Temporary address (through May 15, 1980):
2124 Parker #207, Berkeley, CA 94704 (415) 548-8482

#22—December 30, 1979

Well, Network-folk, it's time for a change in management. I'm heading off to Chapel Hill, to spend a semester teaching at the Univ. of N. Carolina's City & Regional Planning Dept. A group of good people from the Univ. of California, Berkeley, known as the Western Urban and Regional Collective (WURC), has decided they'd like to try their hand at editing the Newsletter, and we have agreed that they'll take over the next two issues at least. When I get back, in May or June, we'll rediscuss matters and make some decision about who will pick up the ball. The group's members are: Marshall Feldman, Amy Glasmeier, Hilde Jeffers, Meladine Landau, Michael Luger, Ann Markusen, Patrick O'Donnell, Becky O'Malley, Anno Saxenian, Eric Schoenberger, Michael Storper, Richard Walker, Marc Weiss, and David Wilmoth.

They've got a free hand in doing the Newsletter, and I'm excited about having others take over the work. This transition issue is being put out by all of us working together. I'm not burnt out, tired of it, or anything like that; it just seemed like a good idea all around to have some others take over the editorship, at least temporarily, and I may well be back doing it come springtime.

Address: For the next two issues, then, direct your Network communications to: 2124 Parker St., #270, Berkeley, CA 94704, (415) 548-8482 (if stuff is sent to Elizabeth St., it will wind up with them, but with some delay). My own address, from Jan. 1 until sometime in May, will be: 205 University Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27514, (919) 929-9611.

WURC

The Western Urban and Regional Collective, centered in the San Francisco Bay Area, is dedicated to working toward progressive policies for America's communities. The collective is composed of a diverse mixture of planners, economists, political activists, geographers, journalists, and others. Over the past few years, the members of the group have analyzed, and sponsored a conference on, Carter's urban policy; they have investigated the impact of urban and conversion control ordinances. It was difficult to overcome the argument that the city had already acted to ease the crisis and voters ought to give the new laws a chance. The landlords not only outspent the Prop. R group by better than 10:1, but based their campaign on the police vice squad all lose; saw a very conservative candidate come close to unseating the incumbent mayor; and saw the city's voters, who had turned down Prop. 13 in 1978, support Paul Gann's son of 13 local spending control initiative.

"Voter turnout was a low (for S.F.) 54%; with heavy late day rain a factor.

"The two principal factors accounting for the loss specific to the Prop. R campaign were: 1) the other side's expensive ($500-600,000) and totally unprincipled campaign tactics; and 2) the fact that the city, in an open move to undercut the upcoming initiative, had several months earlier passed relatively weak rent control and condominium conversion control ordinances. It was difficult to overcome the argument that the city had already acted to ease the crisis and voters ought to give the new laws a chance. The landlords not only outspent the Prop. R group by better than 10:1, but based their campaign on literature and commercials designed to mislead and confuse the voters. Landlords got literature saying passage of Prop. R would permit annual rent increases of only 3.3%; tenants got literature saying they'd get 9% increases if Prop. R passed (neither figure was true, since Prop. R permitted no automatic increase, but allowed only documented, cost-based increases). A piece of No on R literature was designed to look at first exactly like the basic Yes on R leaflet. A widely shown t.v. commercial stated, with no foundation in fact whatsoever, that if Prop. R passes every rental agreement would have to be approved by the Rental Affairs Board. The police vice squad all lose; saw a very conservative candidate come close to unseating the incumbent mayor; and saw the city's voters, who had turned down Prop. 13 in 1978, support Paul Gann's son of 13 local spending control initiative.

"The campaign leaves important questions to answer

• How can progressive issues win when so few lower income and Third World people register and vote?
• How can effective community organizations be built that can insulate people against media propaganda?
• How can broad-based coalitions of labor, community, church, women's, etc. groups operate more effectively and involve more of their membership?
• How much do specific features of a rent control/housing reform ordinance (such as exemption of small landlords) really affect victory and defeat?
“The SFAH coalition is planning to stay together, to work for strengthening of the city’s new rent and condo control laws, to fight the landlord’s statewide anti-rent control initiative headed for the June ballot, and to become the center of housing activity in the city. The Dec. run-off elections for the Board of Supervisors (city council) produced a majority of supervisors who supported Prop. R, so it may be possible to pass discrete features of the omnibus ordinance. I’ll keep the Network posted on future activities of San Franciscans for Affordable Housing.”

NATIONAL RENT CONTROL MEETING: On the Nov. 10-12 weekend some 80 rent control activists, from all over the country, met in Newark. Shelterforce, the New Jersey tenants’ organization, and the Metropolitan Council on Housing sponsored the gathering. The three days provided a good opportunity to exchange experiences and ideas and to speak to the question of establishing a national rent control network or organization. The Shelterforce Collective was given the mandate and responsibility to bring this about. For further information, contact John Atlas or Woody Widrow at Shelterforce, 380 Main St., E. Orange, NJ 07018.

HOSPITAL EXPANSION IMPACT STUDIES: Glenn Yago of COACT Research (1121 University Ave., Madison, WI 53706, (608) 251-2702, 262-2786) is working with a neighborhood association trying to fight the expansion of a hospital and is looking for impact studies from other cities. Please get in touch with him right away if you have any leads.

“WE WILL NOT BE MOVED” is a terrific slide show on displacement (from the Over-the-Rhine area of Cincinnati), produced by the Dayton Community Media Workshop. Contact them at 215 Superior Ave., Dayton, OH 45406.

TWO POTENTIAL SOURCES OF NETWORK INCOME from enterprising members: 1) Job recruitment notices from universities (and other employers) can be regarded as an advertisement, for which we will bill you. Several people have done it this way, and the Network is $25 or so richer each time. 2) If you’re part of an office (public or private), have the Newsletter sent to you as a “subscription” for which we’ll bill you.

THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON NEIGHBORHOODS’ final report, People Building Neighborhoods, is available ($7.50) from the US Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

GENTRIFICATION OF PUBLIC HOUSING: For the Anti-Displacement Project he’s working on, Chester Hartman (205 University Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27514) would like to hear about any publicly subsidized housing projects that are being converted to higher income co-op or rental development, converted from family to elderly occupancy, or demised to remove a “blighting” influence from a neighborhood on its way “up.” Even if you know no more than the name of the project, send it along.

“INVOLUNTARY DISPLACEMENT: A MAJOR ISSUE FOR PEOPLE AND NEIGHBORHOODS” is a report by Cushing Dolbear prepared for the Natl. Commn. on Neighborhoods. Available for $2 from her at 215 8th St. NE, Washington, 20002.

MORE ON THE BARTON-SCHUMAN DEBATE from John Atlas (Essex-Newark Legal Services, 380 Main St., E. Orange, NJ 07017): “As more and more groups are focusing on rehabing old housing a political debate that has a long history in the left has emerged. Shall wealth and property be divided or shared? Should housing activists emphasize private ownership through cooperatives, community development corporations, condominium conversions and sweat equity? Or should they focus on public ownership and the municipalization of rental housing?

“This issue arises within the Planner Network as a question of self reliance vs. state assistance. Steve Barton states the real issue is how do we create a movement for a truly democratic society. He points to the critical role cooperatives can play. Homefront answers the movement building question by first pointing to the coopting limitations of self help, and then arguing that state solutions are strategically correct. Homefront appears to be making the age old mistake of thinking the critical question is what reforms should the left demand that are inherently revolutionary.

“A new society will not be built trying to make sure the working class and poor make the correct revolutionary demands.

“What people demand and how they demand it is largely influenced by institutional conditions such as where they live, what class they were born into, whether they’re easy to act collectively, who is oppressing them and how powerful and accessible are their enemies. This framework both creates and limits the opportunities for mass struggle and movement building. You cannot create a new consciousness outside the day to day experience of the people you organize. No amount of educating people to the correct demands will create the necessary alliances, unless those demands tap actual grievances and build alliances that are natural.

“For many tenants some form of cooperative private ownership may be the only short-term option, even though they run the risk of incurring a greater financial burden. In addition, it can provide valuable political lessons. When cooperative housing is won through a political struggle—such as a squatters’ action or a rent strike that drives the landlord out of business—those involved begin to realize there is a class enemy that is responsible for their problems and that ordinary people, when united, can effect changes. And the process of cooperative ownership and self-management itself helps people overcome their feelings of cynicism and powerlessness, and at the same time weaken the most authoritarian aspects of private landlord control.

“But while such a democratic form of decision-making should be encouraged, it should not be seen as an alternative to public ownership.

“Both cooperative and public housing demands are necessary and have their limitations. They both tend to rely on the state, they both take pressure off the system to provide full employment, and they both force tenants to be landlords.

“Public housing reforms are just as cooptable as self-help reforms. All housing reforms can be integrated into the present system.

“The debate that centers around self reliance versus state solutions may be the most important debate of the 80’s. We need, more than ever, not only a strategy of effective pressure through which working-class people can act together in defiance of the their rulers in ways that are more congruent with the structures of working-class life and with the process of working-class struggle and less susceptible to penetration by dominant elites.

“The debate that centers around self reliance versus state solutions misses the point. The debate, to quote Cloward and Piven, should center on what alternative forms of organizations should be developed through which working-class people can act together in defiance of their rulers in ways that are more congruent with the structures of working-class life and with the process of working-class struggle and less susceptible to penetration by dominant elites.

“As one of the leaders of a newly organized and revitalized New Jersey Tenant Organization, the largest tenant organization in the country, this question becomes a very pressing one indeed.”
LANDLORDS ON THE OFFENSIVE: Sick of having to fight on so many local fronts and often losing (LA City, LA County, Berkeley, SF and Santa Monica are among the Calif. cities that now have some form of rent control), the real estate interests of the state are trying to use the state initiative process to put an end to effective housing cost regulation. They have mounted a signature drive (using paid circulators who lie to potential signers by asking them to sign for rent control) to place on the June, 1980 primary ballot a Fair Rent Initiative (sic) that sets criteria for local rent control ordinances so stringent that the entire tenant movement in the state would be totally undercut. Under the proposed initiative law, city councils would not be able to pass rent control at all (as they have in California’s major cities, under pressure from the housing movement), only the voters could; Consumer Price Index level increases would be mandatory; units would be completely decontrolled in between tenancies; single-family rental units could not be controlled; and any local ordinance passed by the voters, weak as it would have to be, would automatically expire in four years. It’s a major attack on the tenant movement, and from all indications a massive war chest ($5-10 million) will be used, with all the dirty tricks that have proved successful elsewhere, to try and smash California’s newly revitalized housing movement. It’s absolutely critical that this initiative be defeated. If successful, it will become a model for other states as well. If you live in California, contact the Calif. Housing Action & Information Network, 4228 Telegraph Ave., Oakland (653-4613) to become involved in the campaign. If you live outside California, send them a contribution; it won’t be defeated without money.

PHILADELPHIA NETWORK GROUP REPORT: From Jeffrey Hochman (419 E. Wynnewood Rd., Narberth, PA 19072): “The first meeting of the Union for Progressive Planning in Philadelphia on Saturday, Sept. 5, involved the introduction of the five participants. We discussed the background of each one of us and the reasons for coming to the meeting. The participants are Jeffrey Hochman, Jim Parker, Bobbi Granger, Robert Jaffee and Ernest Boyd.

“The discussion centered upon four points.
1. What separates this organization from APA, community organizations and other organizations.
2. What will be our ties to a supposed national organization and the Planners Network.
3. What role will we play (planning advocates, advisers, research, planners union, mutual support and education) for each other and the larger community.
4. How will we organize and who will we want to attract to this organization.

“These were all very important questions that were discussed but not answered. During the meeting we have come to some consensus.
1. This is a radical planning organization open to anyone interested in planning. It is not an APA type of organization, yet it won’t be totally like a community organizing and housing research organization.
2. We will be linked with the national organization for guidance and national ideas.
3. We could be advocates for people like community activists helping to support their “work in the streets” and documenting some of their programs and analysis in the language of planners and “decision makers.”
4. We have not yet reached an agreement upon who to ask but we will distribute this document to various people to hear their ideas and interests.”

The group also has available an 8-page “Proposal for A Union.” Write them for copies but probably enclose a little change for xeroxing and postage.

RADICAL PLANNERS JOURNAL: from John Colm (2221-13th Ave. E., Seattle, WA 98102): “I guess I should throw in my two-cents worth about the form of the Network and the possibility of a Radical Planners Journal: I think the Network is most useful to me as it is, although I support the idea of a periodic bibliography. If the Network were to be replaced by a journal my needs would not be met. So, if a journal is necessary—fine, but let the Network continue.

“I am about to start with the Seattle Tenants Union as an organizer on displacement issues. This is through the National Assn. of Neigh­borhoods, a group coordinating 40 VISTAs around the U.S., all working on displacement issues: condominium conversion, demo­lition, rent control, landlord-tenant law, etc. I’d like to hear about others doing similar work—what experiences have you had, etc.”

From Neil Smith (Dept. of Geography and Environmental Engineering, Johns Hopkins U., Baltimore, MD 21218): “I’m a relative late-comer to the network, but one of my most striking impressions at the Ithaca conference was the need for a more coherent focus for our work—hardly a revolutionary insight! But it occurred to me that one such focus could be a radical planning journal. I know this idea has been thrown around for a while but it strikes me as a good one. There are problems of course—the work involved, the likelihood of encour­aging academic elitism, the bucks—but I think it remains a good idea. Well, there are several people at the Architectural Association in London who are trying to get a good radical planning journal together. They have already produced two issues and apparently already have the money for several more. The journal is called Political Economy of Cities and Regions.”

“Michel (LeFevre) and myself have been asked to act as U.S. reps on the editorial board. We agreed, and said we would do our best to solicit articles as well as distribute the journal. It seemed to us that not only was the UK “planning field wide open for a radical journal,” the same applied to the U.S. Indeed, I would put it more strongly. I think that a radical planning journal would go a long way toward giving some focus to the radical planning movement that is now developing.

“Unfortunately, I do not have back issues of the journal. I’ll give you one of the London editors’ names and you could contact him if you were interested in seeing a copy. What I wanted to ask, though, was two things: first, whether you would include a short note about the journal in the Network newsletter; and second, whether you would be interested yourself in contributing an article to help get the journal off the ground. The first edition was on urban ideologies, the second on “Building Capital and Labour.” The third, due to be published in the spring, is on “Planning in Socialist Countries,” and I know there is one on housing planned. So the range of topics is broad.

“I’m also writing to Peter Marcuse and some of the others who were at Cornell. My own feeling, obviously, is that this is a very important project politically, and well worth supporting. If you would be interested in contributing or in getting more information, the person to contact is: Malcolm Forbes, 26 Teesdale Road, Leytonstone, Lon­don E11.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD MOVEMENT: From Janice Perlman (Dept. of City and Regional Planning, U. of Cal., Berkeley 94720): “I am just now beginning a two-year research project on “The Neighborhood Movement in the 1970s: Grassroots Empowerment and Government Response.” The basic research design is incorporated in an article by that title appearing in Social Policy’s special issue on neighborhood organizations, September/October 1979. I’ll be focusing this year on the San Francisco Bay Area and next year on New York City.

“If anyone is doing similar research, I’d love to hear about it, and if anyone is interested in a Berkeley-Manhattan house swap, please call collect (415) 642-1617 or (415) 841-2609.”

COMMERCIAL STRIP REVITALIZATION: from Lynne Cunningham (Greater Southwest Development Corporation, 6249 S. Western Ave., Chicago, IL 60636, (312) 436-1000): “Our organization has just completed a revitalization/redevelopment plan for the commercial strip in our community which is on the southwest side of Chicago. As a private non-profit organization, we are attempting to act as a catalyst for continued and increased private and public sector investment in the community. Although we have managed to leverage public sector funds for capital improvements once commitments were made by some of the large businesses in the area, we are having difficulty lining up private developers to undertake what we believe can be profitable activities for them and more importantly, provide needed services for our residents. I’d be interested in hearing from similar community development corporations about their efforts to use some of the available public programs such as SBA guarantees and loans, and UDAGs, as incentives and how they’ve broken down developers’ perceptions about what are usually considered “undesirable or unstable” areas. (Our community is becoming integrated.)”
A MISCELLANY FROM MARY VOGEL: (380 So. 39th St., Boulder, CO 80303 or (303) 499-2531.

MOUNTAIN STATES PLANNERS NETWORKERS (Colorado, Wyoming, Utah—Montana and Idaho welcome too) please get in touch with Mary Vogel by Jan. 15 if you are interested in pulling together a regional meeting to develop an agenda and ideas to take to the national founding meeting of a socialists planners organization (Blacksburg/Ithaca followup). I would like to hear from you about (1) what specific substantive topics you feel we should focus on in our region—energy, housing, anti-nuke work, appropriate technology/renewable resources, service cutbacks, preservation of agricultural land, etc., (2) when the meeting should take place (soon!), (3) what should the purpose and functions of the organization be, and (4) whether you could prepare a discussion paper. Please drop a line to me right away. (See address above.)

“HOUSING ISSUES FOR THE 80’s” by Chester Hartman has been syndicated by National Public Radio. The talk is an edited version of a talk Hartman gave in Denver last spring where he laid out an alternative strategy for meeting the nation’s housing needs. (He covers most of the ideas in the article he co-authored with Mike Stone: “Housing: A Socialist Alternative,” without using the term socialist.) I’d suggest that Networkers who have not yet heard the talk get in touch with your local NPR station and ask them to broadcast it.

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES/APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY SYMPOSIUM: On Nov. 10-11, 1979 I attended an excellent symposium titled “New Dimensions in Appropriate Technology” sponsored by the International Association for the Advancement of Appropriate Technology for Developing Countries (IAAATDC) held at MIT. Symposium panelists and participants addressed complex questions of technology development and technology transfer within the framework of controversial socio-political-economic issues of Third World development. Specific case studies and technologies were also discussed in technical sessions. Proceedings should be available soon. To get information on the proceedings and on IAAATDC, write to them at 603 E. Madison St., U. of Michigan, Ann Arbor 48109 or call (313) 764-6410.

THIRD WORLD DEVELOPMENT: For Networkers interested in exploring questions of economic development and technology transfer in the Third World, I can recommend two outstanding books: 1. Chester Hartman: A New Convent in the Theory of Development and The Uncertain Promise: Values Conflict in Technology Transfer, both by Denis Goulet. These books make one reflect deeply on one’s own culture too—hence, they’re useful to planners dealing with domestic issues as well as those operating in the Third World. For those aspiring to work in these areas, the Graduate School of International Studies at the U. of Denver offers a program in Technology, Modernization and International Studies. Write GSIS, U. of Denver, CO 80208 or call (303) 753-2324 for further information.

NATIONAL PASSIVE SOLAR CONFERENCE: On Oct. 3-5 I attended the Fourth National Passive Solar Conference sponsored by the American Section of the International Solar Energy Society in Kansas City, Missouri. I came away from the conference terribly disappointed that a technology that has such potential to contribute to long-range progressive social change was promoted as little more than a “technical fix” for middle-class America living in the suburbs or escaping to 20 acres (or more) of rolling wooded land in the hills. In striking contrast to the IAAATDC Symposium, little effort was made to place the development of passive solar technology into a societal framework addressing some of the most pressing social problems of the day. Instead, we were shown slide after slide of oversized suburban houses on their quarter-acre lots with price tags of $110,000 and up—or else elegant underground or earth-beamed houses in bucolic settings even further removed from urban problems. In the workshops I was able to attend over the three days of the conference, I heard no mention made of passive for multi-family buildings and very little mention of retrofitting in low-income inner-city or rural areas. Little attention was given to utilization of passive solar technology for meeting basic needs other than shelter—e.g., agricultural applications or small, decentralized industrial uses. Instead, individualistic solutions to societal problems were presented especially in the plenary sessions. Next year’s conference will be held Oct. 19-26 on the campus in Amherst. I’d suggest that Networkers interested in promoting passive solar technology as a tool for building a decentralized, self-reliant, cooperative, socialist society contact AS of ISES, American Technological, P.O. Box 1416, Killeen, TX 76541 to find out how you might participate in and influence the direction of the Fifth National Passive Solar Conference. Proceedings from the Fourth Conference are also available from the same address.

HOUSING ISSUES TASK FORCE OF COLORADO convened a statewide convention titled “Housing in Colorado: A Legislative Action Convention,” Nov. 3, 1979, for the purpose of ratifying a legislative platform to present to the legislature. Workshops covered Tenant/Landlord Issues, Migrant/Rural Issues, and State Housing Policy. Network member Mary Vogel spoke on state housing policy, calling for Colorado to take a pioneering new direction in financing and building housing to meet the needs of its working people. Response was mixed—very enthusiastic from the majority, very negative from the members of the ruling elite in the audience. To get a copy of the platform (or to participate in the task force if you’re a Colorado resident) write Housing Issues Task Force, 200 Josephine, Denver, CO 80206 or call (303) 388-4411, Ext. 254.

HOUSING BIBLIOGRAPHY: My annotated housing bibliography, prepared for the National Lawyers Guild Housing Task Force of Denver (which I participate in) got quite a few requests last time so thought I’d offer it again. It covers books, articles and publications and deals with historical as well as current works. To receive a copy, please send a 28c SASE to Mary Vogel at above address along with 50c to cover copying.

CHINA TOURS: The U.S.-China Peoples Friendship Assn. sponsors three or four special-interest tours to China each year that are national in scope and composition and highly specific in focus. The 1980 National Special Interest Tours are: City Planners, Economic Systems Engineers, and Business Administration and Industrial Management Specialists. If you would like to recommend someone “prominent in their field and nationally known” for any of these tours—or if you fit that description yourself and want to go—contact the National Tours Office, 635 So. Westlake Ave., L.A., CA 90057, (213) 483-5810 to obtain more information. For those of you less prominent, the ordinary Friendship Study Tour is a great way to learn more about China (I went on one in March, 1978) and a much more worthwhile experience than a commercially-sponsored tour. Contact the address above for further information and application materials.

JOB WANTED: My hard sought job with the Developing Countries Branch of the Solar Energy Research Inst. (researching an agricultural handbook for planners and researchers in developing countries) has ended after only a three month duration, since AID funds did not come through to continue my appointment. I’m in a quandary over what to do next with my life and could use some help from folks out there! My interests are quite diverse, spanning community and economic development (national and international), land use and natural resource planning (with a focus on housing and energy issues), feminism and development, the built environment (socio-political-economic impacts of the environment on the system and the system on the environment), technology assessment/appropriate technology and solar technology. I’ve had considerable practical experience with CDBG, HUD-assisted housing programs, state housing policy and citizen participation programs. Although most of my experience is domestic, my vision is global, so I’d prefer not to be limited to domestic issues. I would most like to work with other socialist planners/community change agents—and get paid for my work. I have a Master’s in Urban and Regional Planning if academic credentials are important. Resume available upon request.

Alternatively, I’ve been thinking about selling everything I own and backpacking around the U.S. and abroad for awhile—visiting Networkers and others doing positive work for social change. I’d
like to hear from anyone interested in going with me, anyone who has done such a thing before, or anyone who could spend some time with me discussing their work if I were to visit. Contact me at above address.

REACHING UP, REACHING OUT: A Guide to Organizing Local Solar Events is available while quantities last—FREE—from the Solar Energy Research Institute, Publications Dept. 1617 Cole Blvd., Golden, CO 80401. It is divided into three sections: (1) an events sampler (15 case studies of successful solar and energy conservation activities, (2) an organizing primer, and (3) a guide to selected resources (including an annotated bibliography of films, slides and printed material covering 11 energy topic areas and addresses of organizations promoting solar arranged according to state).

LOCAL SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: From Ernie Turner (New York Urban Coalition, Inc. 1270 Ave. of the Americas, NYC 10020): “The Local School Development Project is designed to promote student growth and achievement (1) by empowering and supporting each participating local school community in planning, implementing and assessing a comprehensive school program, and (2) by building a city-wide collaboration which protects local initiatives and extends the impact of their success.” If any Networkers are involved in similar projects, please contact him.

BRITISH STUDY TOUR: From Susan Lobbenberg: “Town and Country Planning Association welcomes planning visitors from overseas, and the Unit’s staff are happy to discuss their work with people interested in citizen participation. The TCPA also organises Study Tours of British planning (there is an annual New Towns Study Tour). Further details are obtainable from the Town and Country Planning Association, 17 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1, England.”

PLANNING WORKERS: From Ken Daly (1810 Copper Hill, San Antonio, TX 78232): “I would like to try to respond to your solicitation for discussion of one’s work. I work for a city government in a unit that does the planning for CETA programs in a 12-county area, and for the city’s economic development efforts. The job requires that I supervise the work of other planners and of clerical workers.

“The important point for radical planners is this: If we want to reach out to other planners and to get them to join with us, then we have to begin with the recognition that most of the people who work in planning organizations are simply trying to make a living. . . . I think that radical/progressive planners should be putting more emphasis on reaching out to and organizing the vast majority of people who work in ‘traditional’ planning jobs. I am including here not only ‘professional’ planners, but also the many paraprofessional, technical, and clerical workers with whom we associate.

“Organizing our fellow planning workers only makes sense as part of efforts to create a larger movement of workers acting in their own interests. So, I would like to hear more about efforts at unionization or other forms of workplace organizing. If we are going to talk about ‘nontraditional’ roles, I would like to hear more about efforts to work for or with unions and rank-and-file caucuses with unions.

“I would argue that the building of a mass movement should be the first priority of progressive planners and that reforms should be judged in terms of what they can contribute to building that movement, not as ends in themselves. Therefore, I tend to take the following attitude towards my job: during the day, work for the system; after work, work to bring it down. This is not a completely satisfactory attitude. At times I suffer from extreme cynicism, which quickly leads to apathy. Two principles to help to guide me on the job: 1) always make it as explicit as possible in whose interests these programs are being operated; 2) push the agency and the politicians as hard as possible to do real planning. . . . One problem with operating this way, especially when isolated from other radicals, is that the contradictions never seem to become manifest to anyone but myself. A small radical newspaper in the Mexican community is, however, providing one vehicle for spreading the word.

“Finally, the most difficult problem I have with my job is that I’m a supervisor with the power to hire and fire. I mentioned this problem at the Blacksburg conference and found that a number of other people were acutely aware of this problem in their own work . . . I would like to hear from others on how they approach the role of supervisor.”

5 JOBS

The Trust for Public Land, 82 Second St., San Francisco, CA 94105 announces a position for Western Regional Director. The Director would live in the San Francisco Bay Area and must be able to travel frequently. Salary range is up to $24,000, depending on qualifications and requirements.

Planner sought to work with lower-income neighborhood groups to accomplish social change. Responsible for general planning technical assistance; neighborhood economic development issues including reinvestment/displacement research, organizing, policy analysis. Salary: $17,000. Submit resumes by Oct. 26, 1979 to Search Committee, Pratt Institute Center for Community and Environmental Development, 275 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11205.

HEALTH/HOUSING MANAGEMENT PLANNER: Plan develop and coordinate the implementation of an integrated health services and housing management plan for an independent living housing project for the mentally and physically handicapped in the City of Lompoc. Application deadline is Dec. 1, 1979. Send resumes (with references) to: Howard Gong, Project Coordinator, Community Housing Corporation, 703 West Micheltorena, San Barbara, CA 93101, (805) 963-3466.

SEATTLE TENANTS UNION (1133 23rd Ave., Seattle, WA 98122, 206-233-0706) seeks a director ($12,000/yr plus benefits) to plan and administer projects, evaluate staff performance, train staff in organizing, fund raising, etc. Submit resume or call Ellen Dunyon by Nov. 30, 1979.

Univ. of Illinois (Urbana), Urban and Regional Planning seeks Assist. Prof., tenure track position, August 1980. Applications should be received by Dec. 15, 1979. Submit curriculum vitae and names and addresses of three references to: Carl V. Patton, Head, Dept. of Urban & Regional Planning, Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1003 West Nevada St., Urbana, IL 61801, (217) 333-3890.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NATL ASSOC. OF HOUSING CO-OPERATIVES: The NAHC Executive Director has general responsibility for coordinating and implementing all NAHC activities. The Executive Director works out of the NAHC Washington office, keeping in touch with all NAHC members and in particular with the members Associations. This involves a substantial amount of travel. Salary commensurate with experience. Send resumes by Dec. 31, 1979, to NAHC, 1012 14th St., N.W., Suite 805, Washington, D.C. 20005, (202) 628-6242.

The Bernal Heights Community Foundation, a community based non-profit community development corporation in San Francisco is looking for two full time positions for its housing production staff starting in March-April 1980. Salaries are $16,000 per year. Please send letters of interest/resumes to Roger Borgenicht, 63 Winfield St., San Francisco, CA 94110, (415) 826-3959 (days).

Pratt Inst. is looking for a new Chairperson for the Department of City & Regional Planning. Send resume, expected salary and references by Nov. 19, 1979. For more information please contact: Search Committee, Dept. of City & Regional Planning, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY 11205 or call (212) 636-3414.

The Urban Planning Program at UCLA anticipates openings for several visiting or tenure-track appointments in the fall of 1980, and solicits applications by Jan. 15, 1980. For further details contact: Prof. Martin Wachs, Chair, Staffing Work Group, Urban Planning Program, School of Arch. & Urban Planning, UCLA, L.A., CA 90024.

Two openings for fall 1980 for faculty members in Public Policy and Administration. Evergreen is an accredited, public, liberal arts college which emphasizes team-taught interdisciplinary studies both in the under curriculum and in the MPA program. No departments, no faculty ranks. For information, contact Willard Humphreys, Academic Dean, L2219, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 98505. Closing Jan. 1, 1980.
THE WOMEN'S SCHOOL OF PLANNING AND ARCHITECTURE 1979—A REVIEW AND CRITIQUE: PART I by Mary Vogel (Co-coordinator): “This year's WSPA was held Aug. 9-23, 1979 at Regis College, Denver. With the theme 'Transitions: Designing for the Future As If Women Mattered,' its intention was 'to focus on the future from both a global and a personal perspective.'

The following is Part I of a brief discussion on some of the major presentations and events at WSPA '79 and a subjective analysis of how well those presentations and events met the expectations aroused by the theme. The comments offered here are meant to be constructive in the best spirit of socialist feminist criticism/self-criticism and should not be seen as an attack on the tremendous efforts of this year's volunteer organizers (amongst whose members I proudly include myself).

"WSPA '79 was divided into a weekend session where invited speakers (women only) gave presentations and led discussions, and a two-week session, which was centered around core courses and participant presentations. Games, role-playing and guided fantasies were important experiences in both sessions.

"The weekend session dealt with both analytical-conceptual topics and nuts and bolts-current information topics. Ideally, the analytical presentations would have set the framework for the nuts and bolts topics, but this is not what occurred. Instead we had the following interesting concoction: A rather sweeping view of the need for the transition to a post-industrial economy (a la Herman Kahn and other 'futurists'), a general overview of what HUD is doing in the area of women's needs, a slide show on one particular housing project for single parents (mainly women) in Denver, an introduction to the Women's Development Corporation and its proposal for an economic development/housing rehab project in Providence, RI, a thought-provoking presentation on the possibility of either conflict or convergence between two massive social change movements—the women's movement and the movement to conserve resources*, an informal discussion with three Colorado women politicians on future trends, desirable directions and political realities, tapes by Hazel Henderson and male futurists, an all too brief discussion of the earth's energy budget and the laws of thermodynamics along with a poetry reading, an explanation of the Neighborhood Housing Services program and of HUD funding for other neighborhood preservation projects.

"Although each of the presentations was of some value in exposing participants to new concepts or information, there was little attempt to integrate the parts into a coherent whole. No attempt was made, for instance, to analyze how or whether the HUD programs presented would help us move in the direction of the kind of 'post-industrial society' WSPA participants and other feminists would want to see. Too little critical analysis was done of the programs or tools being presented—for example, no analysis was made of who benefits most from Neighborhood Housing Services programs—low-income people or banks and speculators. No analysis was offered as to whether we should put our energies into pursuing the measly bones HUD throws out in the form of Sec. 8 funds, innovative grants, CDBG funds, etc., for women, minorities and other low-income classes to fight over, when we know that the majority of HUD's subsidy goes to benefit mortgage lenders, high-income investors, developers and owners of equity. Shouldn't we be working towards longer-range changes in our entire housing policy and tax policy, meanwhile developing strategies for the pay back period. However, either from federal regulations or by choice, the rehab work seems very extensive, more than necessary, being occasionally architecturally inappropriate, and in many cases more expensive than appears necessary. Is this typical and are the regulations such that there is little alternative?"

OVERDOING REHAB: From Jan Abell, Architectural Director, Tampa Community Design Center (304 Plant Ave., Tampa, Florida 33606): "I have a concern regarding federal housing rehab loans. I particularly would like to know if others are experiencing similar situations across the country. It appears to me that the city is vigorously undergoing code enforcement and processing loan packages in their neighborhood strategy areas. Loan programs are fairly accommodating, allowing the least amount of discomfort to the homeowner for the pay back period. However, either from federal regulations or by choice, the rehab work seems very extensive, more than necessary, being occasionally architecturally inappropriate, and in many cases more expensive than appears necessary. Is this typical and are the regulations such that there is little alternative?"

DISPLACEMENT/REVITALIZATION: The Oct. 1979 J. Amer. Planning Assn. has an article/comment/response by Howard Sumka of HUD and Chester Hartman on the question of HUD's stance toward the new displacement problem. It's part of a larger symposium on neighborhood revitalization.

CO-OPS FOR NEIGHBORHOODS: From Ruth Ann Weidner (128 Dean St., Brooklyn, NY 11201): "I'm currently working for HUD on an NYC demonstration called Co-ops for Neighborhoods. By using a combination of CDBG funds and a cut of Section 8 syndication proceeds, the goal is to produce about 50 co-op units nearby a new Section 8 sub rehab of about 100 units, thereby offering tenure choice and increased neighborhood stability. (Of course, what HUD program isn't supposed to do this?) If anyone would like further information (the demo may be taken to other cities in 1980), please write."
PASSIVE COOLING SYSTEMS: Anyone with direct design experience in passively cooled multi-family housing projects in desert areas is asked to contact, immediately, Darian Diachok, Developing Countries Branch, Solar Energy Research Inst., 1617 Cole Blvd., Golden, CO 80401, (303) 231-1828.

CLEAN AIR ACT: From Howard Schwartz (Dept. of Urban Planning, U. of Wash., Seattle, WA 98105): "I am in the process of putting together my dissertation on the implementation of Section 309 of the Clean Air Act (EPA's responsibility to review environmental impacts of federal action) and would like to hear any comments or war stories from people who have dealt with EPA and its environmental review processes, or who have been involved in litigation involving Clean Air Act and EPA enforcement, especially in dealing with state implementation plans, transportation component, etc.

APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY: From Jeff Joslin (12 Cody St., Apt. 7, Providence, RH 02903): "The existence of your planner's network has recently been brought to my attention. I'm presently working with the Providence Center for Community Technology, an appropriate technology oriented project working towards the implementation of solar, greenhouse, and gardening projects, as well as food and firewood co-ops, in low-income areas in Providence.

I've recently received a grant, as a student intern, to do research into community interest, and potential involvement with, the Center and an appropriate technology program. Preceding this evaluation is to be information presented to community groups including a survey/general analysis of the success and structures/programs of similarly oriented groups in comparable areas (low-income urban).

I'm hoping the planner's network may prove useful in getting me in touch with such groups for the purpose of developing this study and helping to clarify our goals, possibilities, and potential strategies at the Center.

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY: From Jay D. Jurie (1200 Liberty Lane, Pueblo, CO 81001): "I have been appointed Alternative Energy/Solar Coordinator for the Energy Community of the American Movement. Those working on the opposite spectrums of alternative energy, or wishing to develop a socialist slant on such issues, should get in touch with me. I would like to work toward an alternative energy committee within the Planner's Network structure.

ENERGY FORUM: From Mike Noon (383 Elsie St., S.F., CA 94111): "Energy and The Way We Live: A National Issues Forum" is a major, nationwide public education program. Formats of the series will include debates, panel discussions, lectures, films, study groups, etc. Concurrent with the forums themselves, a "Course by Newspaper" on energy matters will be carried by some 500 U.S. newspapers. National public radio will air several interactive (audience participation via telephone) broadcasts tied to the program's 'Calendar of Issues'. Public television presentations and a wide variety of citizen-group activities will also be developed and incorporated into the overall program.

"Early indications are that the utilities and oil companies are going to offer their perspective through free films and other propaganda. Network members concerned with offering a radical perspective on this question should get further info from: Western Region—Nancy Topper или Lucienne O’Keefe, Energy Forum, Indian Valley Colleges, 1800 Ignacio Blvd., Novato, CA 94947. Eastern Region—Diane Eisenberg, Dir. of Com. Forums, Amer. Assn. of Com. and Junior Colleges, One Dupont Circle, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, (202) 293-7050."

ENERGY PLANNING NETWORK is a quarterly newsletter published by APA Energy Planning Division, EPD, P.O. Box 172, Vienna, VA 22180.

FRIENDS OF THE (CHICAGO) RIVER: From Robert Cassidy (2119 W. Waveland Ave., Chicago, IL 60614): "I'd like to report on a new and interesting development here in Chicago. Last August, I wrote an article for Chicago magazine entitled 'Action Plan for the Chicago River'. It was a simple outline of the planning that had been done in the past for the river (not much) and a modest proposal for what could be done to turn the river—which I believe to be Chicago's most neglected resource—into a valuable asset, particularly for resi-

dents of the working-class neighborhoods through which it winds. (Copies of the article are available from me. Please include SASE.)"

PRAIRIE PROJECT: From Charlie Deknat (914 Garfield St., Lincoln, NE 68502): "I think the most interesting thing I found myself involved in was as director of something called Prairie Project which was the third program following E. F. Schumacher's visit to the area in 1977 and stresses alternative ways of using resources, developing the region, local and organization, etc. It has always attracted a diverse group of people in terms of age, ideology and activity. The stress here is very much (cf. Barton-Schuman debate) on self-reliance, local institutions and traditional rural-cooperative values which were the basis of settlement not so long ago. Populist rhetoric runs high but is mixed in with some conservatism, some Jeffersonianism and a lot of religion in some instances.

"In any case, I think many people were struck by the interest in different ways of doing things which came out at this meeting—although some of it is seen as choices of less technology or more forebearance and preservation of basic values—still these are seen as threatened by corporate farming, rapid exploitation of resources, etc.

I don't know where this all leads. We are doing some follow up for next year when the Center for Great Plains Studies will be doing the project. A lot of diverse things came up at the meeting as you can see from the program: some issues got raised and some possible networks exist.

"Nebraska has some good and effective organizations—environmental, agricultural and others which appear to be better combinations of rural and urban people than other places I have seen. There have also been some interesting things like the Wheatgrowers strongly opposing the MX missile sitting in SW Nebraska."

"Prairie Project '79: 'The Good Life: Alternative Planning and Development Assumptions For The Great Plains' was held on March 9, 1979 and sponsored by the Dept. of Arch. at the U. of Nebraska—Lincoln.

TAX REFORM: The California Tax Reform Association is promoting a statewide initiative called the Tax Simplicity Act, which would "cut taxes without cutting services" by closing loopholes and increasing the tax rate for banks and corporations. For more information write to the CTRA, 1206 Q St., Sacramento, CA 95814.

CONDOMINIUM CONVERSION: Network member Steve Ishino has recently completed a report on condominium conversions in the San Francisco Bay Area. Write to him at 339 Lester Ave., Apt. B, Oakland, CA 94606, for more information.

RESEARCH CONTRACTS: Coatz Research, Inc. is a Madison, Wisconsin-based "non-profit, tax-exempt research, educational, and consulting corporation trying to find contracts to do social, economic, and policy research." They have completed a housing speculation study for the city of Madison, and an environmental impact study for the Mole Lake Chippewa Tribe in Northern Wisconsin. Their address is 1121 University Ave., Madison, WI 53715.

HUD VISITING SCHOLAR PROGRAM: From Norman Glickman (419 S. Taney St., Philadelphia, PA 19146): "I would like to call Network members' attention to the Visiting Scholars program at the Office of Policy Development and Research at HUD. The program allows academics to come to HUD for a year or more to engage in research and policy analysis. I came to HUD under this program and stayed for 18 months. I found the work interesting and exciting. For further information, write to the Visiting Scholars Program, Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, US Dept. of HUD, Washington, D.C. 20410."

THE INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF CIVIC VALUES, 401 N. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19108, has recently received a grant from the National Science Foundation to establish a Neighborhood Education and Research Consortium involving a number of educational institutions in the Philadelphia area. The purpose of the consortium is to make available to neighborhood groups information concerning community development, economic development, and environmental issues.
BLACK WORKERS: Morris E. Davis, Assoc. Dir., Labor Occupational Health Programs (U. of Calif., Berkeley 94720) is studying Black workers in North Carolina. He would like to know if any Networkers are doing any urban planning projects that include considerations of Black workers.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD OPEN SPACE PROJECT: From Lynn Paxson (Center for Human Environments, Grad. School of CUNY, 33 West 42nd St., NYC 10036): "Numerous community-controlled open space projects have been developed in cities across the United States, but rarely have these examples been fully documented or evaluated. . . . We are attempting to document the community open space movement in other areas of the country. We would like to hear from anyone involved personally in a community open space project or from groups involved in developing or assisting groups to develop community-controlled open spaces. We would also appreciate names of individuals or groups you think we should contact as part of our project.

"The Neighborhood Open Space Project will result in a book and conference to disseminate the results of our research to a wide audience of community groups, technical assistance organizations and government officials in hopes that more informed projects and policy will result in the future.

IDEAS FOR PLANNERS NETWORK: From Michael McElroy (1886 St. Louis Dr., Honolulu, HA 96816): "The Network is particularly valuable to me in overcoming much of the isolation that working 3,000 miles from the Mainland (and in a conservative milieu) creates. Of course, I read the news, the progressive press, etc., but accounts of large-scale events often don't report to me. Having impressions of planners at work reminds me of our common problems—the way we're all tied together. Thanks.

"Now for my good ideas about Planner's Network. It's a good read. More importantly, it's occasional delivery becomes for me a kind of cocktail party with a lot of interesting people. There are introductions, casual talk about work in progress, discussion of coming events, and sporadic argument that, for me, ranges from stimulating to pedestrian. I look forward to the company, set aside what doesn't apply, and enjoy finding out what's happening and what can be learned through 1/1 discussion via letter, etc.

"Therefore, the main value of the Network to me is to find out events, work, developments, people, etc., who/that aren't visible in journals, periodicals, etc. This particularly means people in public agencies and community organizations (to a greater degree than academics) and work being done in these media, as well as graduate student work.

"I'd like to see more exchange of references, studies, people who aren't published in the journals, and of work that isn't widely accessible (say, issue papers and studies by local citizen groups; useful student papers; agency studies that don't get circulated beyond NTIS or HUD 701). It might be fun to solicit Networkers' suggestions on recent, useful material they've read or worked with (or is that an entre to the academic claque?)

"Anyway, I have no anti-academic bias, just a hope that working 'plans' and studies can get the exposure they deserve. Thanks again for your sweat (and that of others, I'm sure) who help run Network and create it for us."

From Stanley B. Winters (N.J. Inst. of Tech., 322 High Street, Newark, NJ 07102): "Walter Thabit's jeremiad (July 28, 1979) against biased academic research is well taken. Many times only proposals that have purely technical or foreordained anti-popular outcomes get funding or release time from classroom duties. It is not simply a matter of wanting to feed at the trough, however, for academics to grapple with; the process of becoming identified with an institutional, establishment, or racist viewpoint is more subtle than that, much more subtle than the pressures for cooptation and corruption of political office, for that matter. The trappings of scholarship, the footnotes and citations, the charts and diagrams, once in print generate a life and momentum of their own which only alert and diligent scholars will question and see through, even though this is the essence of scientific investigation itself. Few of us are as detached from this process as Walter Thabit and as able to see the hazards he pointed out.

"Several people have written on the matter of listing books and articles and their contents. I hope you will continue to do this. Surely one of the implications of 'network' is communication about these writings by our professional and spiritual colleagues. Many items mentioned in Planners Network would never be cited in the major journals and would escape our attention. Their authors, rather than being chastised for spreading the word, should be thanked, even if they themselves have to send in the information. An occasional review article that would encompass a year's output on certain topics, evaluating the materials, showing the major themes dealt with and those still needing attention, would be a valuable way of bringing some order into the random listing that now exists. Is there a volunteer willing to prepare such an essay?

"Which brings me to a new publication you might wish to list: From Riot to Recovery: Newark After Ten Years, edited and compiled by Stanley B. Winters, Washington, D.C.: University Press of America, 1979; xviii, 529 pp. ($1625 paper, $21.25 casebound; available from the publisher, 4710 Auth Place, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20023). This consists of 41 original essays presented at a conference on Assessment of Newark, 1967-77, and three others prepared for this volume. They examine post-riot trends in public health, education, police and fire services, housing, the arts, and transportation in New Jersey's largest city. There is a selected list of 175 books and articles written about Newark, with annotations on them, and a full index.

From Carola Sullam (2341 Divisader St., S.F., CA 94115): "Keep up the good work the the newsletter, i.e., keep it as it is, without plummeting into ponderous theory. It would be nice, however, to see a little more on environment and energy. I realize most progressive planners are interested in housing, but there must be something else going on out there. So speak up!"

SOCIALIST PLANNERS ORG.: From Takuya Nakamoto (Dept. of City & Regional Planning, U. of Calif., Berkeley 94720): "The proposal to form a 'socialist planners organizations' ought to be very carefully considered before being adopted. I am very skeptical about the political merits of the idea though I think that the organization will be useful for academics doing research. . . . The practice of most progressive and socialist planners now consists of fragmented efforts for piecemeal reform. While these efforts are important in themselves and later may pave the way for a socialist movement, that time has not yet arrived. To form a socialist planning organization now is idealistic in the negative sense.

"Scanning the back issues of the Planners Network Newsletter what impresses one the most is the breadth and variety of efforts for small scale reform engaged in by Network members. While potentially all of these efforts might become a part of a socialist agenda, they are not now very unified. The political unification of almost any sort of these existing and potential disparate efforts would be useful. But the creation of a socialist planning organization is not likely to produce the unity because of the varied ideological bases of the reform efforts. And it would be highly presumptuous to assume that the people in the reform efforts would be 'converted'. Let us not have any illusions about a vanguard role. A socialist planner's organization would need these various reform groups politically more than the groups would need the organization. At this point in American history, a broad-based organization such as a stronger Planner's Network would be more useful in achieving unity of efforts. Are there any advantages in creating a socialist planner's organization for practitioners beyond those which could be gained through a stronger Planner's Network?"

RHS DESIGN GROUP offers unique and innovative approaches that are designed to meet specific planning and design needs in problem identification, analysis, and implementation. It was formed to provide up-to-date comprehensive professional services to Native Americans. 421 Southwest Fifth, Suite 403, Portland, OR 97204, (503) 241-1126.

STUDIES IN STATE DEVELOPMENT POLICY: From inflation and unemployment to taxes and the proper use of public capital. This nine-part series takes a hard look at a number of our most pressing economic problems. It questions the common wisdom. And it provides a bold new agenda for anyone who cares about the development of the American economy in the 1980s. The series is available from Council of State Planning Agencies, Hall of the States, Dept. 1, 144 North Capital St., Washington, DC 20001. The nine publications written by nationally prominent experts in their field range from $7.95-9.95. The entire set costs $60.
APARTMENT HOUSE REHAB: From Gail Stringer (c/o Germantown Homes, Inc., 5300 Germantown Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19144): “Germantown Homes, Inc., a non-profit housing development corporation, recently engaged a researcher to start an information bank for apartment house rehabilitation. We are particularly interested in the experiences of non-profit community groups which have attempted apartment house rehabilitation, their problems, successes and methods. Write to Richard Fishman, Germantown Homes, Inc., 5300 Germantown Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19144. The end result will be a report on the present state of the art of apartment house rehabilitation by non-profit community groups. We hope that we will be able to make this report available to groups interested in multi-family rehabilitation.”

SAMBO’S RESTAURANT CONTROVERSY: From Bill Goldsmith (117 Judd Falls Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850): “Very little publicity regarding the Sambo’s Restaurant controversy has surfaced. The ACLU has taken Sambo’s side nationally, though not yet here, and the NAACP, Urban League, and other national Black organizations oppose the use of the name and are urging a boycott of Sambo’s until the corporation changes the name of the restaurant chain. In Upstate New York community groups have filed complaints against Sambo’s before the State Human Rights Commission. Anyone wanting further information about documents and strategies can write me, or the Ithaca Black Caucus, BICAI, 318 N. Albany St., Ithaca, NY 14850.”

HEALTH SERVICES PLANNING: From Gregory Parston (46 W. 90th St., NYC 10024): “The ‘Network-supported’ sessions at the APA conference were good but, for the most part, the discussions which followed them were devoted to a lot of ‘panelist-stroking’ and agreeing to agree. I’m in favor of trying to arrange sessions with divisions of APA which would attract more than Network people. Such sessions could address issues from a panel of divergent views. The resulting debate and discussion would not only serve to expose the arguments of the left to those who might not otherwise have attended, but would also allow Network-type people to hear and support arguments with which they agree, pitted against the mainstream thinking within which they are working daily. The Socialist Caucus of the American Public Health Association has been fairly successful in doing this at APHA conferences. Though I’m not familiar with the procedures by which one goes about getting on the APA conference schedule or liaisoning with its divisions, I’m willing to help schedule and/or participate in such debates, if others are. My immediate interest would be to arrange a session jointly with the Social and Human Services Planning Division on the nature of health services planning. If anyone can help or needs help, please write.”

WOMEN IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT: From Cindy Pappas (6608 Sueno, #1, Isla Vista, CA 93017): “I am interested in obtaining any information you may have on the following topic: How planners have not planned for the special needs of women in our built environment, including housing, child care centers, and transportation systems. I am currently doing research on this topic for my senior thesis in Environmental Studies at the University of California at Santa Barbara.”

APA DIVISION ON PLANNING AND WOMEN: From Joanne Jackson, a community development planner with the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal: “I am regional director for District 1 (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Mass., Rhode Island, Conn., New York and New Jersey) in the APA Division of Planning and Women. I am interested in conducting research on women’s issues relative to the Community Development Block Grant Program. In order to conduct this research, I need “grantee performance reports” (GPRs) from communities participating in the program. Presently, I am concentrating my efforts on New York and plan to extend this effort to other districts; however, I am having difficulty in getting the information. “The GPR is a public document which is disseminated to HUD regional/area offices, State Clearinghouses, and regional planning commissions for A-95 review. I am looking for persons in the Network who would be willing to obtain these documents for me on a nationwide basis. I’m looking at entitlement communities with populations over 50,000. I will reimburse individuals for postage and will forward a copy of report findings on their community. GPRs can be sent to my home address below. Anyone wishing to join the APA Division on Planning and Women should contact me at: 76 Grandview Terrace, Albany, NY 12202. Office: (518) 473-8891, or write/call: Rich Jaffeson, American Planning Association, 1776 Mass. Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, (202) 872-0611.”

U. OF ILLINOIS SOCIAL PLANNING CONCENTRATION: Barry Checkoway, a Network member who teaches at the Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, writes in to announce the establishment of a social planning concentration. For more information, contact him at the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, 1003 West Nevada St., Urbana, IL 61801.

PROPERTY TAX REFORM: from Alan Magan (514 Albany Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20012): “Although I have received the newsletter for some time, this is my first letter. After reading about the debate on what ideology should unite the network, or exactly what should (or is) holding it together, I would like to suggest that we should rally around actions we could take across the country. My goal is property tax reform and it could serve to unify the network because it cuts across the functional lines of housing, land use, transportation as well as being an issue in most every city and country across the country. “I was encouraged by a letter several newsletters ago which plugged Hans Blumenfeld’s book Metropolis and Beyond. In several of the book’s essays, Blumenfeld recommends land value taxation as a useful tool to promote policies that most planners hold dear—encourage compact development and discourage land speculation and housing abandonment. “In a nutshell, it would mean a shift from the current practice of taxing land and improvements to a system where the property tax is levied on the land values only. An argument can be made that it is not a tax at all because the public is only claiming values it has created through public action. We have all witnessed in our own communities how a new highway, sewer line or subway have sent land values soaring. It would capture those values for public revenue and work as an incentive to land owners to either build or improve their property or sell it to someone who will. “The concept has a long history but the best treatment is still by Henry George in his Progress and Poverty. Incidentally, this is the 100-year anniversary of its publication—a good time to read or re-read the book and begin to bring it to the attention of tax-revolt homeowers. It has implications for the so-called “energy crisis” in how we tax the mineral resources which are becoming so valuable. It would be more effective and more easily realized than nationalizing the oil companies. “I would like to communicate with anyone interested in this area, particularly those ready to act.”

CHANGE IN THE 80’s: From Bob Stanfield (591 Halekaviwila St., Honolulu, HA 96813): “At the moment I’m grogging for a vision of the future that I can support and a role I can play in making that future come true. I’d be interested in hearing what other members of the network see as the likely developments of the next decade and how we fit into those developments. Are you optimistic or pessimistic? If so why? What would a platform of change look like? What is working right now that can serve as a model for where we should be going? “I’m discouraged at the lack of progress toward creating an alternative system for providing shelter, sustenance and opportunities for growth and creativity in our society. I view the possibility of a Reagan or Connolly presidency with great dismay and expect little or no progress from either Carter or Kennedy.”

MINNESOTA FARMER LABOR ASSN: From Al Wroblewski (687 Portland Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104): “Right now I am the statewide organizer for the Minnesota Farmer-Labor Association. We’re a fledging political outfit similar to the Campaign for Economic Democracy. Our differences I’d say are that we are connected with the people who made up the farmer-labor movement of the thirties. Their strength and courage is our inspiration... and several are still in the area. Another difference is we’re smaller, less well financed, and a tad more humble in assessing our self-importance. We work in the Democratic party, endorse candidates, do independent action campaigns, and build bridges among groups not presently working together for progressive changes.”

“If anyone wants more info on the FLA write me at the office: Minnesota Farmer-Labor Ass’n, 3200 Chicago Ave., South, Minneapolis, MN 55407, (612) 823-7081.”
GRITTY CITIES: Jack Stokvis, a planner with the Department of Community Development, 100 Hamilton Plaza, Paterson, NJ 07505, has recently written a review of *Gritty Cities*, and encourages Network members to contact him to discuss the problems of "the smaller, 'second-tier' older city."

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CRITIQUE: From Dick LeGates (6501 Gwin Road, Oakland, CA 94611): "How to critique a downtown CDBG-funded 'economic development' project is the topic of a recent study which Norm Schneider, Rich DeLeon, and I completed for the San Jose Legal Services Program. We completed a report attacking San Jose's unrealistic claims of low- and moderate-income job creation to support an effort to shift funding into low income housing and other community-serving efforts. Since many cities are launching this latest reincarnation of large scale urban renewal and their justifications are frequently similar, we want to make sure that other groups attacking such projects are aware of our methodology. We succeeded in forcing a reprogramming of more than $5 million. The study is described in the Sept/Oct, issue of Housing Law Bulletin and the November Clearinghouse Review. Copies of our study and an accompanying administrative complaint filed by Jim Sullivan of San Jose Legal Services are available from the National Clearinghouse for Legal Services, 500 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 1940, Chicago, IL 60611."

NETWORK FOR PROGRESSIVE PLANNING STUDENTS: Donna Dyer (154 Celeste Circle, Chapel Hill, NC 27514), a graduate student in City and Regional Planning at the Univ. of North Carolina, has been working with a group of UNC students in an organization called Radical Planning Alternatives (R.P.A). They discussed with other planning students, both at the Cornell radical planning conference last spring and at the APA conference in Baltimore this fall, the possibility of creating a national and international network of progressive planning students. She writes:

"Clearly, from the attendance at the Baltimore meeting, planning students everywhere are coming to grips with the problems inherent in the profession. We all need to communicate with others in our same situation, and this correspondence may be one mechanism to begin that communication. Here are my ideas on the specifics and mechanics of the network, begging for responses from you all.

"First, I think we should work directly with Chester Hartman and the Planners Network. The Network newsletter could accommodate us by providing a page or so for student communication. We would then know what was going on outside our current realm (the university setting) and could share with both field practitioners and academic practitioners our interests and concerns as students. Do other people feel we need a separate thing? The Network newsletter only goes out once every two months, but without some ongoing organization to support a student group, high turnover may pose a problem in continuity.

"Second, what should we communicate about? I have a short list:

A. Sharing information, publications, papers, contacts, events, and other appropriate resources;
B. Sharing strategies about changing the way we learn or are taught about planning. The diversity in our educational experiences is good, but some aspects should be shared by all planning programs. Specifically, a critical view should be interjected into all our courses, from planning theory to quantitative methods. I will begin this sharing process by including a reading list from the planning theory course taught at UNC. We are fortunate to have faculty members at UNC who are both supporting and participating in our struggles to carve out a practice that doesn't force us to compromise our political ideas.
C. Sharing ideas about the values inherent in the profession we have chosen, and the nature of professionalism in society today. (In other words, a continuing dialogue on planning theory.) The issues Don Broussard from Georgia Tech raised in Baltimore should be further pursued in our communications. Does anybody want to respond to the things he said? As progressive/radical/socialist planners, what do we do differently from 'mainstream' planners? Who is our client group, and how do we serve them from our jobs in the bureaucracy?
D. Sharing strategies we are adopting every day for coping with the world of jobs, politics, failure and limited success, and power (but not ours). The transition from planning student to planner is critical; our progressive/radical/socialist perspective is most vulnerable when we first enter the field, particularly for the most of us who will be working in traditional agencies. Mutual support can provide whatever it is that will move us through this schizophrenic period.
E. Sharing our organizing skills with each other. We at UNC are hanging in there, and other schools have the potential for the same organization if there's a desire. Our group, R.P.A., has become an integrated part of the DCRP community, and, because we are organized, we can have a greater impact on our own education. Others may be interested in such an organization, or other students may have adopted a different approach entirely. What is going on in other schools?

"I deliberately excluded from that list any statements on current political issues. Discussions of that sort should take place in the main body of the Network newsletter, and as students we should be involved in those discussions. But our main mission should be to make needed changes in our education, and to support each other's attempts at forging a radical presence in the planning profession—and in planning education. My opinion only—what are some other views?

"Third, how formal an organization should we try to be? Should we try to stay together at APA's meetings, at Planners Network conferences like last spring's conference in Ithaca and the one in 1978 in Blacksburg? Some concern was expressed in Baltimore similar to that voiced in early issues of Planners Network—how explicitly socialist we should be, etc. Perhaps we should simply integrate ourselves into the Planners Network, or call ourselves something else. Any ideas?

"I'm sure there are other important questions, and I'm also sure I'll get some feedback from y'all.

"At this point, I'm willing to be a point of coordination. Any comments, statements, questions, and addresses can be sent to me at the above address."

COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS IN QUALITY OF LIFE REGULATION: From Bill Tabb (Dept. of Economics, Queens College, Flushing, New York): "I am putting together a report for the Council on Economic Priorities concerning the use of cost-benefit analysis in the quality of life regulation (environmental protection, occupational health and safety, consumer protection). I would appreciate any papers or other help Networkers can offer. The study won't be ready before late fall. Anyone who wants it then should write CEP at 84 Fifth Ave., NYC 10011, not to me.

"In making the rounds of our friends in Washington I was struck by the contrast between theories of the state, crisis theory and socialist revolution discussions at left academic planning meetings and the actual political struggle going on, not just in the neighborhoods but in government—at EPA, OSHA, HUD, etc. The Network helps because it gives a source of who to call on for technical skills and specific expertise which while not a substitute for good politics sure has nice accompanying qualities.

TOURISM: From Pat Ashton (7228 Wrangler Trail, Fort Wayne, IN 46815): "I would like to ask Network members if anyone has any information on tourist enclave urbanization in the Caribbean. If so, please communicate it to me."

JOB DEVELOPMENT: From Joseph L. Marsan (20 Talbot Terrace, Uxbridge, MA 01569): "As Coordinator of Job Development I am involved in all private sector job development for our clientele—on the job training and placement into unsubsidized employment. (CETA agency serving the Blackstone Valley of south central Mass.)
Exploring and planning opportunities to utilize CET A programs as a leveraging tool for community, economic and of course human resource development. I'd be more than pleased to communicate with any other Networkers having similar interests.

SUPER MARKET FLIGHT: From Bob Rhine (262 29th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94121): "I would like to gather information on ways to retain and promote the location of major super market chain stores within areas lacking good quality, reasonably priced food selections."

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION makes awards for forums, conferences, and workshops that serve to better inform community debates on policy issues that involve science and technology; awards for permanent community based programs that fill community needs for scientific information and advice; and awards to individual scientists and engineers for activities to raise the level of debate over science policy. For information write: Publications, National Science Foundation, Washington, D.C. 20550. The next deadline for application is January 15, 1980.

NEIGHBORHOOD SELF-HELP PROGRAM is now open for applications for GRANTS. To determine if you are eligible and obtain the application kit, you can write: Joseph McNeely, Director, Office of Neighborhood Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, D.C. 20410. Even better (the Office itself recommends) telephone the Office's Program Support Division at (202) 755-6893. Grants are given for neighborhood revitalization projects which directly benefit the residents of low and moderate income urban neighborhoods.

NATIONAL CITIZENS MONITORING PROJECT invites all interested groups to apply for participation in its second year of monitoring activities in connection with the Community Development Block Grant Program. The Project sub-contracts with local groups interested in improved targeting of CDBG funds to low and moderate income people and plans to provide expanded technical assistance to a select number of non-contract groups. If you are interested in applying for either a contract or technical assistance, write as soon as possible to: The Working Group for Community Development Reform, 1000 Wisconsin Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007

CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION IN PLANNING AND DESIGN: A project of the International Year of the Child can be contacted c/o Cecilia Perez, Childhood City Newsletter, Graduate School—C.U.N.Y., 33 West 42nd St., NYC 10036.

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DEVELOPING THE PUBLIC ECONOMY, Models from Massachusetts, a reader on alternative economic development edited by Pat McGuigan and Bob Schaeffer, is available from $7.50 from the Policy Training Center, 4 Nutting Rd., Cambridge, MA 02138. Also available Professionals as Workers, a selection of readings ($4.00) and an Annotated Bibliography ($2.00—$5.00 for set).

BEYOND THE JUNGLE, Essays on Human Possibilities, Social Alternatives, and Radical Practice, by David G. Gil, is available from G. K. Hall & Co., 70 Lincoln St., Boston, MA 02111 for $14.00.

A NATIONAL CONSUMER FORUM entitled “The Direction for the Eighties: Creating the Beloved Community,” sponsored by HUD is a day-long forum to discuss key housing and community development programs. It will be held Jan. 10, 1980 in Atlanta, GA. Contact Oliver Walker, (202) 755-6996 at HUD for further information.

JOURNAL FOR SOCIAL RECONSTRUCTION, a new quarterly journal ($19.50; Editor-in-Chief Marcus Raskin, Inst. for Policy Studies) is available from Earl M. Coleman, Publishers, P.O. Box 143, Pine Plains, NY 12567.

PROPOSITION 13 IMPACT ON MINORITIES was the title of a workshop held in California last March. A copy of the workshop proceedings is available for $3.50 from the Institute of Governmental Affairs, Shields University. University of California, Davis, CA 95616.


THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF THE AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT will be held Friday and Saturday, Jan 18-19, 1980 in Ann Arbor. “The 1980’s: Plight or Prosperity?” will provide a unique forum for working trade unionists, students and academics to honestly examine the role the labor movement will play in shaping the future of America. In addition to the plenary sessions, a series of workshops will provide an informal setting that will encourage an exchange of ideas on how to resolve key societal problems. For information: 4120 Michigan Union, 5305 S. State, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, (313) 668-0425.

#21 returns (let us know if you know where they are): Shirley Simpson (Mattapan), Jake Gomilny (Toronto), Bay Area Women Planners (Oakld), Scott Van Dellen (Glendale Cal), Michael Haran (Somerville, Ma.), Meredith Scammell (Brightons, Ma.), Karen Koenig (Brookline, Ma.), David Berrian (Seattle), Pam Goodman (Brookline, Ma.), Zenon Zeleniuch (Sommervilles, Ma.), Jay Ostrower (Albtons, Ma.), Gung Ho Collective (Austin), Peggy Phillips (Madison), Wm Cuhill (Champaign), Harold Young (Santa Monica), Char Thompson (Madison), Larry Goldblatt (KC), Tim Gage (Berkl), Lorraine Anderson (BerkJ Marcia Peters (Jamaica Plain, Ma.), Myreen Star Levenshon (Chi), Don Simpson (Ft Worth).

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT is a new quarterly publication put out by the Laboratory of Arch. and Planning at MIT which considers environmental impact assessment in its broadest sense. In addition to impact assessments mandated by federal or state law, we are concerned with the kinds of analysis of environmental, social, economic, and technological impacts that policy makers and citizens ought to have before them in deciding how best to allocate scarce resources. Available from Plenum Publishing Corp., 227 W. 17th St., NYC 10011.

RAPS (Report and Analysis of Programs and Services) offers concise, timely information on a wide range of issues, programs, resources, and funding opportunities. This monthly publication is a handy tool for community groups and non-profit organizations who have limited resources. Subscriptions available from Clearinghouse for Community Based Free Standing Educational Institutions, 1806 Vernon St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.

SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT, a monthly newsletter on health, housing, transportation, energy, environment, public participation, and other policy issues, is available from C. P. Wolf, Box 587, Canal Street Station, New York, NY 10013. Subscription rates are $5 a year, $3 for students.

FIRST CLASS