnées et pour louer leurs logements à des taux abordables, elles doivent utiliser au maximum ces subventions, ce qui crée évidemment une dépendance. A qui s'adresse cette formule? Qui en bénéficie? Présente-t-elle vraiment une solution à la crise actuelle? Plusieurs exemples sont présentés dans le dossier et visent à donner les éléments qui permettront aux travailleurs de choisir "leur" solution au problème du logement.

CX 2655

SOCIETE DU PATRIMOINE DE MONTREAL

3514 Park Ave., Montréal, Qué. H2X 2H7

or Montreal City Mission (United Church),

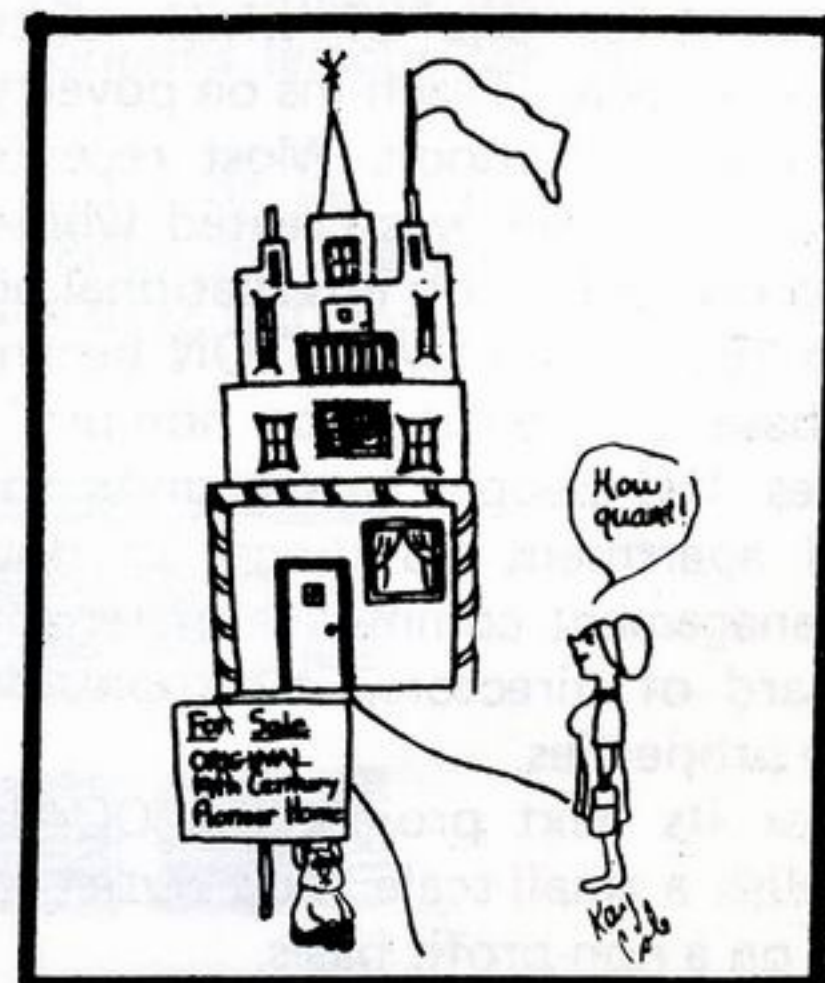
3700 Dominique St., Montréal, Qué., H2X 2X7

Write for details.

In May 1979, a contract was signed in Montreal which saw CMHC (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation) buy some 700 commercial and residential units in the downtown area to be turned over to the nearly 2,000 residents on a collective, non-profit basis. This act was the direct outcome of a long and often bitter fight between citizens and developers going back to the 1960's.

The contract was signed with SPUM (Société du Patrimoine de Montréal) in which CMHC recognized SPUM as the organization which would hold the properties on an interim basis as they are turned over to residents in the form of co-ops and non-profit housing corporations. Among the goals and objectives of the project are that no resident will have to move because of economic reasons, that properties will be owned and administered on a non-profit basis, and that ultimate control will be in the hands of the residents. Another important goal is to provide for the renovation of all houses, using various government subsidy programmes.

One particular model being used to address the housing needs of the elderly in the area is that of an o.s.b.l. (non-profit housing corporation). At present, several community groups, churches and agencies are co-sponsoring such a project at 3555 and 3565 Jeanne Mance Street, an older three storey apartment building that will be renovated into fifty-four 1½ and 2½ room apartments. A full range of amenities designed for the elderly will be incorporated into the renovations. This initiative is seen as a significant step in providing an alternative to the present trend of the "white painters" (middle class returning to the central city) pushing the elderly out of their homes and neighbourhoods.



CX 2656

**MONTREAL CITY MISSION —
McDONALD HOUSE**

3700 rue St-Dominic, Montreal, Que.
(514) 844-9128

MONTREAL CITY MISSION provides space and one staff person for a Drop-in Centre for residents of the area of Parc St-Louis where rooming houses predominate. Accommodation for single roomers is dwindling as speculators, "single family white painters", and housing co-operatives renovate this area of downtown Montreal.



CX 2657

THE YELLOW DOOR/LA PORTE JAUNE
3625 rue Aylmer, Montréal, Qué., H2X 2C3
(514) 392-6742

LA CORPORATION D'HABITATION PORT has rooming houses and apartment accommodations for the elderly and handicapped in six renovated housing units in downtown Montreal.

CX 2658

THE UNACKNOWLEDGED HOUSING FORM
Le Conseil de Développement de Logement Communautaire (CDLC)
2623 rue Rushbrooke, Montréal, Qué., H3K 1T5
(514) 931-4277

Contains the most current information about the availability of accommodations in Montreal for single people on a fixed income.

CX 2659

LE PETIT GUIDE DU CHAMBREUR
Ass. des chambreurs du Centre-ville
1199 rue de Bleury, Suite 200,
Montréal, Qué., H3B 3J1
(514) 866-5761
16 pages, free.

This 16 page booklet is an informative guide for rooming house tenants in Montreal. It outlines tenant rights, their recourse to action if their landlord has treated them unjustly and outlines what to expect when looking for a room to live in when on a fixed income.

CX 2660

**OU-VONT LES CHAMBREURS EXPULSES DU
CENTRE-VILLE?**

Josée Carignon, Lucie Hurtbise, Caroline Tard,
Diane Vinet,
Ecole de Service Social, Université de Montréal,
Montreal, Que.,
Available from: Ass. des Chambreurs du Centre-Ville
1199 rue de Bleury, Suite 200,
Montréal, Qué., H3H 3H1
(514) 866-5761

This document explores the question of what happens to roomers in Montreal when the rooming houses are being renovated by speculators, single families and housing co-operatives.

CX 2661

**PROJECT D'UNE RESIDENCE POUR LES
FEMMES PRIVEES D'ARETONOMIC
OU EN PERTE D'ANTONOMIC**
Les Maisons de l'Ancre Inc.
Le Réseau d'Aide, 2558 rue Charland,
Montréal, Qué.

CX 2662

PLANS/MEGANNEWS SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT
Community Planning Association of Canada (CPAC)
Nova Scotia Division
Box 211, Halifax, N.S. B3J 2M4

PLANS is a monthly newspaper published by the Community Planning Association of Canada (CPAC), Nova Scotia Division. It includes a monthly update of CPAC's activities, feature articles, and upcoming events.

PLANS' May 1982 issue contained the first "Meganews Special Supplement". A lead article points out that "most mega projects are energy projects aimed at achieving the National Energy Program (NEP) goal of Canadian self-sufficiency in oil by

1990." The NEP says: "As for opportunity, the Atlantic Region, long disadvantaged in a number of ways, stands on the verge of an economic boom — oil and gas, electricity and coal — that could provide the basis for new sustainable prosperity." The supplements are aimed at raising questions and concerns about mega projects, to present information, and to share viewpoints and opinions.

One article in the supplement, "No Room in the Boom", focusses on the growing housing shortage in Nova Scotia. The influx of mega projects will be accompanied by an influx of many people which Nova Scotia in general, and Halifax in particular, are ill-prepared to meet. A desirable apartment vacancy rate is 3 — 4 per cent, but at the end of October, 1981, CMHC estimated a 0.5 per cent vacancy rate in the Metro area in apartment buildings with six units or more. They also pointed out that: "due to the lead time necessary in constructing apartment buildings, it will be several years before the vacancy situation eases in the Metropolitan area." Furthermore, there has been a significant drop in the number of semi detached, duplex and row starts, as well as an "alarming" drop in the number of apartment unit starts. CMHC's *Nova Scotia Quarterly Review* for February, 1982 suggests that there will be "a narrowing of the gap between the costs of home ownership and rental, through rental increases escalating at a rate higher than home ownership costs."

Another article, "Tenants Organize in Boomtown" discusses the upswing in organized tenant activities. The Metro Area Tenants Union (MATU) was recently formed, and represents over 75,000 tenants.



CX 2663

YOUR HOUSING OPTIONS

C/O St. Francis Xavier Extension Dept.

Coady Building, Antigonish, N.S.

In co-operation with the Nova Scotia Housing Commission, Canada Mortgage & Housing Commission.

4 Pages. July, 1981. Write for details.

YOUR HOUSING OPTIONS is a brochure intended to assist Nova Scotians in better understanding and utilizing the housing options that are presently available. Federal and provincial housing programmes which offer assistance in meeting housing needs are outlined, as well as agencies involved in local areas.

There are home repair programmes such as Urban RRAP and Rural RRAP which offer grants and loans at lower interest rates to homeowners, non-profit corporations and co-operatives. Up to \$10,000 may be borrowed, and depending on family income, part of the loan may not have to be repaid (to a maximum of \$3,750). A programme for the handicapped was also being proposed. Other repair programmes are aimed at energy conservation and include the "Home Insulation Loan Programme" and the "Heat Conversion Programme". Further information is available from NSHC.

"New Housing Programmes" lists all the programmes available to assist families and co-operatives lease-purchase, build, or buy residences, from single-family dwellings to apartment buildings. There are also mortgage programmes and insured mortgages available.

Rental programmes include "Family Public Housing", "Senior Citizens Rental Housing", "Private Rental Accommodations", and "Special Care Housing".

CX 2664

HOUSING FOR PEOPLE COALITION

C/O Joanne Lamey, Executive Director,

Community Planning Association of Canada

Nova Scotia Division, Box 211 Halifax, N.S.

(902) 422-5564

Write for details.

The HOUSING FOR PEOPLE COALITION is a newly formed group which planned a series of workshops for this fall, intended to make people more aware of why there is a housing crisis, and to explore some possible solutions.

A report from this series of workshops will be available soon. Contact Joanne Lamey at the above address.

CX 2665
NON PROFIT CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING
FEDERATION OF NOVA SCOTIA
P.O. Box 9000, 6074 Lady Hammond Rd.,
Halifax, N.S.
(902) 453-4220
Write for details.

The NON PROFIT CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING FEDERATION OF NOVA SCOTIA began in 1979, and presently includes 35 co-operatives. There is a fear among resource groups and housing co-operatives that CMHC may cut this programme, thereby removing any alternative to renting.

The FEDERATION's present goal is the development of a strong federation which can stimulate discussion among co-operatives and develop policies which represent their interests.

Present activities include:

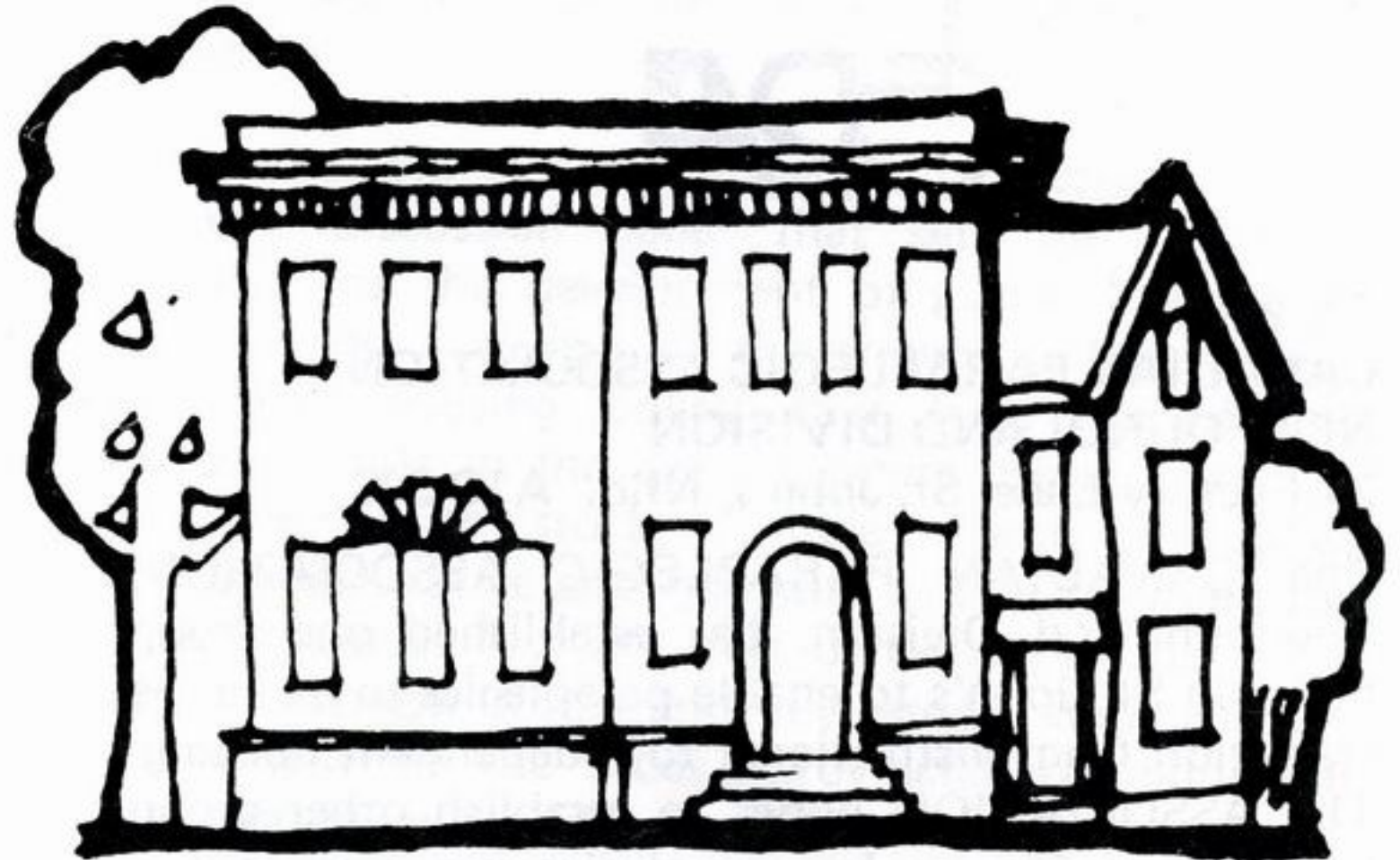
1. Making representations to the Nova Scotia Rent Review Commission to exclude non-profit housing from rent review;
2. Develop a list of courses available on house maintenance and furnace repair;
3. Researching the possibility of negotiating a bulk oil deal with Co-op Atlantic;
4. Carrying out an ongoing organizing drive to get all non-profit housing co-operatives in Nova Scotia to become members of the FEDERATION.

CX 2666
SOCIAL HOUSING ASSOCIATION OF
CAPE BRETON
P.O. Box 5, 188 George St., Sydney, N.S. B1P 6G9
(902) 539-4602

This non-profit association was formed in 1970 to provide decent housing to large, low-income families. Since then, 165 units of housing have been purchased in all local municipalities in the industrial area of Cape Breton (as well as in the outlying municipal areas). The emphasis has been on rehabilitation of existing buildings versus new construction.

The SOCIAL HOUSING ASSOCIATION OF CAPE BRETON retains the deed to the newly purchased home, with CMHC holding the first mortgage. The family, when able to pay off the balance of mortgage and other outstanding costs, are deeded the property directly. A tenant-purchase agreement with the family at the time of occupancy guarantees that they shall acquire equity in the properties and shall purchase them for the balance of the mortgage. Families assume the properties initially as owners and as such are required to maintain and care for the properties occupied. The families assume the responsibility to pay the principle and interest on the mortgage along with taxes, insurance and utility costs.

The cost of subsidy required under this programme is far less than that experienced through government subsidized programmes. The association provides services to families over and above the provision of the basic house (e.g. debt counselling). The costs of these services are not recognized by CMHC and as a result no subsidy is available to this programme. While demand for such housing is high, delays in bureaucratic processes and the lack of government subsidization has placed the continuation of this programme in jeopardy.



CX 2667
NEW DAWN ENTERPRISES LTD.
P.O. Box 1055, Sydney, Cape Breton B1P 6H7

NEW DAWN ENTERPRISES, founded in 1976, is a form of community development corporation working to find practical solutions to both economic and social problems in Cape Breton. In seeking to mobilize government and voluntary resources within a non-profit framework, NEW DAWN has subdivided itself into several related organizations which deal with different problems. NEW DAWN lists three criteria for initiating a project: Is there a real need not being met? Are the resources available to get the job done? Will the project contribute to a comprehensive development of the community?

One important area that NEW DAWN has tackled is housing. The Cape Breton Association for Co-op Development, a company of NEW DAWN ENTERPRISES, owns eighteen residential buildings in Sydney, Glace Bay, and New Waterford. These comprise 78 apartments and/or single family units, 24 of which are new. They are also in the process of constructing new buildings that will have at least 50

apartments. A separate project houses 27 senior citizens, and a group home for former mental patients. Another NEW DAWN housing-initiated project was a grant-funded programme which provided free labour for home repairs to senior citizens, with a total of 300 homes being repaired.

NEW DAWN's motto is "Business for People", symbolizing their belief that control of NEW DAWN's operations should rest with those for whom they are intended — "the people of the community". "Who is better qualified", asks NEW DAWN, "to define the needs of their community than the citizens themselves?"



CX 2668

**CANADIAN PARAPLEGIC ASSOCIATION,
NEWFOUNDLAND DIVISION**
21 Factory Lane, St. John's, Nfld. A1C 3J8

The CANADIAN PARAPLEGIC ASSOCIATION, Newfoundland Division, has established one group home in St. John's to enable paraplegics to make the transition from institutional to independent housing. The ASSOCIATION hopes to establish other group homes as residences for paraplegics requiring continuing services, and is presently seeking funding for this purpose.

CX 2669

DIRECTORY OF CO-OPERATIVES

Potential Co-op Society

C/O Ottawa Federation of Housing Co-ops,
251 Bank St., Suite 303, Ottawa, Ont. K2P 1X3

An informative booklet on co-operatives of all kinds.

CX 2670

**URBAN CORE SUPPORT NETWORK ANNUAL
CONFERENCE, 1982: THE DISAPPEARANCE OF
AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR PEOPLE ON
THE MARGINS**

C/O Larry Peterson, 147 Queen S E.
Toronto, Ont., M5A 1S1

The URBAN CORE SUPPORT NETWORK is made up of individuals and groups in cities across Canada who share a commitment to support each other in the empowerment of people on the margins of society. The NETWORK is linked through its Newsletter (published four times a year) and annual conferences.

The 1982 Conference, held in Toronto in October, focussed on the disappearance of affordable housing. More than 70 men and women from thirteen urban centres participated. As they shared local concerns, several common themes emerged. The rooming houses or cheap hotels which provide affordable accommodation to the poorest are being lost without being replaced. New expressways, shopping centres, commercial complexes, and condominium developments have resulted in demolitions. The "gentrification" of urban core areas and "whitepainting" has meant that buildings which once housed up to ten individuals in rooms now house only one couple or family. Affordable apartments have also been lost through condominium conversions or luxury renovations which place them far above the means of their former tenants. These units have not been replaced as developers find condominium construction more profitable than the building of moderate or low income rental units. Furthermore, the increase in rents, without accompanying increases in welfare, disability, or old age pensions, leaves many unable to purchase enough food.

As more and more men and women find themselves on the streets, many governments and social services are proposing more hostels and emergency shelters. They do not recognize that the homeless need permanent homes. At the Conference, participants discussed various long-term responses to the housing crisis. Workgroups focussed on non-profit housing corporations, co-operative housing for ex-mental patients, residences for alcoholics, the design and development of supportive communities, strategies for the support of people in rooming houses, and policy and funding issues. A keynote speaker presented an overview of the factors affecting the housing crisis and reflected on various local, provincial, and national strategy options for improving the situation of the homeless. A Conference Report containing the findings of the workgroups and the keynote address is available.



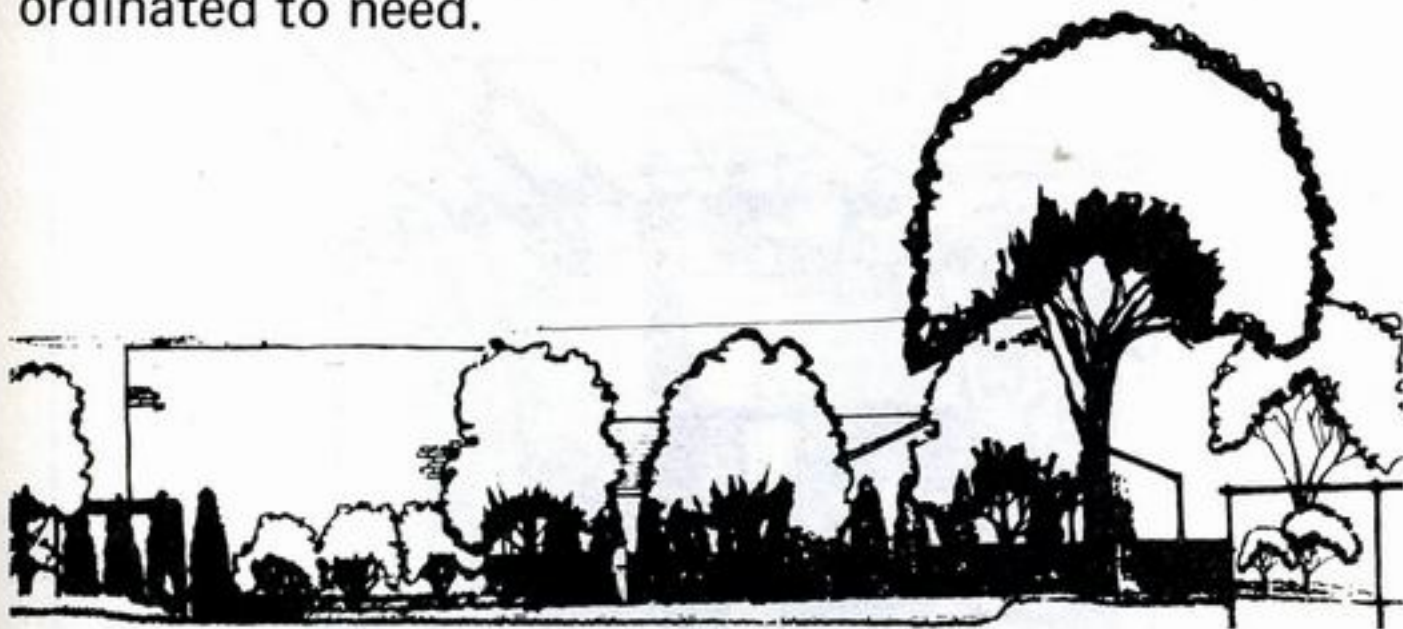
CX 2671

CANADIAN COUNCIL ON SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT

55 Parkdale, Box 3505, Station C,
Ottawa, Ont., K1Y 4G1
(613) 728-1865

Both income supplementation programmes directed toward shelter expenditure, and government intervention on the supply side to ensure affordable housing, are needed, says the CANADIAN COUNCIL ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (CCSD). Current problems of affordability, allocation, and accessibility of housing are related in part to demographic changes and patterns of mobility. The COUNCIL therefore calls for greater flexibility in government programming and provision of a broader range of support services to see individuals through changes in life situations (aging, changes in health, marital status, family size, work location) and associated changes in personal finances, since these changes may threaten security of tenure.

Traditionally, intervention in the housing market has been used by government as a means of developing and regulating the Canadian economy and stimulating employment. The COUNCIL suggests that future government policy should emphasize housing as a basic human need and that the commodity and investment aspects of housing must be clearly subordinated to need.



In *Social Policies for the Eighties* issued in November, 1981, the CCSD documents the shifts which have occurred during the past decade in Canadian housing policies and programmes. Although these changes have favored homeowners at the expense of renters, the actual number of Canadians gaining access to home ownership was only marginally increased. Renters still comprise 37 — 40 per cent of the total population. Women heading households make up nearly 63 per cent of that renter population.

Other CCSD materials on housing include: "The Future of Public Housing" (November, 1982); the June 1982, issue of their magazine *Perception*; the recently-issued *Credit, A Mortgage for Life* which has chapters on shelter debt; and results of a symposium on "Is Government Home Ownership Assistance the Way to Go?". The COUNCIL also co-sponsored a symposium on "The Rental Housing Market and Housing Allowances" in October, 1982.

CX 2671A

THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC HOUSING

Janet McClain, Canadian Council on
Social Development
55 Parkdale, Box 3505, Station C
Ottawa, Ont., K1Y 4G1
(613) 728-1865

In the last few years, government involvement in public housing has reached a record low level of production with most provinces suspending activity altogether. The cost of subsidy and maintenance of existing public housing stock has now come into question, as well as how to accommodate an increasing demand for public housing (or the equivalent) if price levels continue to rise in the private rental market.

The structure of this project is to prepare a major Council discussion paper that sets the historical context for the development of public housing in Canada and a review of the trends in federal and provincial housing policy that have altered this historical role in the last ten years. Background information on the stock, clientele, operating subsidies and administrative arrangements will be provided for each province. A major part of the paper will focus on the current status and key issues relating to re-investment in the stock, provincial vs. municipal jurisdiction, eligibility requirements, tenant-management problems, etc. The status of Canadian public housing will also be placed in the context of recent changes in the U.S. and Great Britain.

To expand the base of published material, a standard set of questions has been developed to be asked through telephone interviews and by mail that will document current provincial and local housing authorities policies and procedures.

Over the last 15 years, the Council has written reports, discussion papers and held conferences that focussed on development and improvement of public housing. The Council has established a position of supporting this social housing programme which still provides the most comprehensive housing support to seniors, single parents and the working poor as part of a package of government-sponsored housing programmes to meet the needs of communities.

It is likely that the conclusions and recommendations of this paper will draw considerable interest and attention as the paper is due for completion at approximately the same time as the report of the evaluation of CMHC social housing programmes. Similarly, internal examination of the operations of public housing is underway in most provinces.

CX 2672

NO FIXED ADDRESS:

THE HOUSING CRISIS IN CANADA

Development Education Centre

427 Bloor St. W., Toronto, Ont., M5S 1X7

(416) 964-6901

31 min. slide-tape show

Canadian real-estate advertisements continue to promote the dream of home ownership, despite the fact that relatively few detached, single-family dwellings are being built today. This dream of land and a home of one's own has not always existed in North America. **NO FIXED ADDRESS** shows Canada's Native people had a completely different relationship to land and shelter. "How can you buy and sell the land? The idea is strange to us," one Chief said.

New immigrants to North America, faced with land enclosure and high unemployment in Europe, were attracted by ads promising land and shelter for all. But the process of industrialization forced a separation between home and the workplace. Houses came to be treated as a commodity which could be bought and sold in the marketplace.

What can we do about the present housing crisis? As the slide show suggests, "Those of us who feel we have a right to decent, affordable housing will want to examine alternatives and look at new initiatives." Alternatives are suggested through interviews with people who are members of either tenants' organizations or housing co-operatives. The new initiatives include suggestions for neighbourhood control over decisions affecting the financing, planning, and construction of housing in the particular area.

NO FIXED ADDRESS is available for rental or sale throughout Canada from DEC Films. Price list is available on request: approximate range for rentals range from \$15 to \$30.

CX 2673

**DIRECTORY OF HOUSING CO-OPERATIVES
AND RESOURCE GROUPS**

Co-operative Housing Foundation of Canada

56 Sparks St., Suite 401

Ottawa, Ont., K1P 5A9

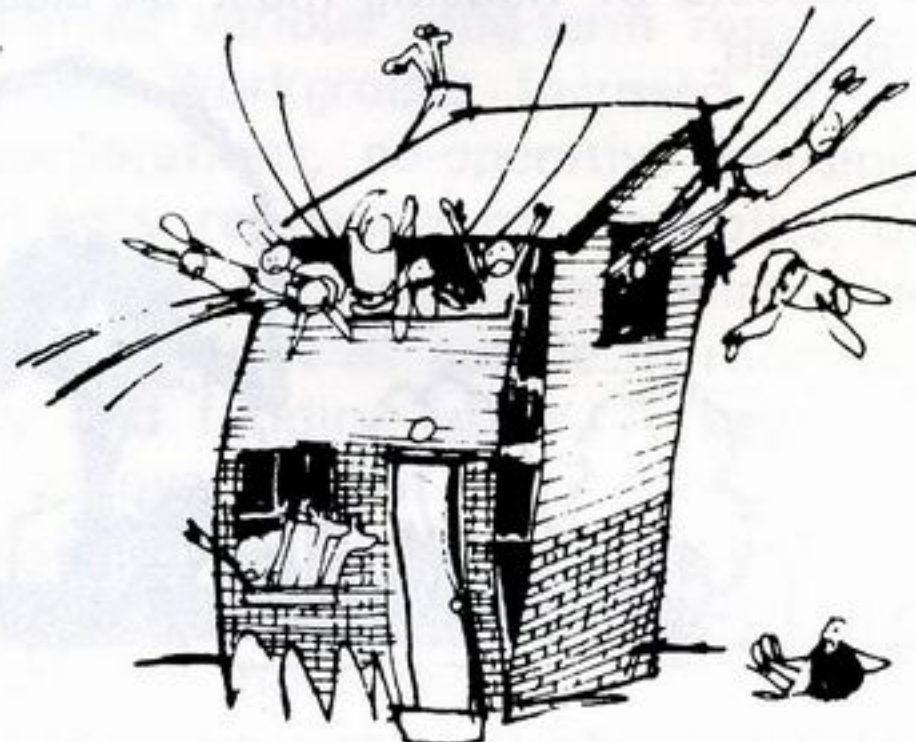
(613) 238-4644

If you are considering starting a housing co-operative as a solution to the housing crunch, you have the advantage of being able to draw on the expertise of resource groups across the country who specialize in providing assistance to aspiring co-operatives. Most of these local and regional resource groups are affiliated with the Co-operative Housing Foundation of Canada, which maintains an up-to-date listing of them. If you are unfamiliar with the resource groups in your area, contact the Foundation, which will be able to provide you with the information.

Some of the resource groups listed concentrate only on starting new co-operatives; others are federations or associations of existing co-operatives, (such as Nova Scotia's Access Housing Services, and co-operative Housing Foundation of Saskatchewan, B.C., Ottawa, and Toronto), some both service existing co-operatives and help start new ones.

The resource groups operate as consultants to people seeking to start housing co-operatives, and also have available a wide variety of printed and other resource materials relating to all aspects of co-operatives.

The Co-operative Housing Foundation of Toronto, a typical example, has the following manuals available: "How to Run a Housing Co-op: A Board of Directors Manual"; "Financial Management for Co-operative Housing"; "Maintaining Our Homes: A Guide to Maintenance for Housing Co-ops"; "Getting It All Together: A Sample Member Handbook"; "An Overview of Co-op Housing"; and "How To Do Leaflets, Newsletters and Newspapers". The Foundation also publishes a pamphlet promoting Co-op Housing, entitled "Co-operative Housing, An Alternative". In addition, one- and two-day courses are offered on topics such as accounting, leadership skills, member orientation, technical maintenance, and directing and evaluating management personnel. Current co-op news is published in a regular newsletter, *The Circuit*.



CX 2674

**CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING FOUNDATION
OF CANADA**

56 Sparks St., Suite 401,

Ottawa, Ont., K1P 5A9

(613) 238-4644

The CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING FOUNDATION is the national organization of housing co-operatives in Canada, established so that co-operatives could pool resources and speak with a national voice. The FOUNDATION attempts to implement policy adopted at annual and executive meetings on a national level, and provides services such as research memos and longer research bulletins on topics related to housing. (A current list of CHF research materials is available from their Ottawa office.) Two newsletters are also produced by the FOUNDATION: *From the Rooftops* and *Co-observations*.

CX 2675

**HANDBOOK OF ALTERNATIVE COMMUNITY
HOUSING FOR PSYCHIATRIC PATIENTS
IN CANADA**

Prepared by Houselink Community Homes,
Available from The Canadian Mental Health Association.
2160 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont., M4S 2H8

CX 2676

**THIS LAND IS WHOSE LAND?
THE HOUSING SQUEEZE**

Division of Mission in Canada,
United Church of Canada
85 St. Clair Ave. E., Toronto, Ont., M4T 1M8
16 pages. April, 1982. Write for details.

Provides a description and analysis of the housing
system in Canada. Groups and resources are listed.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CX 2677

**THE NICARAGUAN LITERACY CRUSADE,
SECOND WAR OF LIBERATION**

A collective project by Canadian Action for
Nicaragua. P.O. Box 398, Station E., Toronto, Ont.
60 pages. 1982. Write for details.

THE NICARAGUAN LITERACY CRUSADE, SECOND WAR OF LIBERATION celebrates in words and photos the success of this campaign. Sections of the booklet focus on Nicaragua's leaders, workers, peasants, neighborhoods, women, and youth.

The authors point out how the literacy crusade grew out of the liberation struggle begun in 1927, by General Augusto Cesar Sandino. Throughout his struggle, Sandino had sought ways to improve his people's social and economic development. He set up co-operatives for agricultural production and created a special department in his army for adult education. In the early 1960's the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) continued the struggle for both literacy and liberation. After the National Literacy Crusade, Nicaragua's illiteracy rate was reduced from 50 per cent to 13 per cent. By contrast, the authors indicate that in Honduras and Guatemala illiteracy is well above 50 per cent; in Brazil it is 40 per cent; in India 72 per cent; and in Peru 40 per cent.

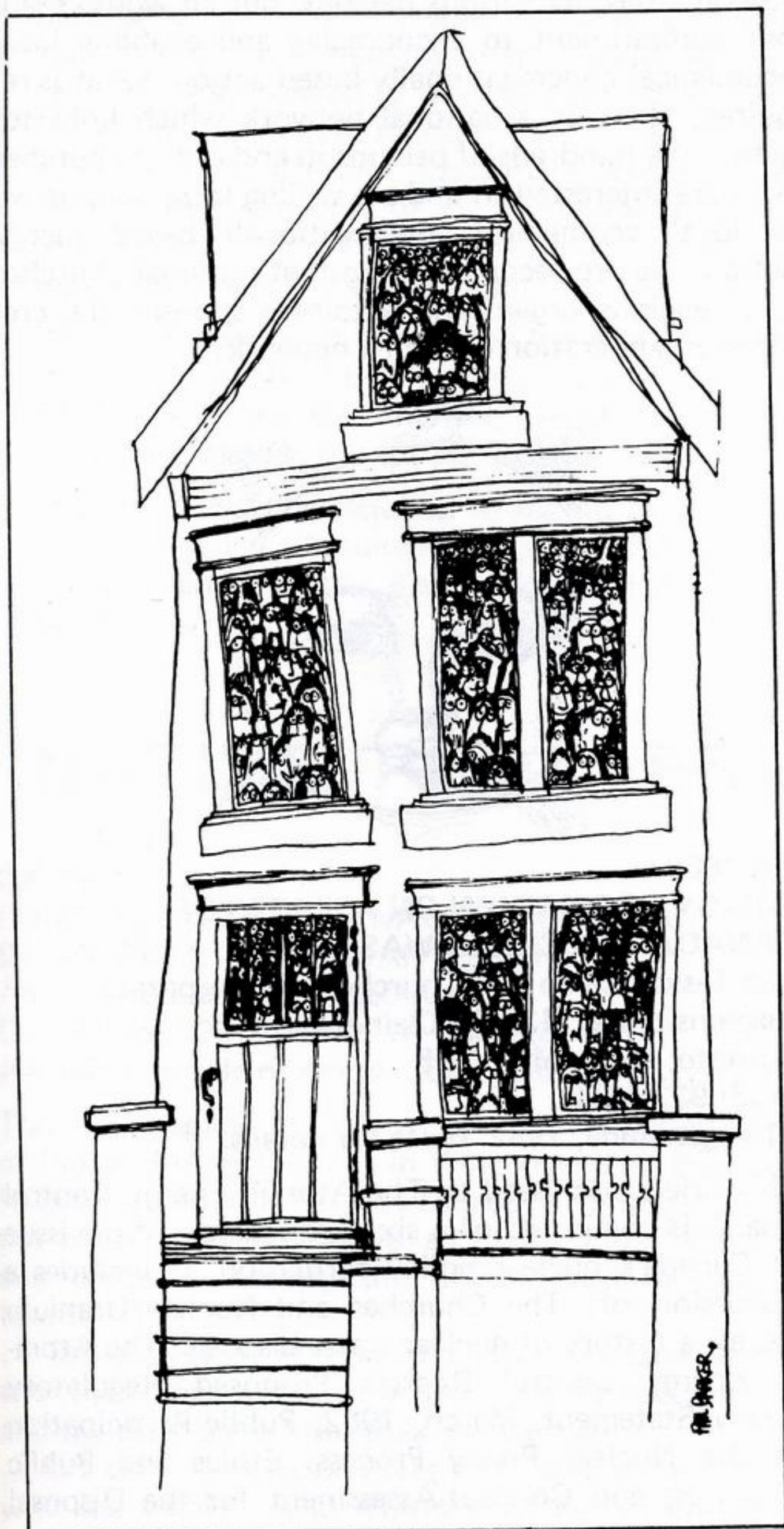
The booklet argues that the key to Nicaragua's success in the campaign lies in the popular nature of the revolution that took place. To a large extent it was the young people who had fought in the war who became the literacy brigadistas. They understood that overthrowing Somoza was not enough; the revolution had to be immediately deepened and carried forward so that everyone could participate fully. Literacy was a cornerstone in the building of a democratic and socialist society.

CX 2678

MATCH

401 - 171 Nepean, Ottawa, Ont., K2P 0B4

Based in Ottawa, MATCH is an international centre designed to match the resources (information, expertise, personnel, equipment, funds) and needs of Canadian women with those women in developing countries. The organization maintains a project clearing house, a talent bank, and an information and resource centre. Two of its main objectives are: to encourage Canadian women's involvement in Third World projects and in development education programmes at home; and to sensitize Canadian women to the reality of women's lives in Third World Countries.



Since its founding in 1976, MATCH has established a network throughout Canada and in 120 other countries. Over 60 projects have been completed or are underway. Since the aim is to promote grass-roots action and self-reliance, each project must be proposed and implemented by women in that country for the benefit of the local community. The emphasis is on small projects, requiring funding of \$5,000 CDN or less.

One such project is the Education and Skill Training Project in Grenada, involving 25 women in a rural community. Phase one of the two-year project will focus on child care skills, nutrition (e.g. encouraging the substitution of local food for imports), health care, and development of a sense of personal dignity and worth. In the second phase, participants will receive skills training to prepare them to undertake viable economic projects such as co-operatives and cottage industries in food production and processing.

At the recent MATCH annual conference delegates explored the images projected by the media which affect Canadian views of Third World women. Topics included rural women's work, primary health care, and women's labor in industry (e.g. electronics).

MATCH members receive a newsletter six times a year.

ENERGY

CX 2679

THE FINAL REPORT OF THE ECUMENICAL ENERGY WORKING GROUP

302 — 100 Gloucester St., Ottawa, Ont., K2P 0A4
(613) 236-9712

19 pages. Sept. 1, 1982. Write for details.

The ECUMENICAL ENERGY WORKING GROUP was formed in the spring of 1981 by several Canadian churches to answer the question: "What would the churches do in relation to energy if we were both faithful and well-informed?" Since then a group of church representatives and project staff have met regularly to explore the many aspects of this issue. They published an interim report and two newsletters prior to the FINAL REPORT.

Quoting from the "Summary" of the FINAL REPORT, the working group has this to say: "We are now confident that the way to proceed is to be committed to and so to undertake 'congregationally-based action' set in the context of 'local ecumenical energy network' that is jointly sponsored by many churches and religious organizations."

"By congregationally-based action we mean to indicate that the main location of thought and action about energy issues should be local congregations, and through them, the homes of members of local congregations . . ."

"By local ecumenical energy projects we mean projects that are undertaken ecumenically and sponsored jointly by several congregations within a local community. Such projects would be developed and planned locally."

"By jointly-sponsored energy network we are acknowledging that, while the prime focus for action should be local, ecumenical and congregationally-based, there are some tasks which require a national rather than a local focus. We think primarily of the need to ferret out, analyze and order information and to identify resources so that these can be effectively used by congregation. Such work may take place in several cities, by various persons, but all would share our commitment to encouraging and enabling local ecumenical congregationally-based action. What is required, then, is a national network which links together the hundreds of persons in and out of churches who are interested in and are willing to be supportive of local, ecumenical congregationally-based energy action. We are recommending that national churches and religious organizations jointly sponsor the creation and operation of such a network."



CX 2680

POLICY FORMATION ON ASPECTS OF CANADA'S NUCLEAR WASTES

The Taskforce on The Churches and Corporate Responsibility. 129 St. Clair Ave.,
Toronto, Ont., M4V 1N5
(416) 923-1758

31 Pages. June, 1982. Write for details.

This brief, addressed to The Atomic Energy Control Board, is composed of a six-part analysis of the issue of Canada's nuclear policy formation. It includes a discussion of: The Churches and Nuclear/Uranium Issues; a history of nuclear waste disposal; The Atomic Energy Control Board's Proposed Regulatory Policy Statement, March, 1982; Public Participation in the Nuclear Policy Process; Ethics and Public Inquiries; and Concept-Assessment for the Disposal

of Existing Nuclear Waste. It is primarily in this last part of the brief that the Taskforce makes its fifteen recommendations, including the following:

That final authority for decisions concerning disposal of existing high level nuclear wastes rests with a temporary body, more broadly representative than the AECE, until new structures for the disposal of all forms of nuclear wastes, and changes in the status and accountability of the AECE have been considered in a national public inquiry and incorporated into a new Atomic Energy Control Act.

That review processes and public hearings be structured so as to enable decision makers and the public to see clearly, and participate in discussions of, the ethical dimensions of both "technical" and "socio-economic" issues.

Because of the need to seek the least bad permanent disposal option for existing waste and because of the possibility that no option will be found acceptable "on its own merits", we recommend that the Concept Assessment stage involve consideration not only of the crystalline rock disposal concept, but of all options which may have a reasonable chance of being found least bad.

We recommend that the nature and stringency of application of the AECB's safety requirements be defined with precision and that these be addressed in advance of any concept approval.

That the AECL be required to submit in its Concept Assessment Document plans for post-actions in the event that the disposal method does not function as predicted.

NATIVE PEOPLES

CX 2681

**CONCERNED ABORIGINAL WOMEN OCCUPY
DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS**

Amelia Productions, Vancouver.

DEC Films, 427 Bloor St. W. Toronto, Ont.

Available for sale or rental. \$65 — \$95 rental.

This film depicts the occupation of the Department of Indian Affairs building in Vancouver by a group of Native women in 1981. The court system in Canada is not theirs to use, they said, so they refused to use it and chose to occupy the offices until they were heard.

The women who produced this video-tape stayed with the Native women, documenting the occupation, and tell their story from their perspective.

On Day 7, Senator Perrault is sent to negotiate with the women, who request that he remain silent

throughout their testimonies. It is these testimonies which vividly explain the reasons that led them to the occupation, and which in the film provide a strong critique of the Department of Indian Affairs and the Canadian government's policies toward Native people.

The testimonies tell of vastly overcrowded housing; frequent fires because of faulty wiring; of Native children being indoctrinated with alien values in their schools; of dependency-creating welfare being available while jobs are not.

The sit-in ends with the police forcibly removing the women, but the film makes it clear that the spirit and resolve of the women remains unbroken.



CX 2682

**THE NEWFOUNDLAND GOVERNMENT'S
REJECTION OF THE MICMAC LAND CLAIM**

The Indian and Inuit Support Group of Nfld. and
Labrador. P.O. Box 582, Stn. C., St. John's, Nfld.
20 Pages. July 30, 1982.

On July 7, 1982, Newfoundland Premier Brian Peckford released a government position paper which denied the validity of the Micmac Indian land claim in Newfoundland. Although Native land claims are a matter of federal, not provincial, jurisdiction, the Newfoundland government is trying to convince Ottawa to reject the Micmac claim and refuse to enter negotiations for a settlement.

Upon receiving this report, the Indian and Inuit Support Group of Newfoundland and Labrador immediately began to prepare a reply. Dated July 30, the Support Group document addressed two main concerns: (1) the basic impropriety of the Premier's intervention in this matter while the Office of Native Claims is in the process of evaluating the claim; and (2) the serious inadequacies of the government report in its selection of criteria for a valid land claim and its assessment of the historical evidence regarding the Micmac presence in Newfoundland.

In light of this document, the Support Group has called upon the Premier to withdraw his objections to the Micmac land claim and allow negotiations between the Micmacs and the federal government to proceed free from outside interference.

RACISM

CX 2683

**YOU MIGHT THINK YOU'RE SUPERIOR BUT
I THINK I'M EQUAL**

Educational Resource Co-operative and Video-
graphe, Inc. DEC Films, 427 Bloor St. W.,
Toronto, Ont.

\$45 — \$70 rental.

Teachers and students in English Montreal schools prepared this video-cassette to look at ways that racism manifests itself in their lives and to explore some of the reasons for its staying power in Canadian society. In this video, interviews are combined with dramatizations of situations that the students have experienced. One instance shows how a young Black girl tries to cope with harassment by two white boys in a school hallway. A second dramatic scene between a white girl and a Black boy is acted out as we hear the boy's story of how the girl's parents interfered with, finally broke up, their relationship.

According to the students all manner of people display racist attitudes: bus drivers who harass Black girls more than white girls; unfair policemen who assume Blacks to be guilty before investigation; storekeepers, prejudiced parents and peers. They get their ideas of superiority, according to the video, from many sources such as western movies on TV, high school textbooks, and comic books.

For the students involved, the discussion is clearly not just academic. They express frustration, hurt, and anger, and debate possible solutions.

The style of the video is open-ended and question-raising, in keeping with the intention that it be used as a resource to stimulate discussion, especially in the classroom situation.



COMMUNITY

CX 2684

ALLIANCE FOR NON-VIOLENT ACTION
P.O. Box 1672, Peterborough, Ont., K9J 7S4
(705) 748-1234

The ALLIANCE FOR NON-VIOLENT ACTION is a geographically dispersed collective of groups and individuals who gather together to plan, organize, and participate in education and events for non-violent direct action. These activities are focussed on resistance to expressions of militarism and other forms of oppression. The long-term vision of the ALLIANCE is the building of a non-oppressive and non-exploitative world. It understands militarism to be rooted in the hierarchical and dehumanizing forms of power that are part of our social reality. This power is used to maintain and expand privilege based on sex, race, class, and imperialism.

The ALLIANCE's chosen form of resistance to the institutionalized violence and oppression of militarism is the building of communities for political action and education based on decentralized and collective decision-making processes and structures. The ALLIANCE has chosen two strategies to work towards its vision. First it organizes public, non-violent actions using methods such as fasting, leafletting, dialogue, demonstrations, boycott, tax resistance, street theatre, and civil disobedience. Secondly, the ALLIANCE develops educational materials, resources, and projects to strengthen public awareness of the connections between non-violence as a way of living and as a political strategy, and to develop consciousness about the depth of institutional violence. While the immediate educational goal is the development of resource materials, the ALLIANCE's longer-term vision is the building of local resource centres for non-violent action.

The ALLIANCE is open to new members (groups or individuals). Meetings are held monthly in the towns and cities of ALLIANCE members.

CX 2685

**THE CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL
CO-OPERATION**
P.O. Box 2086, Thunder Bay, Ont., P7B 5E4
(807) 983-2042

The CENTRE provides scholarships and sponsorships for students from developing countries and provides counselling services for overseas students. A handbook is available for overseas students. The CENTRE is also Thunder Bay's Cross Cultural Learner Centre. It acts as an umbrella for information about Cross Roads International, UNICEF, One Sky (Saskatchewan), and others.

CX 2686

SAINT COLUMBA HOUSE

The United Church of Canada

2365 rue Grand Trunk, Montreal, Que., H3K 1M8

(514) 932-6202

Write for details.

SAINT COLUMBA HOUSE works towards solidarity with the community of Pointe St-Charles and its search for justice. Community groups concerned with welfare, traffic and safety, housing, and education, have been supported by SAINT COLUMBA HOUSE.

SAINT COLUMBA HOUSE co-operates with the Community Clinic, the Legal Clinic, and other community based services.

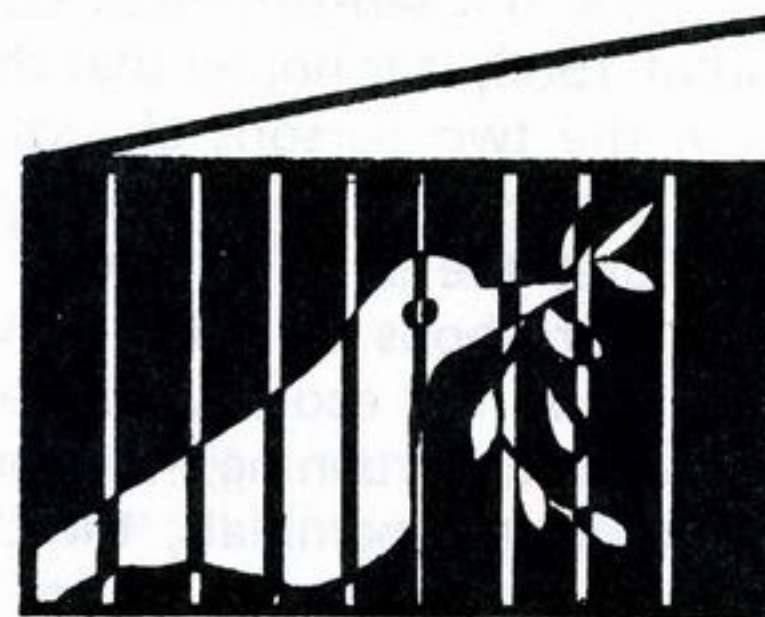
Recently the HOUSE published a report on "The Gentrification of Pointe St-Charles." After thirty years of decay and declining population, the area is becoming desirable once again to young professionals who want to live near downtown Montreal. This report suggests that the revitalization programmes sponsored and supported by the City of Montreal do not represent a spontaneous movement to support new home owners, but a carefully orchestrated programme to clean up the undesirable areas of Montreal. What is not considered in all these programmes is the devastating impact of the revitalization on local residents — evicted from their homes of twenty and thirty years.

The report carefully outlines the actual motives behind the movement of people from the suburbs to the city, and effects these programmes for renovations have had on the long time residents of Pointe St-Charles.

A coalition of members from eight community groups, including long term residents of the Pointe, was formed in May, 1981 in response to numerous phone calls from residents who were then receiving visits from city inspectors. The group intends to uncover information about the city's plans (as yet unannounced) and to warn and organize the public against them. It called itself "Action", a name chosen in part for its bilingual attributes. To date it has organized six actions which have been designed to reach a large local public, and capture the attention of the media (and hopefully the city).

The city, in the face of this activity has been relatively intransigent. It took one public assembly, one *fete populaire* occupation of city hall to bring about a public meeting with the city in November of 1981. At this meeting the city simply agreed to reveal its plans for the Pointe — which had already been in progress since May of that same year.

The report makes suggestions about how best to challenge the city on its proposals. These include the formation on non-profit housing co-operatives for the long term residents of the area. The report is available from SAINT COLUMBA HOUSE.



CX 2687

ACCORD

Mennonite Central Committee (Canada)

50 Kent Ave., Kitchener, Ont., N2G 3R1

ACCORD is the bi-monthly publication of the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) for "victim of-fender ministries". The March-April 1982 edition reports on a seminar held in Toronto called "Risking Community" which brought together volunteers, support people, correctional officers, and ex-inmates dedicated to assisting people who have been in jail.

The seminar noted that the language we use, "guard" and "inmate", betrays the bias of our current justice system which is based in the ancient Roman and Greek model of punitive reciprocation. Justice and punishment are equated. The seminar explored ways of challenging this mentality by finding ways of establishing peacemaking as an integral part of the system.

One correctional officer explained some of the stresses he experienced: rotating shift work; a disrupted family life; a confined work setting; a negative, non-productive atmosphere; and a career with little dignity or respect.

Another item in this issue reported on the 1982 Toronto Star Gallup Poll that shows little change in public opinion over the last 3 years about capital punishment. Almost 75 per cent of the population are still in favour.

ACCORD also presents reviews of films and books on prisons and the criminal justice system.

CX 2688

THE MASKWA PROJECT

444 River Ave., Winnipeg, Man., R3L 0C7

(204) 477-4675

MASKWA is a Winnipeg-based project designed to demonstrate the feasibility of an alternative lifestyle in harmony with the Canadian environment. Over the past five years, with the help of volunteer labour, the group has established an energy demonstration and retreat centre at a 100-acre site outside Winnipeg. Visitors to the site are encouraged to take a "hands-on" approach in their investigations of the alternative technologies demonstrated. The long-range goal of

the project is to develop a self-sufficient community there. By the end of 1982, it is hoped that three more members will join the two persons already resident on the site.

MASKWA also uses the site for field activities in conjunction with workshops it holds in Winnipeg. Courses given include winter ecology, winter survival camping, urban organic gardening, the politics of food, conservation of sea mammals, the biosphere, nature photography, cross-country skiing, occupational health hazards, and appropriate technology for Third World countries. MASKWA also rents the site to other groups for conferences and activities.

Last summer the group received government monies for a project to foster networking among social activists in Winnipeg. The group is currently collecting materials for a resource centre to be established at their Winnipeg location. Members receive discount rates on workshops and a bi-monthly newsletter.

LABOUR

CX 2689

UE FACTS AND COMMENT

United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America. 10 Codeco Crt., Don Mills, Ont., M3A 1A2 (416) 477-5196

12 Pages. October, 1982. Write for details.

UE FACTS AND COMMENT is a bulletin published monthly by the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America. It includes such regular features as: "Numbers of the Month" which lists items such as the latest consumer price index, national employment/unemployment rates and wage figures, and "UE Factsheet" which reports on the hazards of various chemicals used by manufacturers, as well as recommended exposure limits.

Another regular feature "Improving Your Contract: Medical Monitoring" points out that medical monitoring of workers does little good because the damage has already been done by the time it shows up in tests. Furthermore, employers are attempting to use legislation to force workers to be tested by company doctors, which gives the company access to information that may be used to discriminate against employees. The union suggests:

- Doctors be selected by workers through their unions;
- Tests be done during working hours;
- Workers have the right to refuse testing (without the company requiring the employee to sign a statement releasing the employer from any liability under law).

"It Does Pay to Fight" reports that a united militant fight is the only way workers have a chance of protecting themselves, their living standards, and their conditions of work. Another article reports that the average Canadian employee is losing \$41.25 a week in real wages, compared to what was earned in November, 1976.

A special feature: "How the World Council of Churches Views Multinationals" is excerpted from "The World Council of Churches Programme on Transnational Corporations: Some Lessons and Challenges" by Marcos Arruda, Geneva, 1982. Their view is that violations of human dignity are "... the unavoidable result of organizing society on the basis of unlimited growth; the primacy of commercial relations over the human being; ... the conception of money and capital as the ultimate values of human life."



CX 2690

THE WORK BOOK (WITNESS TO INJUSTICE)

Social Action Commission, Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlottetown. P.O. Box 1689, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

"It is impossible to have a society which assures justice for all unless we transform the nature of work in our society. To do that, we must first understand the workplace. When we collectively make the attempt to understand the work situation which affects us all, then and only then will we be able to challenge and transform society through social action based on the realization of common problems and common solutions."

On that basis, and the fact that "work is probably the most important single variable influencing our lives", the Social Action Commission of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlottetown has published THE WORK BOOK (WITNESS TO INJUSTICE).

In it, Prince Edward Island workers give first-hand accounts of the nature of the work they do, their working conditions, the meaning of that work to them, and their feelings about it. A more generalized perspective on the employment problems faced by Island women is offered by a field worker with a women's employment development programme as she discusses her own job.

The occupations described in THE WORK BOOK demonstrate the shift that the Island economy has taken in recent years "away from primary industries and small-scale private ownership, towards bureaucratically controlled jobs in the service sector under chain and government management". (The service sector accounts for 72 per cent of Real Domestic Product.) Typical of this change has been the establishment of industrial malls on the Island as part of a government-sponsored development plan.

These personal accounts in THE WORK BOOK are prefaced by articles which situate the experiences of Island workers in broader economic, political, cultural, and theological contexts and provide some analysis. However, the editors do not present recommendations for change — it is their hope that Islanders and workers elsewhere will take up that task after studying THE WORK BOOK.

CX 2691

THE ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF MIDWIVES

Postal Station C, Post Office Box 85

Toronto, Ont., M6J 3M7

The ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF MIDWIVES (OAM) is a support group for midwives and home-birth supporters. The core of the group are active lay midwives who are working towards setting standards and gaining legal recognition for midwives.

OAM puts out a quarterly newsletter, called "Issue". The group will provide information, if and when possible, to help people find a home-birth attendant.

OAM also has conferences and workshops to help expand the knowledge and connections among midwives. Membership is open to all supporters for a \$15 annual fee (sent to OAM P.O. Box 85, Postal Station C, Toronto, Ont., M6J 3M7).

One of the members of the OAM operates a mail-order book and supply company for people who are looking for more information on birth, parenting and health care. An example is "The Whole Birth Catalogue" which is available for \$1.50 plus .50 cents postage. A free price list is available by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to The Whole Birth Catalogue, 20 London Rd. W., Guelph, Ont., N1H 2B5.

Next issue ...

Two-and-a-half years ago, CONNEXIONS published an issue on **Women**, to document the efforts of those working to create a society free from sexism. In today's climate of economic and political retrenchment, the gains achieved by the Women's Movement in the past decade are in jeopardy. As our readers have suggested, there is a critical need at this time to re-affirm the strength and impact of our collective actions. Early in 1983, CONNEXIONS will publish

WOMEN AND MEN

A progress report on our struggles for authentic human identity.

We would like to hear from you on such topics as:

- your analyses and insights about the forces in contemporary Canadian society which reinforce sexism in public and private spheres of life and which socialize our children into that system
- the methods you have evolved to challenge sexist structures and ways of thinking
- your struggles to bring into being and sustain alternate organizations and institutions
- the efforts being made by those men who recognize their need to work together to transform a society based on equal power relationships between the sexes
- the ways in which a feminist consciousness radically alters your understanding of social issues and the links between them
- your visions of the future toward which you strive

We invite you to participate in this special issue by sending us materials in any media form — descriptions of your group, analyses, strategies, materials you produce, research, reflections, projects, programmes, or events you have sponsored, announcements of future undertakings.

Please send this material as soon as possible.

CONTRIBUTORS INDEX

-A-

Accord CX 2687
Amelia Productions CX 2681
Association des Chambreaux du Centre-ville CX 2659, CX 2660

-B-

Blackout CX 2637

-C-

Canadian Action for Nicaragua CX 2677
Canadian Council on Social Development CX 2671, CX 2671A
Canadian Paraplegic Association (Nfld.) CX 2668
Centre for International Co-operation CX 2685
Cinemagic Productions CX 2649
Cityhome (Toronto) CX 2644
Coast Foundation Society CX 2636
Communitas, Inc. CX 2638
Community Planning Association of Canada (N.S. Division) CX 2662, CX 2664
Conseil de Developpement de Logement Communautaire (CDLC) CX 2658
Co-operative Housing Foundation of Canada CX 2673, CX 2674
Confederation des Syndicats Nationaux (CSN) CX 2654
Constance Hamilton Co-op CX 2647

-D-

Development Education Centre (DEC Films) CX 2650, CX 2672
Downtown Crisis Housing Foundation CX 2641

-E-

Ecumenical Energy Working Group CX 2679
Education Resource Co-operative and Video-graphe, Inc. CX 2683

-F-

First United Church (Vancouver) CX 2628, CX 2629
Fred Victor Mission CX 2645

-H-

Headlines Theatre CX 2627
Hebdo Co-op CX 2653
Houselink Community Homes CX 2646, CX 2675
Housing for People Coalition CX 2664
Housing Rights Coalition CX 2630
Human Settlement Programme CX 2639

-I-

Indian and Inuit Support Group of Newfoundland and Labrador CX 2682
Innstead Co-op CX 2648

-L-

Lantana Non-profit Homes Corporation CX 2651

-M-

Maisons de L'Ancre Inc. CX 2661
Maskwa Project CX 2688
Match CX 2678
Mennonite Central Committee (Canada) CX 2687
Mental Association in Saskatchewan CX 2642
Mental Patients' Association Housing Project CX 2635
Montreal City Mission CX 2655, CX 2656
Montreal Co-op Housing Movement CX 2653
Munroe House CX 2634

-N-

New Dawn Enterprises Ltd. CX 2667
Non-Profit Housing Co-op Federation of Nova Scotia CX 2665

-O-

Ontario Association of Midwives CX 2691

-P-

Plans CX 2662
Potential Co-op Society CX 2669
Porte Jaune CX 2657

-R-

Red Door Rental Aid Society CX 2631

-S-

Saint Columba House CX 2686
St. Francis Xavier University Extension Dept. CX 2663
Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission CX 2640
Social Action Commission, Roman Catholic Diocese of Charlottetown CX 2690
Social Housing Association of Cape Breton CX 2666
Societe du Patrimoine de Montreal CX 2655

-T-

Task Force on the Churches and Corporate Responsibility CX 2680

-U-

United Way of the Lower Mainland CX 2633
United Church of Canada CX 2676
United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers CX 2689
Urban Core Support Network CX 2670

-V-

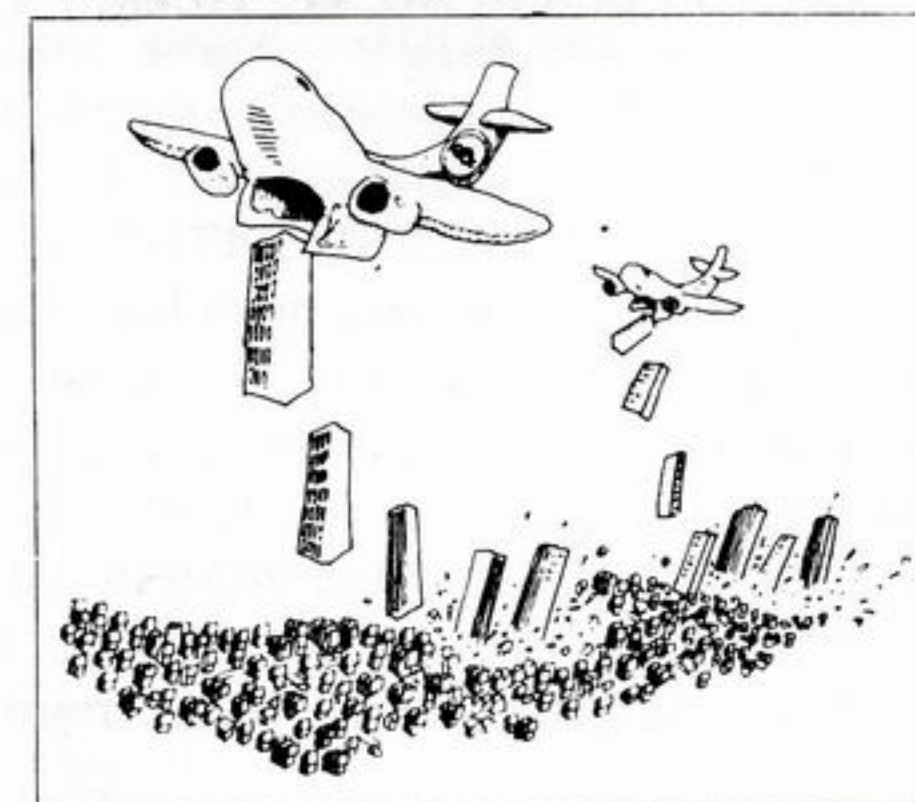
Vancouver Co-operative Radio CX 2632

-W-

Windsor Coalition for Development CX 2652
Winnipeg Housing Concerns Group CX 2643

-Y-

Yellow Door CX 2657



SUBJECT INDEX

—A—

Advocacy — CX 2627, CX 2630, CX 2631,
CX 2656, CX 2637, CX 2638, CX 2652
Alternative Lifestyles — CX 2639

—C—

Community — CX 2685, CX 2686
Community Organizing — CX 2631,
CX 2639, CX 2649, CX 2650, CX 2684
Co-op Housing — CX 2632, CX 2646,
CX 2647, CX 2648, CX 2649, CX 2651,
CX 2653, CX 2654, CX 2655, CX 2665,
CX 2669, CX 2673, CX 2674

—E—

Economic Alternatives — CX 2662
Education — CX 2627, CX 2630, CX 2632,
CX 2638, CX 2650, CX 2652, CX 2672,
CX 2677, CX 2683
Energy — CX 2662, CX 2679, CX 2680
Environment — CX 2680, CX 2688
Ex-psychiatric — CX 2635, CX 2636,
CX 2642, CX 2646, CX 2675

—F—

Futures — CX 2639

—H—

Handicapped — CX 2657
Health — CX 2691
Housing — CX 2627—CX 2676
Human Rights — CX 2640, CX 2668

—I—

International Development — CX 2678

—L—

Latin America — CX 2677
Law — CX 2687
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—T—

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