

Oak St. plan to be presented to public

The Oak Street Site Proposal Committee (O.S.S.P.C.) was asked by the Toronto Board of

Education in 1976, to develop and review proposals for the disposition of the Board's Oak-River site. Working on this project in recent years have been local community residents Edna Habermehl, John O'Dea, Emily Bartlett, Anna Poch, and Myrna Marston. Also active on the O.S.S.P.C. are Dixon Hall worker Mike Sterling, Ward 7 Alderman David Reville, Ward 7 School Trustee David Clandfield, and Michael Rose and Bert D'Antini on staff at the Board of Education. Ann Ophel, the City of Toronto planner for

the Queen-River area, has attended meetings regularly as an advisor. After reviewing many possible options and some basic constraints the O.S.S.P.C. has selected a developer and a proposed development that could satisfy long-standing community concerns for the vacant land. The proposal will be presented to a public community meeting at Regent Park United Church, 40 Oak Street (near Parliament), on Wednesday, February 10th at 7:30 p.m.

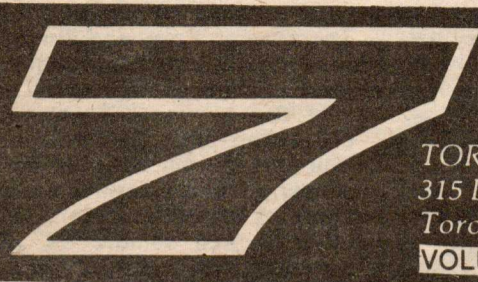
The Cooperative Housing Federation of Toronto and the O.S.S.P.C. have jointly developed the proposal to build about 145 units of co-op day care and community activity facilities as well as the possibility of limited commercial space. Up to 18,000 square feet of public park would sit at the front (River Street) of the property, with most housing being at the rear and north of the site — adjacent to the existing 27

floor towers. The maximum height of the proposed new building is 7 stories, and its location is designed to dampen noise from the trains and cars using the Don Valley. The proposed buildings are also carefully situated so as not to interfere with the view of existing apartments in the 27 story tower 'The Oaks'. Townhouses and pedestrian 'streets' would comprise the central part of the Oak to Cornwall property. Surface parking for the development would be situated on a half acre of land at the rear (east) of the site — south of Cornwall Street.

Answers concerns

The O.S.S.P.C. is supportive of the proposed development because it answers many of the community's concerns. In particular, affordable 'rental' (co-op) housing for low and middle income people is attractive, **Continued on page 4**

The plans for the Oak St. site include day care and community activity facilities as well as the possibility of limited commercial space.



NEWS
TORONTO'S OLDEST COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER
315 Dundas St. East (All Saints Church)
Toronto M5A 2A2 Phone: 363-9650
VOLUME 12, NUMBER 15 FEBRUARY 5, 1982

Why Cressy is leaving City Hall

By Alderman GORDON CRESSY

As most of you will have heard by now, I will be leaving as your Alderman in Ward 7 at the end of August to become the new full time President of the United Way of Metropolitan Toronto. I wanted to tell you what it's like to be leaving politics after representing Ward 7 for almost 11 years and why I'm taking the job at The United Way.

Ward 7 has been the heartland of the Toronto urban scene for the last decade. I am proud to have been your representative during this period. We have worked hard, fought some important battles together and I hope you and I have made our community a little better. Certainly through it all I have been driven by a desire to push for strong local neighbourhoods and social justice.

We have not always agreed — nor should we — but I have found most people respect honest thoughtful differences of opinions. In short, I have learned much from the people of Ward 7, made many good friends and will always treasure the experience of serving as your representative.

Sometimes in the midst of political life there comes a rare opportunity that you must go after. Such has been my recent experience with The United Way. Late last year I was approached to consider the possibility of becoming the head of The United Way. Since there were over 200 candidates I was not alone. The job clearly meshed with the work I've done over the past twenty years. The challenge of recapturing the spirit of generosity during difficult economic times was too important to ignore. So I pursued the position and was offered it two weeks ago. Timing was a problem as The United Way wanted me to start

Continued on page 4



Rehearsals are underway for this year's Ward 7 musical "Not for Sale". The show will be ready for the public this spring. The 1980 presentation of "Dammed if you do" was a huge success.

Part 1 Sole-support parents assert home rights

In Regent Park and the surrounding area, there are thousands of sole-support parents of dependent children. Many of us are recipients of either Family Benefits or General Welfare Assistance. Raising a family alone is a very hard life. The amount of income received under FBA or GWA does not even cover basic needs. Lack of enough money, along with the responsibility of raising a family alone, creates an almost impossible situation. Still, many of us choose to live on these minimal allowances because we feel that our place is at home raising our children. For some of us, we feel we have no choice about remaining at home because we are virtually unskilled and if we went to work we would just be putting ourselves in another situation where our income would be inadequate.

Obtaining General Welfare Assistance is a right, not a privilege, but under the existing system it is a process that robs the individuals of their dignity. Family Benefits, as opposed to General Welfare, provides us with a little more income and the process is

somewhat less oppressive than General Welfare.

To receive General Welfare the individual has to go through local Welfare offices and eligibility decisions are left to the individual welfare workers. General Welfare is meant to be short-term assistance. Family Benefits, formerly Mother's Allowance, was set up to aid mothers on their own raising dependent children. This Programme was seen as providing the long-term aid necessary to allow the parent to stay at home and fulfill the valuable parenting functions. Usually a single parent is eligible for transfer from General Welfare to Family Benefits after three months. Often mothers are kept waiting a year or more before they are transferred and some are not transferred at all, but go dealing with the welfare

offices where they continually have to prove their eligibility.

We are holding a MASS MEETING of SOLE-SUPPORT PARENTS in Regent Park and the surrounding area. This meeting will take place on FEBRUARY 10th at 7:30 p.m. at PARK SCHOOL, Shuter Street. The meeting will be held in the staff room. This will be a time for us to talk about what this integration really means in terms of our income — will it go down? and many other questions. If you are a sole-support parent in the area, please come and get the facts before it's too late.

For further information, please contact

Sole-Support Parents Group
63 Belshaw,
Telephone 863-1768

To be continued next week

Multi-Cultural Festival to be in St. Jamestown

The Christian Leadership Council is sponsoring the second annual St. Jamestown Multi-Cultural Community Festival on Saturday, February 13, 1982 at Rose Avenue School, 675 Ontario Street, Toronto from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

This event has been organized by a local group including religious leaders, the police, the boy scouts, the community relations worker of the Toronto Board of Educa-

tion, the community relations workers of Metro Housing, local residents and senior groups.

Our day-long entertainment program of music and dancing with information booths, food from around the world and activities for children, will be of interest to everyone.

The admission is free and the public is invited.

Rev. Ken Bhagan
Chairman

DEADLINE

The next issue of 7 News will appear on Friday February 26. Deadline for that issue is Monday February 22. After that, we will be back to our regular bi-weekly publication schedule: the next two issues will appear March 12 and March 26.



Alderman Gordon Cressy

Wanted:

Alderman Candidates

By DAVID REVILLE

Of all the things that have been said about the five aldermen Ward 7 has elected since 1969, two things are indisputable: each has gone into politics from a background in community work and each has worked very closely with the other. Many Ward 7 residents feel that these two traditions — community base, team work — have served Ward 7 well.

After seven years as school trustee and almost four years as alderman, Gordon Cressy has decided to continue his work as President of the United Way for Metropolitan Toronto. Replacing Gordon is going to be a difficult challenge but I am confident that Ward 7 can rise to the challenge.

To find people who are interested or willing to become interested in taking on the job, a Search Committee will be required. The Search Committee will be composed of representatives from community groups and from the various neighbourhoods that make up Ward 7. I will be calling the first meeting of the Search Committee towards the end of February. I hope that the Search Committee will be successful in its endeavour to find credible candidates by the beginning of the summer so that there is sufficient time for election planning.

Anyone interested in being involved in the search process and anyone who is interested in going through the search process as a potential candidate, is invited to call my office at 367-7916.

Empty-nesters are ignored

By MORRIS SALDOV

The arrogance of the Conservative Majority Government has reached an all time high.

Susan Fish and Margaret Scrivener who individually met with tenants groups in November about the empty nest evictions policy of OHC, both promised to seek meetings with the Minister of Housing and the OHC Board on the tenants' behalf. Since their 'commitment' to arrange the meetings, both Susan Fish and Margaret Scrivener have been very hard to get hold of and appear to have dropped their concern over the empty nesters. No meetings have been arranged by them yet, either with the Minister of **Continued on page 4**

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sat. Feb. 6

Cross-Country Day in Haliburton: Novice to expert can join the Harbourfront Canoe and Cross-Country Ski Club for an 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. day of Nordic skiing. \$6 members, \$9 non-members, includes lunch and transportation. For information call 861-1233. Participants gather at York Quay Centre.

• **Kaleidoscope:** Captain Hook invites parents and children aboard a pirate frigate to explore the world of the buc-

caner. 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free at the York Quay Centre.

Sunday, February 7

• Once an invitation on the Toronto concert scene, **du Maurier Brunch with Bach**, returning for a third season, has become an institution for those who like to spend their Sundays musically. The eight-concert series, starting today, serves up some of Canada's best classical musicians, along with the souffle of the day, garden salad, fresh orange juice and coffee. Enjoy brunch from 11:30 a.m.; concert starts at 12:30 p.m. at Harbourfront's York Quay Centre, 235 Queen's Quay West.

• **Figure Skating:** Watch Ontario Figure Skating

Association members and bring your skates to make your own impression on the ice. Afternoon. Free at the pond at York Quay Centre.

• **Ralph Nader**, famous public interest advocate, will be speaking tonight at the University of Toronto. The subject of the speech is "Environment of the 80's: The Canadian-American problems of acid-rain, toxic pollution in the Niagara, and Energy Use." Admission is free. For information call 978-4911.

• There will be a meeting tonight for **sole-support grants** in Regent Park and the surrounding area. The meeting is to discuss provincial government plans to integrate family benefits and general welfare, which could have the effect of forcing single parents to work at minimum wage jobs. The meeting is at Park School at 7:30 p.m. in the staff room. For more information contact Sole-Support Parents Group at 863-1768 or call Martha Gandier at 368-2348.

Thursday, February 11

• **Musical Zoo:** The zany animals of Lagoon Puppet-theatre and their music of York

Winds introduce children of all ages to classical music with the "Ugly Duckling" and more. 7:30 p.m. Adults \$3, kids \$2. York Quay Centre.

• **How to Ease the Tax Bite:** Mr. Ron Lalonde and George Morrison of Investors Syndicate Ltd., will be giving a free public seminar on financial planning and income tax. Topics to be covered include: tax saving ideas; Save Yourself Money under the new tax scheme; Investment Income: The various types of investment income and how they affect your tax level; life insurance; The concept of life insurance and types available. It's happening at the Main St. branch of the Toronto Public Library between 7 and 9 p.m.

Saturday February 13

• The second annual **St. Jamestown Multicultural Festival** will be held today at Roose Avenue School 675 Ontario Street from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free and all are welcome. Anyone wishing to volunteer to work in the festival should contact Mr. S. Gill 965-1613 or Ken Bhagann 962-5758.

• **Community Bash:** Open Circle Theatre's Fundraising Benefit. Come, celebrate with Toronto's grassroots theatre. Smgs of Freedom from Greece by Antonis Mihailieis. Fabulous dancing Campanieros. Food, cash bar. 80 Winchester St. at 8 p.m. Admission; a current OCT membership card of \$10 at the door.

Wed., Feb. 17

• Dixon Hall is holding a **free income tax clinic** at 203 Sackville Green on Wednesdays, beginning today. For an appointment call Lorraine or Terry at 863-0499.

ONGOING

• **Dixon Hall Music School** is looking for donations of musical instruments. They are also looking for volunteer teachers as well as more young students. If you can help, call Doug or Janice at 863-0499.

• **Young People's Theatre** is presenting a new play, especially created for teenagers through February 28. The days of D'Artagnan and his dashing musketeers come alive on the fencing mats of a high school gym when two teenagers don masks and swords and leap into their dreams. Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday at 2 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. Students and seniors \$5, adults \$9 at 165 Front St. E.

• **The Alumnae Theatre** is presenting the play **Come As You Are** by the noted British playwright John Mortimer, until February 20. Tickets are \$6, students and seniors \$4. All performances begin at 8:30 p.m. at 70 Berkeley St. For tickets call 364-4170.

• **The Queen-Saulter Branch** of the Toronto Public Library presents **Story Time** for children under 3, each Friday this month and next. Times are 10:30 a.m. to 11 or 11 to 11:30 a.m. Register at the library at 765 Queen St. JE., 465-2156.

• **Frankland Community Centre** is offering three great new courses for adults. Pottery will be held Mondays between 7 and 9:30 p.m.; Gourmet cooking on Tuesdays from 7 to 9:30 p.m. and Dressmaking on Fridays from 1:30 to 4 p.m. For senior citizens, fitness and nutrition will be held on Tuesdays between 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon. To join call 463-0554 or show up at the above times at 816 Logan Ave. No charge for City of Toronto residents.

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Social Studies Department: A Curriculum Writing Project

DUTIES:

Under the general supervision of the Curriculum and Program Division and the Riverdale Action Committee against Racism, a writing team is required to produce units dealing with racism to be integrated into the existing Social Studies Curriculum.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE:

One member of the team will have experience in the senior class panel, one will have experience in the secondary panel, there will also be a consultant from outside the Toronto Board of Education with suitable qualifications, experience and community involvement combating racism. Those chosen must establish their ability to communicate well in English both orally and in writing. Curriculum writing experience would be an asset as would active membership in an organization combating racism.

Applications should be returned to the Social Studies Department, Toronto Board of Education, 155 College Street, Toronto, M5T 1P6, by February 12, 1982. For further information, please call Arlene Breithaupt, Co-ordinator, Social Studies Dept., 598-4931, ext. 368.

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Insane and Sane:

“Cold Comfort” walks on a fine line

By ROBERT KEIR

It is not surprising that **Cold Comfort** was one of the hits of last May's Toronto Theatre Festival. The winter revival of Jim Garrard's play is an appropriate example of art imitating nature, as a Saskatchewan blizzard is paralleled by the whirling snow surrounding Theatre Passe Muraille.

While the storm howls outside, Dolores (Karen Woolridge) washes her underwear in the run-down prairie gas station, just off the Trans-Canada Highway. Suddenly, her father Floyd (Booth Savage) bursts in, carrying the half-frozen body of Stephen Miller (Jonathan Barker) whom he has saved from certain death in the storm. Throwing Stephen onto the sofa-bed like a rescued puppy, Floyd wishes his daughter a happy 16th birthday.

Floyd returns to the blizzard to tow more cars while Dolores revives Stephen with Campbell's chicken noodle soup. At first she is a little apprehensive. Representing the big city sophistication of

Eastern Canada (he's from Montreal), Stephen drives a Peugeot, carries a silver cigarette case and produces a bottle of Liebfraumilch from his luggage. Previously, Dolores has only seen people like this on television.

But soon she is as comfortable with him as with the goldfish and caged rabbit that form an integral part of the set. Daddy's previous birthday gifts, no doubt.

Dolores, temporarily relieved from the monotony of rural isolation, delivers a lively monologue as she proceeds to have her evening bath. We learn that she never attended school because teachers are too nosy.

The girl's main source of excitement is watching the passing trains and reading the names on the carriages. Once, she confides, she danced naked in the window while a train rushed by. She is fascinated by the outside world, yet loves being with Dad, especially since he removed the chain from her leg.

As Dolores details the bizarre relationship with her father,

Stephen's bewilderment changes to outrage. He determines to rescue the girl from her dreary home and hillbilly father.

His talk of New York and Frankfurt convinces Dolores to run away. As they formulate a plan, Dolores insists on seducing him so that Dad will not grow suspicious. She undresses Stephen with a combination of natural innocence and clinical interest; while he plays social worker, not playboy. After all, this is the cold Canadian west, not the sensuous south of Tennessee Williams.

While Dolores contributes much of the play's contagious humour, the dramatic tension is supplied by the interplay between Stephen and Floyd.

With his grease-stained over-

alls, his beer and hand-rolled cigarettes, Floyd leers at Stephen and crudely tirades against the “greedy Eastern bastards” and Montreal's “frog hockey team”. (Floyd and Stephen are unlikely candidates to ease the friction between Canada's east and west.)

Floyd openly encourages Stephen and Dolores to make love, reasoning that she could use the company. But when he discovers Stephen's intention of taking his daughter away, Floyd executes a gruesome revenge that culminates in the play's ironic twist.

Cold Comfort is the third play in Jim Garrard's quartet entitled **Bondage Plays For My Country**. The play walks a fine line between the sane and insane, the normal

and bizarre, the rational and irrational. The action is fast paced and the plot intriguing. The spectators dare not leave the scene, even to sneak a quick peak at their watches. Such is the power of Garrard's craftsmanship. (Incidentally, Jim Garrard is a former 7 News Ad Manager and founder of Theatre Passe Muraille.)

Cold Comfort is a Canadian play we can be proud of. Discover for yourself Stephen's bizarre fate! (Theatre Passe Muraille, 16 Ryerson Ave., just east of Bathurst and north of Queen, 363-2416. Until Feb. 7).



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Why Cressy is leaving

Continued from page 1
right away and I wanted to finish my term of office.

The compromise we reached allows me to start in a limited way with The United Way and still perform my work in Ward 7 through the summer.

I want to thank 7 News for extremely fair coverage over the years. I well remember some early constitutional meetings in our group home on Bowden Street. I wish to pay special tribute to my colleague and friend David Reville who has firmly established himself

as the strongest rookie Alderman at City Hall. The team approach has always worked well in Ward 7 and elsewhere in this issue David Reville discusses a process to help choose a person to run.

In conclusion, although I will be leaving politics I won't be leaving Ward 7 - and before people write my permanent political obituary do know that someday in the future the fire in my belly may re-emerge and I'll be back knocking on doors again. In the meantime if I knock on your door I'll probably be seeking a donation for The United Way!

Thank you for incredible support and loyalty over six political campaigns and 11 years in office. I have appreciated it.

Oak public meeting to be held next week

Continued from page 1
including the fact that about 25% of the proposed units will have rents geared to income. The potential access for the local community to combined day-care and community space, public parkland, and possible commercial space are other features requested by the community in the past. Density requirements of Toronto's Official Plan (Part II Queen-River) are adhered to in the proposal, but a successful development will require a formal rezoning application as well as agreements between the Board of Education, the owners of the existing 'Oaks' apartment towers, and the City with respect to road allowances and public parkland.

If the proposed development

for the Oak Street Site seems acceptable to local residents and interested Ward 7 community members, then detailed work will begin to reach agreements among the parties concerned. The O. S. S. P. C. and the Co-op Housing Federation would then hope for a purchase agreement between the Board of Education and the Co-op in 1982, with construction to begin in 1983.

Questions about the proposed Oak Street Development will be answered at the February 10th public meeting, or could be directed privately to Richard Tyssen at the Co-Operative Housing Federation of Toronto, or any member of the Oak Street Site Proposal Committee.

Empty-nesters ignored

Continued from page 1

Housing or the OHC Board.

When Margaret Scrivener was first faced with the empty nest problem, she didn't even know there was a policy of evicting parents when their children are no longer with them. She thought that all OHC tenants who lose their children simply get a transfer to a smaller unit regardless of age or other means of qualifying for assisted housing. Even though she claimed to know a great deal about public housing, she was surprised to hear of the empty nest evictions policy which has been in effect since 1964 when OHC was started.

Susan Fish has been a very slip-

pery Fish indeed. Since her meeting with an empty nester from 200 Wellesley, she has done nothing and every effort to reach her has been met with a wall of office staff who shield Ms. Fish from her constituents. Not once has Susan Fish personally returned any calls made to her on the housing problems.

The final member of the Conservative trio who does nothing about the housing problem for OHC tenants is David Crombie. His office has been contacted a number of times by myself to seek an interview concerning housing matters. It appears that Mr. Crombie is too busy even to return the call.

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COMMUNITY SERVICES

NEIGHBOURHOOD LEGAL SERVICES - Legal Clinic for low-income people within Carlaw-Bloor-Yonge. PROBLEMS: Landlord-Tenant, welfare, UIC, Consumer, CAS, Immigration. CALL: 961-2625. 238 Carleton St. (12-24).

N.I.P. at 265 Gerrard St. East in the Library House beside the Parliament Street Library is open if you need help or information. Please drop in or call 924-2543. (12-15).

HELP WANTED

WE ARE EXPANDING. Men or women operating on a full or part-time basis can generate excellent incomes. For further information call 267-0235.

WE'LL PAY YOU \$40 per hundred to process and mail advertising letters and brochures. All postage paid. No gimmick. Send name, address, phone and \$2 for processing to Textron, Inc., Postal Unit 235, Avon Illinois 61415. (12-15).

CO-OP HOUSING co-ordinator position available - part-time at 56-unit downtown co-op. Good administrative, management and communication skills needed. Typing required. Call Bonnie: 977-8152. (12-15).

The Society of Sharing of the Archdiocese of Toronto requires a co-ordinator to develop and train a team of parish-based volunteers to work with marginal people in downtown Toronto. The successful candidate will be a self-starter with proven ability to work with others. The position requires a counsellor-organizer (M.S.W., B.S.W. or equivalent will be considered) with 3 years' experience in the social field. Experience such as direct service to the marginalized, organizing volunteers, knowledge of addictions, and working with church organizations would be a definite asset. The salary will be negotiated based on qualifications. Send resume to: Ken Bhagan, 40 Homewood Ave., Suite 509, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2K2 (12-15).

PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST-SECRETARY required immediately for community health centre. 10 hours per week and willingness and ability to go to full time 8-10 weeks during the year. Good clerical and typing skills essential. Knowledge of South Riverdale Community an asset. Excellent salary. Apply to administrator, South Riverdale Community Health Centre, 126 Pape Ave., Toronto M4M 2V8 Phone 461-2493.

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS - The federal government will rebate 50 per

cent, up to maximum of \$800, for converting your oil heating system to gas or electricity. If your home was built before 1961, you are also entitled up to \$500 rebate to insulate your home properly. For more information please call Canuck Corporation at 640-4444. (12-6)

ALTERATIONS AND RENOVATIONS: small company, experienced in renovation, that cares about quality of work and reasonable rates. References and estimates call 466-3331; Oasis Construction Co. (L22-15).

FREEZING PIPES, drafty unsecure doors, stuck windows, useless closets, overloaded outlets: we do minor improvements and repairs. Bedrooms, bathrooms and kitchen remodelling. Free estimates, reasonable rates and guaranteed work. STAR Home Improvements. Call 463-1004. (12-15).

FOR RENT

FOR RENT: Steps to bus/subway southwest off Wellesley on Parliament Street. All second floor, 1,000 sq. ft. Commercial or residential. Call 961-1643. (12-16).

MISCELLANEOUS

DRESSMAKING with or without a pattern. Phone 465-3992. (12-15).

HAND-PAINTING ON SILK workshop. Enables you to work independently at home. For times and fees call Carolyn Thorpe at 925-5848 before noon. (12-15).

SERVICES

DR. I. von LICHTENBERG Ph.D.

PSYCHOTHERAPIST

Initial Visit - No Fee

922-2996

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

LE CENTRE ACADIEN/Acadian Secretariat, 40 Oak St., does bilingual typing and translation. Accurate handling of large or small orders. Please call Veronica at 923-8713.

DOMESTIC SERVICES

"Personally, You Deserve The Very Best... Everytime"



Patsy's Maid Service

FREE ESTIMATES
FULLY INSURED
PERSONAL SUPERVISION

488-4123

197 REDPATH

T.C. DOUGLAS Housing Co-op has vacancies open on one-bedroom waiting list. Call Jane at 363-6030 after 6 p.m. for application forms. (12-15).

PERSONAL

AQUARIUS MALE seeks open minded females for casual friendship and interesting conversations. Willing to learn the art of posing for photographers and artists. 925-1373. (12-15).