PLANNERS NETWORK

#50—February 18, 1985

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☐ SPECIAL DEDICATION: We'd like to dedicate this 50th issue of the PN Newsletter to our friend and colleague, Paul Davidoff, who died December 27 of complications resulting from cancer. He was both the theoretical father and a superb practitioner of "advocacy planning." His work, example, and person will be sorely missed.

If you would like a copy of his obituary from the *NY Times* and the "appreciation" that *Planning* magazine asked Network Chair Chester Hartman to write (scheduled for printing in its upcoming issue), please send a SASE.

Paul's family has suggested that those wishing to make contributions in celebration of his life could most appropriately do so by sending them either to the Coalition for the Homeless (105 E. 22nd St., New York, NY 10010) or to Oxfam America (115 Broadway, Boston, MA 02116).

An additional note comes from Keith Getter (311 Seventh St., Brooklyn, NY 11215), which we commend to the attention of (and, hopefully, action by) PN members who also belong to the American Planning Association: "As a student and past associate of Paul Davidoff (I worked at the Center for Metropolitan Action from 1982 to 1984), I wish to honor Paul's spirit by asking all fellow planners to write to the APA and request that a new 'code of ethics' be issued, stating that the professional responsibility of all planners should be to plan for the inclusion of all possible citizens as their work is carried forth."

And a second note, from Matt Edel, Paul's colleague at the Queens College Urban Studies Department, suggests that in honor of Paul we distribute the hypothetical syllabus for a planning equity course that Paul distributed at last fall's Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning conference. Paul was going to teach an undergraduate version of the course this spring. Please send a SASE, if you'd like a copy.

☐ PN HOUSING READER: The Planners Network housing reader, *Critical Perspectives on Housing,* edited by Rachel Bratt, Chester Hartman, and Ann Meyerson, has been accepted for publication by Temple Univ. Press, and will appear in the fall. It contains 33 articles, two-thirds of which either are original contributions or updates of recent articles. Lots are by active and old-time Networkers: Peter Marcuse, Emily Achtenberg, Michael Stone, John Gilberbloom, Tom Robbins, Peter Dreier, John Atlas, Bob Kolodny, Tony Schuman, Jill Hamberg. For a copy of the table of contents, please send a SASE. We'll try to work out a discount for PN members when it is published.

☐ PN ROSTERS: We thought we had run out of the most recent (April 1984) Roster of PN members, but unexpectedly we found a stash hidden away. We normally send a Roster to new members, so if you're new to the Network and did not receive a Roster, let us know and we'll send one out.

The Planners Network

The Planners Network is an association of professionals, activists, academics, and students involved in physical, social, economic, and environmental planning in urban and rural areas, who promote fundamental change in our political and economic system.

We believe that planning should be a tool for allocating resources and developing the environment to eliminate the great inequalities of wealth and power in our society, rather than to maintain and justify the status quo. We believe that planning should be used to assure adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care, jobs, safe working conditions, and a healthful environment. We advocate public responsibility for meeting these needs, because the private market has proven incapable of doing so.

We oppose the economic structure of our society, which values profit and property rights over human rights and needs. This system perpetuates the inequalities of class, race, sex and age which distort human relationships and limit the potential for a decent quality of life. We advocate a shift in current national budgetary priorities to favor human services, social production and environmental protection over military and other nonproductive expenditures.

We seek to be an effective political and social force, working with other progressive organizations to inform public opinion and public policy and to provide assistance to those seeking to understand, control, and change the forces which affect their lives.

The Planners Network Newsletter is published six times a year as the principal means of communication among Network members. Annual financial contributions are voluntary, but we do needs funds for operating expenses. The Steering Committee has recommended the following amounts as minimums for Network members: $10 for students and temporarily unemployed; graduated payments for the employed of $20 plus an additional $1 for each $1,000 earned above $10,000.

☐ Enclosed is my check payable to the Planners Network for

$_____.

☐ Please check here if this is a new membership.

☐ Please check here (current members only) if this is an address change, and write your former zip code _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Planners Network • 1901 Que Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20009

☐ PROMOTING PN: We've got copies of the Network's Call for Social Responsibility in the Planning and Building Professions and the PN Intro Statement available for distribution to friends and colleagues. Lots of you have requested 50 copies, 100 copies, etc., and we're happy to send them out. A few of you also have suggested that sample copies of the Newsletter would be better for recruitment/distribution. We agree, but there are planning and cost considerations: We don't like to print newsletters that we don't use, and so our press run usually is just a few dozen more than the size of our mailing list. However, if you want to distribute sample copies of the Newsletter, let us know how many you need, and we'll specially print and mail you that number on the next issue.

☐ HOUSING STUDY: Eleven of you responded with interest to our item in the last Newsletter about participating in an international housing study being coordinated by Michael Harloe and Maartje Martens of the Univ. of Essex. We'll keep members posted on its progress from time to time.

☐ FINANCIAL MINI-REPORT: As always, the annual "purge alert" produces wonderous financial results (as well as newsy cards and letters from Networkers who seem otherwise afflicted with permanent writers' cramp). Contributions are often accompanied by pleas of "No! No! Anything but the Purge!", and by envelopes addressed to "Planners Network Bouncer." Our tally to date is 161 contributions, totalling a terrific $3,043.50. Thank you all.

☐ MEMBER UPDATE: The Chair is tickled pink to announce recruitment of PN's newest member, Jeremy Fine Hartman, born February 6, 1985. (The only downside: It was also Ronald Reagan's birthday. To counterbalance this disagreeable coincidence, the father and mother would appreciate information about happier, more progressive events that also have occurred on that date.)

Passing the Word

☐ NEIGHBORHOOD SELF-HELP: Portland's Bureau of Community Development (1120 SW 5th Ave. #1120, Portland, OR 97204, 503/796-5166) has prepared an informative, illustrated brochure on 17 projects funded under its Neighborhood Self-Help Program. The program allowed the city to contract directly with neighborhood groups to meet community development needs. Single copies are free. Contact: Dee Walsh.

☐ LOCAL GOVERNANCE: *Neighborhood Justice Forums: An Expression of Neighborhood Governance* is a paper available from the Community Board Program, 149 Ninth St., San Francisco, CA 94103, 415/552-1250.

☐ CHD REPORT: The 1984 annual report of the Campaign for Human Development features profiles of some of the assisted groups as well as comprehensive lists of nationally funded projects. Single copies are free. Contact: U.S. Catholic Conference, 1312 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20005.

☐ BUDGET IMPACT: *End Results: The Impact of Federal Policies Since 1980 on Low-Income Americans,* by Robert Greenstein, is available from: Interfaith Action for Economic Justice, 110 Maryland Ave. N.E., Wash. DC 20002, 202/543-2800.

New PN Feature

In response to widespread criticism that there aren't enough "meaty" articles in our Newsletter, we plan to have at least one longer, substantive piece each issue—a single article, a round-table, etc.

Bob Beauregard has agreed to coordinate this section. If you have ideas for subjects or contributors, or would like to propose something for yourself, please contact Bob—Dept. Urban Planning, Rutgers Univ. New Brunswick, NJ 08903, 201/932-4053.

Watch for it—coming in your favorite Newsletter.

☐ NYC LATINO-POLITICS: PN Member Angelo Falcon, Executive Director of the Institute for Puerto Rican Policy (114 E. 28th St. 3rd Flr., New York, NY 10016, 212/689-6331) sent us a helpful, 16-page report from the Institute on the potentially pivotal role of Puerto Rican-Latino voters in the New York mayoral race. The title: *The 1985 Mayoral Race and the Puerto Rican-Latino Community in New York City.* Single copies are $2, prepaid.

☐ ECONOMIC JUSTICE: *Interfaith Action* is a 10-times-yearly newsletter from the religious coalition Interfaith Action for Economic Justice (110 Maryland Ave., N.E., Wash. DC 20002). A recent issue reported on domestic hunger, African famine, the debt crisis, and new resources. Subscriptions are $7, prepaid.

☐ HOUSING PROJECT: From Networker Joochul Kim (Planning Dept., Arizona State Univ., Tempe, AZ 85287, 602/965-7167): Right now, I am putting all my time on a project which is unique in Phoenix. With ACORN, we are trying to move homes from a proposed intercity freeway corridor, and make these homes available to low-income families. Once the houses are moved, we are planning to rehabilitate them, and put on passive solar collectors for energy conservation. It is an exciting project, but I need help from PN members who may have insights into this kind of approach.

☐ THIRD WORLD ORGANIZING: The Center for Third World Organizing (4228 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, CA 94609, 415/654-9601) is a network of organizers, researchers, and activists committed to working with Asian, Black, Latino, and Native American organizations for basic social justice. In addition to preparing occasional publications, the Center holds training sessions and seminars, and conducts research.

☐ BISHOPS' PASTORAL: *Catholic Social Teaching and the U.S. Economy* is the 46-page first draft of the U.S. Catholic Bishops' pastoral letter, which covers both biblical and theological foundations as well as specific policy applications. Single copies are $3, from: National Catholic News Service, 1312 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20005, 202/659-6742.

☐ JOBS DATA: *The First Friday Report* is published monthly when the Labor Department releases unemployment statistics. Single copies are free, from: Full Employment Action Council, 815 16th St. N.W. 3rd Flr., Wash. DC 20006.

☐ TENN. BUSINESS LOBBY: *Lifting the Secrecy Veil,* by

(continued on page 9)

PN 50th Issue Feature

Planners Network 1975-1985: Retrospection and Renewal

by Bob Beauregard

From August of 1975 to the present, those involved with the Planners Network have searched for the elusive idea of progressive planning and for the Network's role in transforming American society. What have we accomplished? What have been our successes, our failures? What possibilities exist in the present for defining an alternative to "mainstream" planning? In Newsletter #49 we asked Networkers to reflect on these themes.

Tony Schuman and **Bruce Dale** (NYC) provided the best of retrospections:

"At the national conference in Washington, D.C., in May, 1981, we were among the stronger advocates for reconstituting the Network as a more formal membership organization, hoping that this transformation would propel the Network toward a more active and more visible national presence.

"Four years later were are obliged to acknowledge that these hopes were exaggerated, or at least premature. At the same time, however, the move toward organization does not seem to have restricted the Network in any appreciable way; it might even be argued that the semi-formal membership status, with its suggested dues structure, has strengthened the allegiance of the Newsletter subscribers despite the modest drop in the mailing list. Local efforts like the Network/Forum series in New York have remained viable activities for the Network cohort; the long-awaited housing reader, due to be published later this year, represents a concrete achievement of the national organization. In all, the Network has held its own as a useful communications vehicle and rallying point for progressives in planning and related fields."

Certain of these themes were reiterated and elaborated by others. A number of people mentioned the useful role the Network, particularly the Newsletter, serves in providing information about innovative and progressive planning activities. The newsletter " . . . provides opportunities to get the ideas of others and to tap sources of information on the cutting edge of theory and practice" wrote **Lew Lubka** (No. Dakota).

More numerous were comments about how the Network served to define a community of interest and, furthermore, to provide a sense of belonging. Extending beyond a simple " . . . sharing of concerns and smaller scale victories" as **Bob Bogen** (Mt. Kisco, NY) phrased it, the Network serves, in **Roger Montgomery's** (Berkeley) words, as an ". . . antidote to alienation among fair-minded planning professionals caught in a hostile world of resurgent capital and an increasingly dominant military." For **John Friedmann** (LA), the Network newsletter conveys the fact that " . . . you are not the only person in the world who thinks that another America is possible." For **Ralph Nesson** (Fayetteville, Ark.) "A little shot in the arm on a cloudy day. A way of being together in a very large world." **Lew Lubka** mirrored this with his assertion that the newsletter represents a " . . . warm and steady beacon which illuminates the progressive path of planning." **Bob Bogen** made an even bolder claim: "I believe the phenomenal reader participation and unprecedented continuity of the PN Newsletter is the most impressive and encouraging organizational accomplishment of planners in the last ten years . . . "

But while the Network has functioned as an ideological haven and as a source of psychological bracing, many who responded desired more emphasis on the concrete issues that bind us, and more focus to the Newsletter. Emotional support and practical progressivism are to be joined. **Tim Mungavan** (Minneapolis) captured this well: " . . . that we are still talking to one another (through PN) is a wonderful reality that we should not overlook in our struggle for concrete progress." **Maryann Leshin** (Oakland) is also worried that energy will become displaced " . . . from pursuing action which might actually affect change—which is obviously what our statements are all about anyway."

The lack of focus in the Newsletter was commented upon, among others, by **Tom Angotti** (Berkeley). For him the information-sharing function operates as both a strength and weakness: "Despite the fact that we now have a formal statement of purpose," he wrote, "it is hard to tell from most newsletters what we are all about and what we are doing." Too many random, " . . . individual tidbits of information" crowd the Newsletter and "... bear little relation to our purposes as progressive-oriented people."

The solution most often offered was to include more debates and more focused discussions in the Newsletter. A number of people had specific issues that they wished addressed: bio-regionalism and green politics (**Jay Jurie**—Tempe), peace and social responsibility (**Tom Agnotti**), the link between architecture and planning (**Sygrid Pollin**—Riverside, Cal.), nuclear proliferation (**Ben Wisner**—Highland Park, NJ), the limits and potential of public planning (**Donna Dyer**—Durham, N.C.), and the community land trust movement and the issue of socially responsible investment (**Mary Vogel**—Eugene).

There were also proposals for changing the spatial orientation of Network interest, and for bringing us together spatially.

First, **Ben Wisner** encourages us to open up to international networks, in order to enrich the practice of those based in the United States. As examples he cited self-help organizations in Latin America and self-determination movements in Europe.

Second, **John Friedmann** hopes for an expansion of the Network, " . . . especially outside the major metropolitan centers" and also to those people " . . . who didn't go to planning schools but are as active and more so than we are in moving the world on its axis." In the same spirit but with a more inward orientation the **Planners for Social Change** (UNC-Chapel Hill) renewed an often-heard call for an annual PN meeting. **Lew Lubka** asked, via telephone, why there were not more meetings of Networkers at national planning conferences.

As **Jay Jurie** wrote: "The Newsletter should serve as a forum for debate on . . . topics relate(d) to planning and other purposes of the Network." "(S)pecial features, little think pieces, perhaps, or case studies that don't get into the journals that that are instructive and lift your spirits," should be a more prominent part of the Newsletter, **John Friedmann** suggested. Such discussion and debate would serve as a source of ideas and, for **Tony Schuman** and **Bruce Dale**, " . . . help

(continued on page 6)

The Network's First Mailing . . .

(On August 4, 1975, what was to become the Planners Network sent out its first mailing to some 300 North American "radical planners." The mailing proposed a network for sharing ideas and experiences, discussing work and careers, and providing community and mutual support. The mailing also suggested some possible paths for the network's growth. Reprinted below is an edited version of the network's first mailing.)

This is the first mailing of a new communications/action network of leftist planners in the US and Canada. At the first level, the idea simply is to put the few hundred North American "radical planners" in regular touch with one another, to share ideas and experiences, discuss their work and lives, develop some sense of community and mutual support. What it might develop into at a later phase is entirely open, although some possibilities will be discussed below. It is an idea I and others have talked about from time to time; and because I presently have the time, funds, and initiative to begin the process, I am undertaking the project, although I hope and expect that others will join me in directing this effort before long. Earlier this year I sent out a memo regarding the proposal to about two dozen friends and colleagues, and got a very positive response, plus some useful ideas (some of which are excerpted below) . . . .

Let me outline some details and thoughts about the network proposal:

The basic character of the network publications/mailings: What I have in mind at this point is something very loose and informal. Materials and communications submitted by people in the network would be sent out in monthly or bimonthly packets. Ideally, most of the material would be submitted in a form where it could merely be reproduced and included in the packet. (For financial and ideological reasons, there will be no secretarial-type assistance, so copy should be submitted in good, reproducible form, single-spaced to save space.) I hope writing style will be kept as informal as possible. I hope also to have help from a few people in the Bay Area with the mechanics of mailings and other aspects of running the network.

Composition of the network: The present list consists of about 320 names. These have been assembled from the following sources: my own personal contacts; suggestions from the two dozen people who received the original memo; a culling from the mailing/membership list of Planners for Equal Opportunity, a New York-based group of left-liberal planners formed in the mid-60s, which still exists albeit in somewhat dormant condition, . . . responses to notices I placed in recent issues of *Social Policy* and *Working Papers for a New Society;* and selected names of attendees at the recent "Marxism and the Metropolis" conference in NYC (based on a brief statement of work and intersts called for on the conference sign-up sheet) . . . .

Please think through your own friends, colleagues, contacts, and let me know of anyone who should be added to the list (particularly students and recent graduates of planning and related programs, as the present list is quite weak there). As you can see, the number of Canadian names is quite limited, and one important function of the network could be to increase the all-too-infrequent communication between Canadian and US urbanists. (The question of non-North American participation in the network is left open for the moment. I'd be interested in people's views on this, suggestions of names, etc. Obviously, the cost factor enters here, as airmail postage of large packets gets expensive.) . . . .

About the kinds of people on the list and criteria for being in the network: Obviously, this is a problem—what is "radical"? what is "planner"? I don't have any good working definition of either. (If any of you would like to try, please do.) The network might be set up so as to be quite homogeneous politically, and some people (Dave Ranney, for example) have suggested that—that we have an explicit socialist perspective, principles of unity, etc. Others, like Linda Davidoff, feel a restrictive label and definition will cut us off from important progressive political currents. . . . Herb Gans comments that "groups which organize on an ideological principle become cultish too often and start fighting the non-believers."

My own view is that an overly restrictive policy is not wise, and above all it would be almost impossible to implement. How to know anything about people who write in and ask to be in the network? How to reject people? I would definitely like to see our network be somewhat more to the left than the amorphous "liberal" and "progressive" types that PEO tended to attract. (That is the reason the PEO people and I pared their 600-name list down to about 100 names.) I favor having a clear radical perspective and identity, enough homogeneity that people can feel comfortable talking with one another. Separation of socialists from others can occur around projects and other activities among people in the network.

As far as what a "planner" is, that's even more difficult to define or grapple with. Clearly, having a planning degree is far too narrow (and mistaken) a criterion. On the other hand, I think we will lose an important sense of identity and cohesion if anyone interested in urban problems and cities becomes part of the network. I have applied somewhat intuitive criteria up to this point. Fran Piven feels the self-definition question is very important: "If we're not URPE, and we're not the Socialist Sociologists, and not a dozen other groups, then we must be planners, and maybe it's on what that means that we should hinge the definition. We could either focus on government policies, particularly domestic policies, and thus define planning broadly; or we could even go back to the things city planners usually do, and make that the basis of our self-definition. Either way seems o.k. to me, and either way would help us decide who we are and why we're talking to each other." One important issue is whether the network ought to expand to include organizers. Pat Morrissy comments: "You/We ought to reach organizers working in housing and development, particularly if we are

. . . Outlines a New Proposal

talking about action. Strictly 'professional' organizations turn me off somewhat."

Obviously, both issues—what is a "radical," what is a "planner"—could benefit from some discussion among ourselves, and I hope you'll contribute your thoughts on the subject.

Name: We ought to have a name, of course. I asked recipients of the original memo to come up with ideas, but none of the suggestions really grabbed me; nor was I able to think of a good one. For the time being, I'd like to call us the Network of Radical Urbanists, a title David Gurin inferentially suggested. He wrote: "I never liked the term 'city planner' because I could never recognize any special discipline, anything like an architectural or medical discipline. I prefer 'urbanist' (which the French use), meaning someone who studies cities intensely and then applies the knowledge won in the process to the solution of urban problems . . . The idea that there is salvation in the planned city, as opposed to the so-called unplanned city, has proven terribly misleading. As we know, the relevant question is who does the planning and in whose interests, the ruling class or the people as a whole." Anyway, we should have a good, snappy but very clear name . . . .

Content of network communications: What I have in mind is a potpourri of work-related political and personal reporting to and sharing with each other. Among the areas that might be covered are:

• Local city, area or neighborhood reports. What comes to mind is something like the *New Yorker's* "Letter from ___" —a description by someone who lives and works there of what's going on in Minneapolis (Eugene, Toronto, etc.) in the way of relevant planning activities and struggles, political activism, the local political scene, community work, etc.

• Case histories of specific struggles (renewal, institutional expansion, tenant organizing, highways, etc.), defeats as well as victories, and what was learned about how to plan, counter-plan, fight, and organize.

• References to or short reviews/ reports of articles, books, reports, etc. (including your own) that might be of interest to others in the network. (Hard-to-find items might be made available in reprint form.) We might try to get such reviews printed elsewhere as well, to turn others on to readings they might not otherwise see.

• Reports on developments, problems, innovations in the field of planning education. Critiques, case-studies, recommendations for change in how planners and related types get educated and mis-educated would be highly useful, as would reports and critiques on what is going on in the way of university-based research. Dave Ranney notes that a major curriculum change he fought (unsuccessfully) at the Univ. of Iowa "represents a real reactionary trend in the field toward greater 'professionalism,' which is widespread enough could produce a new wave of functionaries who see their job as serving the bourgeois state and making it run more efficiently. We might try to find out systematically what is going on and do some sort of analysis of the social forces giving rise to the most current developments in the profession and some suggestions on how best to combat that."

• Jobs and consulting gigs: We should be able to act as a job information service, to place people in the network in good job openings, facilitate geographical moves, etc.

• Personal discussions and statements on how we are relating, or failing to relate, our professional and personal lives to our politics. How can we find ways to be both radicals and professionals in our society? . . . . People ought to be able to respond constructively to such communications within the context of the network, and create a dialogue on the issues raised.

• Analysis and reporting of interesting, important, or dangerous legislation at the national or local level. Progressive local ordinances in particular (such as Berkeley's Neighborhood Preservation Ordinance) ought to be reported widely, to facilitate replication elsewhere.

• More formal articles: While I think it is premature to start a journal, there ought to be room to use the network for publication and dissemination of articles that people either cannot get published elsewhere or would like to publish for the network readership.

Finances: I was able to get a $2,500 grant (from W.H. and Carl Bernstein Ferry, who until recently ran the DJB Foundation) to pay for the expenses of the network. It's hard to say what mailing and reproduction costs will be at this point, since I don't know the eventual size of the network or the communication packets, but I suspect that the $2,500 might carry us through a year's expenses. I'd like to avoid subscriptions, and want to send the mailings out without charge. But I also will strongly stress voluntary contributions, so that we can insure continued viability of the network past that time, and growth in possibly new directions. The network will have to be self-sustaining. So either now or sometime during the coming year I would like to encourage you to send $5, $10, or more . . .

Future transformations of the network: Several people have suggested that we go beyond a network, to create an organization and a journal. Morris Zeitlin feels that "creating a progressive planning journal ought to be the *least* we could do. To do more, we will probably need to band together into some kind of progressive planners' society, institute or union." This may evolve. At the moment I think it best to start modestly. I am committed to contributing my time for about a year to make this work. By that time—sooner, if people want to—we ought to have some discussions and decisions about what other directions to move into, how to restructure the process, bring new people in, etc. There clearly

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The Network's First Mailing *(continued from preceeding page)*

is need for a good radical publication in the urban planning field, and for a more formal and sustained organization than a network can provide. Again, your thoughts on how and when to develop this should be brought out. Everything will happen, if it happens, only through the energy of the people in the network.

We should of course seek out opportunities to come together in person over the next year—at national conferences (AIP [APA], etc.) and regional gatherings (West Coast Socialist Social Science Conference, e.g.). And once the full list of network names and addresses is circulated, people in a given city or metropolitan area might want to bring together others in that area for meetings and organization of activities. Pat Morrissy of *Shelterforce* feels that "a national conference is a must . . . " Peter Marcuse feels that, while he supports the network notion, "the opportunity to get together and share experiences and debate idea would be significantly more fruitful, however, than a newsletter; and it would seem to me not to be too difficult to do, at least on a regional basis."

Relations with other radical organizations, professional caucuses, etc.: The network can become a way in which we communicate with other radical community and professional groups, and they with us, to share information, plan joint projects, etc. I am trying to put together a list of such groups and newsletters with whom we should be in contact. Please send me any contacts or information you have.

Beyond communicating with each other, I think the network should shortly develop an active component. Most of this will necessarily be local, but we can think in national terms as well. Among the possibilities are:

- Developing a service function to assist organizations in need of professional help. This can range from standard advocacy planning activities to studies and report-writing.

- Preparing and disseminating our own studies and reports on local and national issues.

- Preparing articles for publication in other journals and periodicals (including newspapers) on current issues, legislation, etc.

- Organizing radical presentations at "straight" meetings and conventions, counter-conventions, etc.

- Dave Ranney suggests that we could serve as a "resource bank relating to activities of socialist political collectives doing organizing work around planning-related issues, many of which lack understanding of the basic social forces involved and some of the technicalities that come up. We might prepare resource material packets on issues like community development monies for use by local groups planning actions in that area."

- David Gurin suggests monitoring use of federal legislation as it comes down. How, for example, are localities spending new federal transportation money? How will they respond to any new federal land use legislation?

In some ways the Union of Radical Political Economists provides a model for what I'm trying to initiate, although at a somewhat more modest level for the present. UPRE, through its conferences, publications and projects, has shaped the energies of radical economists in the country and created a unified, supportive force for them. (The model should not be pressed too far, however. URPE is more university-oriented than our network would be. Planning is not as large or well-defined a profession or discipline, and has, as Herb Gans points out, less homogeneity in interests, training, and functions.) But a successful network can at a minimum help to end the isolation many of us feel in our professional work. It could help crystallize radical North American planners into a coherent body, capable of taking unified political action and assisting the political and organizing efforts of others . . . .

Planners Network 1975-85

(continued from page 3)

define and direct the future course of the Planners Network." **Donna Dyer** pointed out that people in the Network, for the most part, are struggling with the conflict between their desire to do progressive planning and the obstacles erected by a less-than-progressive institutional environment. For her, the Network has the potential, unrealized at present, to " . . . help me think about my job in more creative ways."

Planners for Social Change from the University of North Carolina posed an even more specific request: " . . . It would be inspiring to see in the Newsletter a biographical 'Passages of a Progressive Planner,' dealing with such issues as finding substantive progressive work and dealing with burnout. In this way, PN would be providing . . . support to progressive students and beginning planners struggling to support themselves and their beliefs."

Faced with another four years of Ronald Reagan, a Democratic Party bankrupt of ideas and increasingly leary of even liberal pretensions, and a political system which makes those virtually our only choices—not to mention an economy in which rapacious capitalism stands tall without apology—PN has a social responsibility to go beyond providing a place for progressive planners to communicate progressive information.

Now that 50 issues of the newsletter have been published, it becomes more and more difficult to justify simply being a critical voice in a conservative wilderness. Soon it may not even be possible to view austerity as our sole problem, or to feel safe in the fact that, politically and economically, we are "outsiders," and thus ignored.

Safety in insignificance may be an unwritten promise of bourgeois democracy, but political deviance, as radicals learned in World War I and in the McCarthy period of the Fifties, has often been the target of ideological purists, despite the substantive threat.

In a hostile world we must keep ourselves visible, our actions purposive, the debates alive and rich with progressive alternatives, and our solidarity intact.

Bob Beauregard of the Rutgers Urban Planning Department is a member of the PN Steering Committee.

Ten Years of Planners Network: Reflections and Ruminations

by Chester Hartman

In planning for the PN's 50th issue, someone suggested that we reprint excerpts from Newsletter #1 of August 1975, which seemed like a good idea. It would give some benchmark and perspective for evaluating the 10 years since.

Elsewhere in this 50th Issue Feature, we've presented the better part of the network's initial mailing. Originally, it ran six pages of single-spaced text—typed on my trusty Royal Standard, plus a four-page listing of recipients (which we've omitted here). We hope you find it useful.

What follows are some annotations on the original mailing, as well as reflections on other matters related to the Planners Network.

Annotations on PN #1

• The idea of simply reproducing materials and sending them out in packet form quickly was dropped—too expensive, and also editorially unsound. It obviously is preferable to edit and organize materials into a more readable and usable format.

And beginning with Newsletter #3, we took a big technological leap from the Royal Standard to typesetting (jumping entirely over the electric typewriter phase), as something that looked better and cost little if anything more, since lots more could go on a page, saving on printing and mailing costs.

• We never really moved out of the United States in a big way. We have only about a dozen Canadian members, 25 outside N. America. At one point a parallel Canadian planners network was formed, but it seems to have disappeared. While it would have been nice (and still would be) to make those links across national borders, having a U.S. entity is really a sufficient accomplishment; and those in other countries who want to keep in touch with what we do can join.

• While subsequent issues had long (and useful) discussions on what we should be called, we temporarily settled on The Network with issue #3, rather than Network of Radical Urbanists, or one of the many alternatives put forth. Everyone seemed to have a good argument against "radical," "socialist," "progressive," "urbanist," "planner," and just about every other term in suggested titles. We noted that The Network had "a nice menacing, conspiratorial ring to it," but somewhere down the line—I can't seem to locate where, how, or why—we slid into Planners Network.

• The proposed contents of future Newsletter issues didn't really work out as I had hoped. In some early issues, we had good local reports on what was going on in Seattle, Montreal, and a few other places; but that fell off.

I still think it would be important for people to take a little time to write an informal 500-1,000 word report on developments of interest to Networkers in their home towns. We've had almost nothing in the way of case-histories of specific struggles and the lessons therefrom, developments/problems/innovations in the field of planning education, discussions of important pending or actual federal/state/local legislation, or the type of personal discussions suggested.

The Newsletter sometimes is criticized, correctly in my view, as being little more than a (useful and interesting) collection of tidbits. While we always ask for longer, more meaty items, we rarely get them. However, starting with next issue, we're going to try to change that:

Steering Committee member Bob Beauregard (Dept. Urban Planning, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, NJ 08903, 201/932-4053) has volunteered to coordinate a section of each Newsletter that will be devoted to serious discussion of a single substantive issue—a long essay or report, a "panel discussion" on a given topic, etc.

You should contact him with subject ideas or to volunteer a piece; and if he calls on you to write something, I hope you'll say yes. It represents an important new dimension to what we do.

• We obviously never started a journal, although there was lots of pressure to do so in the early days. I still feel that while there certainly is need for a left urban or housing journal in the United States, we don't have the enormous resources needed to do that; and there are lots of places where those of us who write can, and do, get our stuff published.

• In essence we had two national conferences: The April 1979 radical plannign conference held at Cornell, which was a good and important event (and produced an excellent book out of the papers prepared for the conference: *Urban and Regional Planning in an Age of Austerity,* edited by Pierre Clavel, John Forester, and Bill Goldsmith—and still available through Pergamon Press), and the May 1981 founding conference of Planners Network as an organization, held at the 4-H Conference Center outside Washington, D.C.

Conferences are important as statements to ourselves and the outside world; and, in the case of both our past efforts, can be internally productive. They are also a whole lot of work, and are risky—the timing must be right and they have to be handled competently.

• On the regional/local level, things have been spotty. In past years, Network groupings were active in the Bay Area, Boston, the Midwest, Chapel Hill, and New York. Only New York has a really active program at this time, with its highly successful annual forum series.

It would be terrific if other local groupings would re-assert themselves and reform—as in the past, around study groups, forums, providing technical assistance, and other functions. Again, that happens only if someone (or ones) takes the initiative.

We at Network Central can help out, to the extent of supplying mailing labels for a geographic area, giving advice, and publicizing local and regional events in the Newsletter. The Steering Committee also, a while back, voted to advance small start-up/organizing funds for local efforts, where this is necessary or useful; so ask, if you need this.

It would be terrific if more local/regional activities were to happen, but, without any organizing staff, it's really up to you. Even a social gathering would make a good starter activity—just so Network members in an area could meet, and maybe begin discussing some common activities and work.

• Regarding relations with other radical organizations and professional caucuses, we never really have done this, even though it was a good idea. Our new affiliation with Architects/Designers/Planners for Social Responsibility perhaps is a first major step in this direction.

Reflections on PN Affairs

PN Mechanics: People may have some interest in the mechanics of the Network. There are two people involved in "day-to-

(continued on next page)

Ten Years of Planners Network *(continued)*

day" operations: me and Prentice Bowsher.

All mail comes to my office at IPS. I open and read everything (anywhere from 2-15 pieces of mail a day), sort it all out into communications relating to the mailing list (address changes, requests for sample copies and information about PN, Newsletters returned and undeliverable, financial contributions, etc.), material for the next Newsletter, and sporadic other communications that require an individualized response. I handle all the finanical matters: depositing checks, paying bills, keeping financial records (such as they are).

Prentice (whose office is just a few blocks from mine—he has a 1-man community development consulting firm) drops by periodically to pick up materials, so he can keep the mailing list current, and get a jump on preparing the upcoming Newsletters.

(Our mailing list system is slightly primitive, but seems to work for us, and is a step up from the paste-on labels I used for the first few years when the operation was run out of my home in San Francisco, with a gaggle of volunteers (when I was lucky) assembled to paste labels and stamps on, sort for bulk mail, etc. We now use what are called Cheshire labels—IBM-type cards, on which we directly type name and address. The cards are then magically transformed by our mailing house into a long strip of zip-code sequenced address labels, and just as magically affixed by another machine onto the Newsletters. All for 3¢ a copy. Now that we're housed at IPS, we also use the bulk nonprofit postage system, which saves a lot of money; and our mailing house also sorts and ties the newsletters the way the post office requires for bulk mailings, for yet another fee.)

Back to me and Prentice. Prentice takes all the stuff you folks send in, plus materials I have collected over the two months, and transforms it into Newsletter copy. I write up various items about the organization and its work. And Prentince then shepherds the whole shebang through the typesetting/proofing/layout process to the printer, and then to the mailing house.

The whole thing is very efficient—in part because (he notes modestly) we both are; in part because much of the material now comes in from you folks in a form that hardly requires any editing; in part because we've been going for such a long time that things fall into an easily reproducible pattern. I estimate I average about two days a month on PN altogether; Prentice, about three days, for which he is paid a decent but by no means extravagant daily rate. (Neither of us has any secretarial help.)

After having done all this in earlier years in other ways—ranging from no help at all, to help just on the mailing list (which at an earlier date Jerry Horovitz and then Anthony Bernheim generously and competently gave while we were in the Bay Area), I can say with certainty that I would not continue my present role with respect to the Newsletter unless we had adequate funds to cover the present minimal degree of mechanization and farming out of editorial and mailing list work that Prentice now so ably does.

My contribution of two or so days a month to the entire endeavor is about the maximum that will be forthcoming. This relates to issues discussed elsewhere in my "ruminations," on the need for others to come forward if the Network is to expand to other activities that people are suggesting.

PN Leadership: One of the biggest potential weaknesses of the Network, candidly, is its over-reliance on me as its central motor. That's been true from the outset, and I guess as long as I am able and willing to continue doing what I do now, no great problems will arise. But should I get run over by a truck tomorrow, or move to some job or location that makes it impossible for me to put in the time I now put in, I don't really know what would happen.

I like to think—and this probably is the case—that if the need arose, someone on the Steering Committee or another member would appear, and say, "I'll do it." But the lack of a more collective or widespread core of leadership in the Network is not terrific. For part of the 1980-81 period, when I went down to UNC in Chapel Hill as a visiting faculty member, a group from the UC-Berkeley Planning Dept. took over the Newsletter function (although not without some problems)—and that was a hopeful indicator.

PN Finances: One of the things that most pleases me about PN is the way it has been able to function and survive financially for 10 years. I frankly don't know of many other organizations (any, actually) that function as we do: existing entirely on voluntary "dues."

I like the fact that we are able to carry peple who want to be part of the Network yet who whatever reason, cannot or choose not to make a financial contribution, or who make only a tiny one that does not cover our costs of "serving" them.

I also like the fact that those of you who do contribute financially—it's in the 45-percent range—do so for the most part generously. Contributions of $50 (and occasionally even higher) are not all that uncommon, and a high proportion of checks now are in the $20-$30 range.

We cover our costs comfortably and the only significant "cost" that is not covered is the 2 days or so per month of my time, which I am glad to contribute. Having existed for 10 years on that basis, with no real financial crises, is a real feat we all should be proud of.

To run over our finances again: We took in $8,396 over the past year. Our principal expense is putting out the Newsletter, a bimonthly cost of about $1,225—$225 for typesetting and layout; $300 for printing, $150 for mailing services, $550 for Prentice's time as editor and mailing list guardian. About once a year we put out a roster, which costs about $1,000; and another $1,000 or so goes for miscellaneous printing and other costs. We are slightly subsidized by IPS, to the extent that a small amount of phone, photocopying, and postage work for the Network gets done as part of my normal activities here. We've never had any office rent expenses: the Network ran out of my office at home in San Francisco; in Washington, D.C., out of my IPS office.

PN Participation: There's a peculiar, non-responsive quality about many of you, which always bothers me a bit; but maybe my expectations are unreal (and it certainly is true that the response we do get is uniformly positive). That is to say, I often am surprised and disappointed by the minimal response we get to some items in the Newsletter. Only about a dozen of you sent in reflections for our 50th, for example.

Relatedly, it was such a hassle getting people to submit small biosketches for our roster that we gave up, and now just print a roster with names and addresses. A roster clearly is a more useful and interesting document if people describe themselves and their work a bit; but only one one-quarter of you were doing that. I'd like to try it again with the next roster.

It's also in the nature of things that we rarely hear what kind of response people get from items they put in the Newsletter. It would be good if people every now and then wrote in to say what their items elicited in the way of one-on-one contacts.

Kvetching aside, there are enough really nice, short notes that come in with checks, and enough generous contributions to convince us that we're doing a good job, and would be sorely missed if we were to suddenly go out of existence.

PN Organization: Our transformation from network to organization at the 1981 founding conference is something Tony Schuman and Bruce Dale, two of the primary movers behind the event, discuss as part of Bob Beauregard's summary of members' reflections on the past 10 years. I basically share their assessment: It was something of a disappointment, although it advanced us and in no way harmed us.

I come down a bit more on the disappointed side, perhaps. We set up some two dozen projects at that conference, in the areas of housing and neighborhoods, reindustrialization and urban policy, community economic development, health and human services, environment/growth control, and student organizing. By "set up," I mean there was discussion of them, and people volunteered to do them. They weren't just ideas thrown out and ritually approved. Only one of the projects—the Planners Network progressive housing reader (*page 1*) was carried out.

We made some efforts to get the projects off the ground, but it didn't work. The lesson seems to be that without some kind of full-time or near full-time staff to keep after people and give them support, it is not realistic to expect project work of this type. Steering Committee member Andree Tremoulet made a brave effort to follow up, even volunteered her time for a few weeks at our office to do just that; but the need was (and is) for a long-term staff time commitment, if this is to be carried out. We don't have the funds or personnel at this point for such an effort, and we don't seem to have the push to move the Network to that stage.

Nonetheless, I am, in retrospect, really glad we held the 1981 conference, grateful to those who pushed me, kicking and screaming, to support it, and sure we are a more solid formation for having taken that step, along with the greater political self-definition and broader leadership structure the conference led to.

We may some day truly become an activist organization, with projects. But that will take some different leadership energy. As I express elsewhere in this commentary, I am supportive of, but do not have the time personally for, a more intensive, active role as Chair. Any time any of you wants to add your energies to move PN to a new stage of being, you have my cooperation and support; there's plenty of room at the top.

PN Outreach: An observation on outreach/recruitment: It's something we've done fairly half-heartedly throughout our life. That's partly a function of (lack of my) time, partly my preference not to push ourselves farther or to grow bigger than we ought to be.

We grew a lot in the first phase—from the initial mailing of 320, up to a high of nearly 1,500 around 1980.

When we got more serious about being an organization, with a set of political principals and a dues structure (voluntary though it was), and more rigorous about the annual purge of non-responders (something I regard as essential to being a meaningful, as opposed to paper, organization), the numbers dropped to about 1,000. But a solid 1,000.

I still think that outreach and recruitment are mainly your job, not mine. You should constantly be letting colleagues, fellow students, etc. know about the Network, and encouraging them to join, distributing samples of the Newsletter or our "Planners Network—What It Is" sheet (available in quantities on request), identifying yourself as a PN member in biosketches for items you write, for speaking introductions, etc.

PN Outlook: I think PN is a rare and valuable animal, something that has been an important, although sometimes hard-to-define element in the political, personal and professional lives of most of its members. I also think members tend too much to be consumers/readers rather than providers/contributors, not just with regard to the Newsletter but also with regard to potential work we might do.

These 10 years have created a dough of extraordinary potential that is not being used well enough. We need more cooks.

Chester Hartman is Chair of the Planners Network.

Passing the Word, *continued from page 2*

Verna M. Fausey, is a 45-page guide to the pro-business, anti-union Tennessee Business Roundtable. The guide covers the group's history and record, and profiles its directors and staff. Single copies are $12, prepaid, from: Southern Neighborhoods Network, 2406-A Albion St., Nashville, TN 37208, 615/320-5757.

☐ 'CONTRA' AID: "Cast of Characters" is a list of organizations and individuals involved in paramilitary activities in Central America or aiding the "contras" in Nicaragua. A related article in the January/February *Southern Neighborhoods* features paramilitary activities on behalf of the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries. Each is $2 ($4 for both), from: Public Interest Research, Box 121154, Nashville, TN 37212.

☐ RURAL DATA: The Housing Assistance Council (1025 Vermont Ave. N.W., #606, Wash. DC 20005, 202/842-8600) culls Census reports for essential rural housing and poverty data, organizes the numbers by state in a three-page format, and passes along hints for finding further data. Single-state reports are free; a 50-state set is $9. Contact: Joe Belden or John Leonard.

☐ HEATLESS HOMES: *Cold—Not by Choice* and *Homes Without Heat* are detailed, companion reports on the impact of rising energy costs on the poor, especially those dependent on SSI and unemployment compensation. Single copies of each are $10 ($20 for both reports), prepaid, from: National Consumer Law Center, 236 Massachusetts Ave. N.E., Wash. DC 20002, 202/543-6060.

☐ PENINSULA RAIL: Peninsula Rail 2000 (Box 3552, San Francisco, CA 94119, 415/891-4845) has two issue papers on its proposal for upgrading the rail transit service between San Francisco and San Jose. One is "A Five-Point Program To Develop and Improve the Peninsula Rail Service"; the other is "A Financial Plan and Patronage Projections for an Upgraded Peninsula Railway Service." The group also publishes a newsletter, *Peninsula Rail 2000 News.*

☐ SOCIAL CHANGE CENTER: From PN Member David G. Gil (Center for Social Change Practice and Theory, Brandeis Univ., Waltham, MA 02254, 617/647-2927): I would like to share with the Network a progress report on our Center for Social Change Practice and Theory. The Center was established following our founding conference in March. We are focusing

APA Election Outlook

From PN Member Daniel Lauber (1035 Dobson, Evanston, IL 60202, 312/328-8816):

With PN member Norman Krumholz running for President-Elect on the American Planning Association's February-March mail ballot, the opportunity exists to place two Networkers in a row at the head of APA. PN members helped elect me to the APA presidency last year by the widest margin in APA history. You also helped elect to the Board progressives Frank Popper, Jesus Hinojosa, and Mel Levin.

The shift in APA board composition allowed the board to adopt a nuclear freeze resolution along the lines first suggested a few years ago by PN member Bob Bogen. The APA board, which had previously been evenly split, adopted the freeze resolution almost unanimously.

Other progressive candidates this year include: Eugenie Ladner Birch, for APA At-Large; Susan Powers, for APA At-Large; Joseph Flynn Jr., for APA/AICP At-Large; Paul Kelman, for APA/AICP District 3 (the South); and Stuart Meck, for APA/AICP District 4 (the Midwest).

Electing progressives will help the APA catch up to the sort of planning PN members have been doing for years. With these six on the board, these will be a progressive majority to get APA to lobby Congress for more progressive legislation, fight the Reagan Administration's efforts to weaken planning tools (Reagan's Commission on Housing recommended a test case to challenge the constitutionality of all zoning, and federal prohibition of rent and condominium conversion controls; not to mention his abandonment of the poor, civil rights, and environmental protection), and get APA's research and publications to spread the word on more progressive planning practices (like low-equity cooperatives in housing).

As Cleveland Planning Director, Krumholz produced the *Cleveland Policy Planning Report,* which was probably the first municipal comprehensive plan to address the real causes of the city's deterioration and still focus on meeting the needs of the city's disadvantaged. Krumholz's plan was one of the first to require planners to explicitly identify the social impacts of proposals before the Plan Commission. It was the first to place the Plan Commission in an advocacy position for "those less favored by present conditions." It's a remarkable bit of advocacy planning that influenced Cleveland decision makers for years, in both conservative and liberal administrations.

Be sure to vote in the APA election. Ballots must be back at the APA by March 22.

our efforts on the theme "The Future of Work." In connection with this, we initiated introduction in the Massachusetts legislature of a state constitutional amendment guaranteeing to all employment and adequate income, along with a companion measure urging Congress to enact a similar amendment to the federal constitution. We are trying to generate support for these measures from a broad range of political, community and church groups.

☐ DEVELOPMENT INTERNS: The Development Training Institute (914 W. 36th St., Baltimore, MD 21211, 301/243-1920) is accepting applications for 1985-86 National Internships in Community Economic Development. The 12-month program is designed for executive directors and senior staff. For fees and details, contact: Marie Bailey.

☐ NICARAGUA FILM: *Nicaragua: The Other Invasion* is a film and video documentary of health care in Nicaragua, as seen through the eyes of health workers from the United States. Among other things, it reports on the effects of CIA-directed "contra" attacks on health center and health care workers. It is available in film and video for rent or purchase. Contact: Committee for Health Rights in Central America, 1885 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94103, 415/821-6471.

☐ MEMBER UPDATE: From Networker Herbert Levy (125 Harvard St., Alexandria, VA 22314): This is my anti-purge letter; and it can also let you know I am now Executive Director of the National Assn. of Housing Cooperatives (2501 M St. N.W., Wash. DC 20037, 202/887-0706), doing training and publications for housing cooperatives, and legislative advocacy work. If I can be of help to PN members, I am available.

☐ STATE RECORDS: *Tackling Controversial Issues: The Wisconsin Open Record Act* reviews freedom of information in Wisconsin. Single copies are $10, from: Center for Public Representation, 520 University Ave., Madison, WI 53703.

☐ ARMS DEPENDENCE: *Jobs for the Future* is a report of the Economic Conversion Committee of the Cambridge Commission on Nuclear Disarmament and Peace Education (City Hall Annex, 57 Inman St., Cambridge, MA 02139). It documents the state's and city's dependence on military contracts, and suggests state economic conversion legislation and city alternative use planning.

☐ HOUSING FUNDS: Two alternative approaches to funding for low- and moderate-income housing: *The Oregon Housing Trust Fund: A Feasibility Study* reports on using the interest earned on real estate-related deposits, such as various escrows and prepayments. Contact: David Paul Rosen & Associates, 521 Midvale Ave., Oakland, CA 94602. *Mortgages: Housing Opportunities for the '80s* explores mortgage investments by public employee pension funds. single copies are $5, from HUD User, Box 280, Germantown, MD 20874.

☐ MEMBER UPDATE: From Networker Doyle L. Niemann (3806 32nd St., Mt. Ranier, MD 20712): On the work front, I continue to hold down a job at The Kamber Group, one of Washington's premier communications firms, with unions, banks, insurers, politicians, and assorted others as clients. On the political front, I'm in the second year of my term on the Mt. Ranier City Council, and up for re-election in May. We've raised city salaries, bought badly needed public works equipment, begun repaving worn streets, improved the police, and simplified voting in city elections. The newly formed Mt. Ranier Political Action Club helped increase registration almost 50 percent, and contributed to an 80-percent voter turnout.

☐ NICARAGUA AMBULANCE: PN Member John Schlosser (1242 17th East, Seattle, WA 98112) writes: Northwest veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade (of the Spanish Civil War) are organizing an exciting campaign to raise $25,000 to send an ambulance to Nicaragua. The Northwest effort is organized as a tax-deductible effort. Isn't it a pleasant irony to think of the U.S. government subsidizing the ambulance through the tax code? I'd like to encourage other PN people to support the effort.

Contact: Ambulance Fund, Church Council of Greater Seattle, 4759 15th Ave. N.E., Seattle, WA 98105.

☐ NONPROLIFERATION: The European Proliferation Information Center (258 Pentonville Rd., London N1 9JY) provides reliable, objective information and policy proposals encompassing the whole range of issues connected with proliferation in general, and with the role of the Nonproliferation Treaty in particular. In addition to playing an active role in the European debate, the Center also cooperates with U.S. organizations working in the field.

☐ NETWORKER NEWS: From PN Member Pete Nelson (105 S. St. Andrews Pl. #2, Los Angeles, CA 90004): It has been an eventful year. Beside my job as a city community development director, I made a trip to Nicaragua last summer with about 20 other architects and city planners. Now I'm in the process of writing a final copy of my journal on the trip. I'm also excited about becoming president of CRSP, a cooperative resource center in Los Angeles that provides technical assistance and managerial support/publicity/training, etc. for co-ops of all kinds in Southern California. We are in the process of spawning the Los Angeles Mutual Housing Association.

☐ GREEN ORGANIZING: From Networker Clark H. Coan (307 Park Hill Terr., Lawrence, KS 66044): Progressive activists here in the home of the "Day After" are just beginning to organize a local Green organization. We are preparing to take advantage of the next national period of Progressive activism (probably starting in the mid-1990s) which will follow the current reactionary period (if history holds true). We would like to hear from Networkers who know of literature on the Green Movement's philosophy and program (i.e., expounding upon the Green principles of nonviolence, deep ecology, social justice, feminism, decentralization, and grassroots democracy).

☐ NETWORKER NEWS: From PN Member Bob Maltz (39 Landrock Rd., London N8 9HR): Here in Britain, a difficult and crucial winter and spring lie ahead. The government (Tories) is trying to destroy any organized opposition (e.g., labor movement) by smashing the miners' strike, abolishing Labour-controlled city governments in all the main English metropolitan areas, and introducing "rate-capping" to stop other Labour-controlled local councils from carrying out progressive policies, or shielding ordinary people from the worst ravages of this "elected" dictatorship. At the Haringey Council architectural department where I work, we are still in the process of changing over to a collective management system based on multi-disciplinary area teams. Hopefully, we won't be privatized before it has a chance to work.

☐ ORGANIZING WRAP-UP: The summer issue of the quarterly *Social Policy* (33 W. 42nd St. #212, New York, NY 10036) included a handful of articles on grassroots organizing and related issues, among them: "The ACORN Squatters' Campaign," "The Citizens Coalition in Milwaukee," and "Financial Services for the Poor." Single copies are $4; subscriptions are $15.

☐ EFFECTIVE SCHOOLS: The fall issue of the quarterly *Social Policy* (33 W. 42nd St. #1212, New York, NY 10036) is a special examination of the effective school movement: What makes them effective, and what remains to be done. Articles highlight New York City schools, and the roles of teachers, administrators, parents, and corporate support. Single copies are $4; subscriptions are $15.

☐ PROGRESSIVE PLANNING: From Networker Ric Alesch (8718 W. Floyd Dr., Lakewood, CO 80227): I have just been appointed to the Planning Commission for the City of Lakewood, a community of about 100,000 in the Denver metropolitan area. I am interested in references and Networkers' experience on the role of a planning commissioner in pursuing progressive ideas. I have the impression that few PN members serve on city planning commissions, but I would appreciate any comments, suggestions, and information.

☐ HOMELESSNESS: From PN Member John Forester (Dept. of City & Rgnl. Plng., Cornell Univ., Ithaca, NY 14853): Let me raise an issue that several of the Network housing activists might comment on in forthcoming issues: planning responses in the short term to urban homelessness. Have network members been parts of the various coalitions working on this around the country? (I think Charlie Hoch in Chicago, for example, has been doing local and state-level work on this.)

☐ HMDA RENEWAL: The Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, first enacted in 1975, and renewed and strengthened in 1980, expires in September. It has been important for community groups in providing information on the distribution of lenders' loans, which in turn permits enforcement of the Community Reinvestment Act, and provides ammunition for reinvestment agreements negotiated with lenders by neighborhood action groups. The information also helps socially concerned organizations and investors in placing their accounts. The Act's existence encourages lenders to be aware of their investment patterns and the potential for trouble in ignoring a community's needs.

A coalition of national and local groups is pushing to have the HMDA made permanent, and to add disclosure requirements on commercial loans and deposits, plus other reforms. The coalition is trying to document how the HMDA has been used by local government agencies and community groups (necessary to counter lenders' claims that the Act has not been widely used), and to develop support for strengthening amendments (via a "sign-on letter" and pressure on members of relevant Congressional committees). For details: Allan Fishbein, Center for Community Change, 1000 Wisconsin Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20007, 202/342-0594; or Tom Fox, National Training and Information Center, 954 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, IL 60607, 312/243-3035.

☐ SOCIAL PROTEST: *This Mighty Dream,* by Madeleine Adamson and Seth Borgos, is an illustrated, 144-page record of social protest movements in the United States, including agrarian protest, the labor struggle, the black freedom movement, and community organizing. In paperback, the price is $9.95, at bookstores, or from: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 9 Park St., Boston, MA 02108.

☐ POLITICAL NEWSLETTER: *The Wrenching Debate Gazette* seeks to report on—and catalyze—political discussions on what to do and how. An upcoming issue considers growth as metaphor, strategy, and paradigm. Contact: Richard Grossman, Institute for Policy Studies, 1901 Que St. N.W., Wash. DC 20009, 202/234-9382. He is a visiting scholar at IPS, and formerly coordinator of Environmentalists for Full Employment.

☐ CHILD CARE: The Oakland Community Child Care

Impact Committee (c/o BANANAS, Inc., 6501 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, CA 94609, 415/658-7353) has completed a 93-page report on the city's child-care needs and on possible public/private responses. The issue is before the city council. The community-based committee would like to share information and proposals with new or existing projects of this nature. A report summary is free; report copies are $6.50, payable to BANANAS Inc.

☐ NICARAGUA TRAVEL: An architects and planners trip to Nicaragua is being planned for the last two weeks in June. Contact: Steve Kerpen, 1424 Old Topanga Canyon Rd., Topanga, CA 90290, 213/445-1348.

☐ MEMBER UPDATE: From Networker Mary E. Vogel (254 W. 19th St., Eugene, OR 97405, 503/343-5696): Life is changing fast for me right now. I'm seriously considering moving to New England—but small-town Vermont, Massachusetts, or New Hampshire—not Boston. I'd like to live and work with a community land trust, perhaps with the mother of them all, the Institute for Community Economics of Greenfield, Mass. Meanwhile, would PN members in New England keep an ear to the ground for conference centers and schools that might be interested in sponsoring my "Investing for a Sustainable Future" workshop. Also, for any paid jobs involving systemic change in the land and housing system.

☐ URBAN OPEN SPACE: Any planners aware of innovative urban open space development or management projects, especially those with joint public/private/community participation, are asked to contact the Neighborhood Open Space Coalition of New York City. Data collected will lead to a report for the New York Open Space Task Force. Particularly creative projects with applicability to the city will be looked at as models for future planning. Contact: Leonora Sheeline, Neighborhood Open Space Coalition, 72 Reade St., New York, NY 10007, 212/513-7555.

☐ HOMELESSNESS: *The Making of America's Homeless: From Skid Row to New Poor, 1945-1984,* by Kim Hopper and Networker Jill Hamberg, is an 89-page historical analysis of the causes of homelessness in the postwar period and, especially, of its upsurge in recent years. The price is $6, from: The Community Service Society, 105 E. 22nd St., New York, NY 10010.

☐ NETWORKER NEWS: From Bob Bogan (50 Washburn Rd., Mt. Kisco, NY 10549): I am planning a new edition of my *Federal Budget Workbook for Community Leaders and Concerned Citizens,* as well as adding data to my draft of an article (which threatens to become a book) on trends "Toward the New Federalism," the truly historic shift from social mobility to social suppression. Comments and suggestions on either project are invited, particularly significant data series.

☐ WOMEN'S MEDIA: The Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press (3306 Ross Pl. N.W., Wash. DC 20008, 202/966-7783) has available a 1985 *Directory of Women's Media,* with entries for periodicals, publishers, film groups, and others; and a 100-subject *Annotated Index to Media Research and Activities of Women 1982-1984.* The Directory is $8; the Index, $20.

☐ MEMBER UPDATE: From Thomas K. Gottheimer (1418 Franklin St., Haslett, MI 48840): I have a new career, moving from the Economic Development Corp. of Lansing to my own business, GPS Associates, Inc., business and development consultants. We specialize in assisting small businesses and communities to formulate and carry out development plans. I would be very interested in working with community-based organizations that are seeking to start community-based enterprises.

IPS Features

IPS Features is a weekly "op-ed" piece that goes out to some 125 dailies across the country. Although most articles are from people directly associated with the Institute for Policy Studies, we distribute relevant pieces written by others as well.

Network Chair Chester Hartman coordinates this IPS project. If you have ideas for "op-ed" pieces (informed, opinionated, well written articles of about 750 words on a subject of current interest), or a piece you've already written, send them in. You'll be published in Cleveland, Oakland, Providence, Los Angeles, Dallas, etc.

☐ CD/PLANNING FEATURE: The April issue (Vol. 20, No. 2) of *Community Development Journal* features a special section of articles on community development and planning in North America. The neighborhood movement and organizing are heavily stressed, with both urban and rural examples. PN writers are well represented. Single copies are $14, from: Journals Subscription Department, Oxford Univ. Press, Walton St., Oxford OX2 6DP, England.

☐ NETWORKER NEWS: From Robert V. Jacobson (460 W. 22nd St., New York, NY 10011): The world has somewhat changed for me since I last wrote. After 18 years at the NYC Department of City Planning, I quit. I did not like the world of the central office in the context of a chairman who knew or cared nothing about planning. I am now working for the Mayor's Office of Construction, a small group of people charged with seeing that the City's Capital Budget gets carried out expeditiously. I am working on such diverse things as the homeless shelter program, and conflicts between Consolidated Edison and contractors on City street construction jobs.

The New York election does not look promising. Koch is really doing a lousy job as mayor. (His competence and effectiveness are lousy, not just his politics.) Unfortunately, it does not seem that there is anyone coming forward with the capacity to defeat him. But who knows; the City can only hope.

☐ CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTORY: The Food Research and Action Center (1319 F St. N.W. #500, Wash. DC 20004, 202/393-5060) is preparing a special *Legislative Staff Directory for the 99th Congress,* featuring each Member's child nutrition and food stamp aides. Staff for each of the relevant Congressional committees are also listed. Copies are $4.50. Contact: Karen Dorsett.

☐ UDAG CHANGES: The Center for Community Change (1000 Wisconsin Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20007) is proposing to form a working group on Urban Development Action Grants to represent community-based and advocacy groups in the upcoming Congressional debate on the program. The Administration's Budget proposes to eliminate UDAGs. Contact: Ed Gramlich, Neighborhood Revitalization Project, 202/342-0594.

☐ NICARAGUA SLIDES: From Networker Greg Hise (253 Wayne Ave., Oakland, CA 94606, 415-834-7417): Bay Area members of the Architects and Planners Delegation to Nicaragua (PN #47) are presenting a slide show and discussion, "Building the New Nicaragua," on February 21 at the Unitarian Church in San Francisco. Proceeds will go toward a housing project in Pancasan.

Social Responsibility

☐ BAY AREA MEETING: From PN Member Greg Hise (253 Wayne Ave., Oakland, CA 94606, 415/834-7417): I am on the steering committee of the Architects/Designers/Planners for Social Responsibility San Francisco chapter. We're planning a kick-off event February 28 at the Unitarian Church, featuring speakers and a film.

☐ MODIFYING THE 'CALL': From Networker Alan Gartner (CUNY Graduate School and University Center, 33 W. 42nd St., New York, NY 10036, 212/790-4234): In the "Call for Social Responsibility," it would seem particularly important for planning and building professionals to take note of the effects of the built environment on persons with disabilities, effects which often serve to translate a disability into a handicapping condition. Therefore, I would hope that the "Call" would be modified. In any case, ADPSR's activities should reflect concern for persons with disabilities, and the important consequences for them of the built environment.

[PN Note: We will make appropriate changes in future printings of the "Call."]

On Our Organization

☐ NEWSLETTER IDEAS: From Networker Suzanne Day (Rt. 4, Box 12, Egg Harbor, NJ 08215): I'll take this 50th issue to make a suggestion and a compliment. The compliment is that sections such as "Jobs," "Regional Roundup," and "Conferences" are very helpful. The suggestion is that more be provided: For example, "Calls for Papers," then the capitalized heading would highlight the organization, title, or topic. The serendipity of wading through PN pages is often a delight, but more order to the entries would be welcome.

☐ RECRUITING MEMBERS: From PN Member Errol Hess (Rt. 3, Box 298-B, Bristol, VA 24201): You keep announcing a fact sheet for prospective new PN members, but in my experience a copy of the publication would be much more effective. I asked for fact sheets for a few people several months ago; a survey showed none joined PN. At least two people I've shared newsletters with have.

☐ NEWSLETTER IDEAS: From Networker M. Russel Feldman (139 Sumner St., Newton, MA 02159, 617/332-4800): On the newsletter, I concur with the comment in #49 about a bit more substantive content—opinions, observations, etc. For example, I have occasionally written on mechanisms towards full employment. Such commentary is interesting, I think, and helps set an intellectual stage for the professional function of our members. Towards that end, I suggest that you could set up editorial boards or reviewers that have particular substantive interests and experience, and invite brief articles for publication. Articles could be passed to the reviewers, and quality pieces could be printed, perhaps with commentary by the reviewers. I would be happy to be on such a group relating to architecture/urban design, or to economic development/urban policy.

☐ PN AT THE APA: PN is planning to sponsor another open session at the American Planning Association conference at Montreal, April 20-24, probably on Monday or Tuesday. Tentatively, Chester Hartman, Norman Krumholz (candidate for APA President-Elect), and hopefully someone from Montreal will speak on issues of social justice in planning. If you're going to the APA, please contact Steering Committee member Charlie Hoch (Urban Planning and Policy Program, Univ. of Illinois, Box 4348, Chicago, IL 60680, 312/996-8722). Charlie has put on similar PN sessions at previous APA conferences, knows the ropes, and could use some help.

☐ PN SUGGESTIONS: From PN Member Harvey Stern (1310 Felicity #B, New Orleans, LA 70130): As a City Planner with the City of New Orleans, I would be interested in more PN coverage of concrete progressive planning initiatives, such as profiles of worker-owned companies, neighborhood self-help organizations, and community-based development enterprises. I'd be interested also in reports on successful progressive approaches on planning issues among city planning agencies around the country. If I can be helpful in pursuing any of these ideas, please contact me.

Upcoming Conferences

☐ VOTING RIGHTS: The Center for Legal Studies on Intergovernmental Relations is sponsoring a conference on voting rights and the democratic process at Tulane Law School (New Orleans, LA 70118) on March 29. Speakers include Jack Greenberg and Robert Hayes. Topics include voting rights for the homeless, the use of special masters in voting rights litigation, and bailout. The format includes panelists in the morning and workshops in the afternoon. There is a $12 charge for lunch. Contact: Robert Collin or Andrea Brigalia, 504/865-5995.

☐ ELDERLY HOUSING/CARE: The Center for Legal Studies on Intergovernmental Relations is sponsoring the third annual conference on aging at Tulane Law School (New Orleans, LA 70118) on April 18 and 19. Topics include long-term care and housing options for the elderly. The format includes panelists in the morning and workshops in the afternoon. There is a $12 charge for lunch, with discounts for senior citizens. Contact: Robert Collin or Andrea Brigalia, 504/865-5995.

☐ ALTERNATIVE INVESTING: "Investing for a Sustainable Future" will be the topic of a two-day workshop (March 1-3) at the Breitenbush Healing, Retreat, and Conference Center (Box 578, Detroit, OR 97342, 503/854-3501). The workshop will examine attitudes toward money, money's current impact, and alternative investment opportunities. The instructor is Networker Mary Vogel.

☐ SOCIAL/ECONOMIC JUSTICE: The second annual Conference toward Social and Economic Justice will be held April 26-27 at Brandeis University on the theme, "The Future of Work." The format includes plenaries, workshops, and a reception. In addition, there will be a public forum as part of the conference at Boston's Faneuil Hall at which Mel King will be the keynote speaker. Details: David G. Gil, Center for Social Change Practice and Theory, Brandeis Univ., Waltham, MA 02254, 617/647-2927.

☐ CO-OP FINANCING: A two-day conference on "Cooperative Housing, 1985: A Practical Guide to the Latest Techniques in Development and Finance" will be held March 7-8 in Washington, D.C. Sponsors include *Housing and Development Reporter,* the Cooperative League of the USA, and the Institute for Professional and Executive Development, Registration ranges from $325 to $395. Details: IPED, 2300 M St. N.W. #260, Wash. DC 20037, 202/331-9230.

☐ PESTICIDES: The third national Pesticide Forum will be held March 1-4 at the National 4-H Center in Washington, D.C. The format includes a keynote, state and local reports, workshops, and planned visits with government officials. Registration begins at $32. Details: National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides, 530 7th St. S.E., Wash. DC 20003, 202/543-5450.

☐ SOCIALIST SCHOLARS: The third annual Socialist Scholars' Conference will be held at the Borough of Manhattan Community College, New York City, April 4-6. Featured speakers will include E.J. Hobsbawm, Luciana Castellina, Frances Fox Piven, Mchael Harrington, and Joyce Miller. The Planners' Network will sponsor a panel on the politics of urban development. Contact Nancy Kleniewski, Department of Sociology, SUNY, Geneseo, NY 14454.

Calls for Papers

☐ WOMEN'S HEALTH: The Women's Caucus of the American Public Health Association invites abstracts (150-200 words) about women's health and the participation of women in the health field. Special emphasis will be given to the role of government in enhancing health care for women. Topics of special interest include reproductive rights, health impact of the feminization of poverty, concerns of female subgroups (third world, lesbian, aged, etc.), and the impact of deregulation upon safety standards affecting women's health. The deadline is March 12. Contact: Jane Sprague Zones/Joan Emery, Aging Health Policy Center, Univ. of California—N631Y, San Francisco, CA 94143.

Jobs

☐ PN REMINDER: Some of the jobs we list may have application deadlines earlier tha when you receive the Newsletter. But deadlines can be adjusted sometimes. So we urge you to phone first, if a number is listed, and check on the deadline schedule.

☐ SUMMER JOB: From Networker Rick Rybeck (2009 Park Rd. N.W., Wash. DC 20010, 202/232-5347): I am completing the first year of a law/Master of Science in real estate degree program, and I am seeking summer employment. My experience includes authorship of a report on housing economics, legislative analysis for a firm representing urban counties, and socioeconomic impact analysis for the U.S. Dept. of the Interior.

☐ POLICY ANALYST: The Technical Staff of the Philadelphia City Council (564 City Hall, Philadelphia, PA 19107) will have a late Spring/early Summer opening for an experienced policy analyst with statistics skills in public finance and community-oriented economic development. Salary is mid- to upper 20's, with good potential for performance-based increases. Contact: PN Member Mike Masch, Director, Economic Analysis, 215/868-2844.

☐ URBAN DEVELOPMENT: The College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University is seeking an associate or full professor in Urban and Regional Economic Development. Applicants must have a Ph.D. in a related area, teaching experience, a good publication record, and a strong interest in public service and curriculum development in Urban Planning, Design, and Development. Salary is open. The closing date for applications was February 15, (*see PN Reminder, above*); starting date is September 15. Contact: Norman Krumholz, College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State Univ., 1983 E. 24th St., Cleveland, OH 44115.

☐ ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: The Washington School, a project of the Institute for Policy Studies (1901 Que St. N.W., Wash. DC 20009, 202/234-9382), has an immediate opening for an assistant director, with responsibilities for publicity and promotions, a monthly activities calendar, class operations, a work exchange program, and helping in curriculum development. The school sponsors classes, seminars, and other events on public policy, political thought, and culture. The salary is $12-$14,000. Contact: Susan Goodwin.

Ex Conferences

☐ SOCIAL INVESTING: The Associated Students of the University of Oregon (Erb Memorial Union #4, Univ. of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403, 503/686-3724) sponsored a conference February 5-7 on socially responsible investing, with an array of national speakers. The theme was "Investment Issues of the 80s."

Etcetera

☐ DEADLINE ALERT: The deadline for getting copy into the April *Planners Network* is Monday April 1—no fooling. We hope to hear from as many Networkers as possible; and we hope you'll take to heart the suggestions for writing on what's happening in your community or work/political life, as well as on work you've produced. Also, please keep typing your notes and letters; it's a great help with production, and it reduces our chances of misreading what you write.

Copy deadline for PN #51: April 1, 1985.

☐ LOST SOULS: We seem to have more than our share of peripatetic members, and some of them forget to keep us posted on address changes. We're always optimistic that they really meant to stay in touch, so we list them here for your help in re-establishing contact. Please let us know if you have an address for any of our wandering Networkers.

Jan Abell, Tampa
Michael Peltz, Berkeley
Jennifer Turin, Cheney, WA
Ken Reardon, Ithaca
Tacie Dejanikus, Bethesda, MD
Michael Black, Santa Monica
Fern Dannis, Baltimore
Beth O'Leary, Ithaca
Susan P. Jones, Madison, WI

☐ TALK UP PN: Please don't be shy about sharing news of the Planners Network with others. Let them know about us. Probably the best outreach we have is when you educate and recruit your friends, co-workers, acquaintances, and others. We have a good, one-page introductory sheet, "The Planners Network—What It Is," which we can send you in any quantity you wish." "What It Is" includes a statement of our principles, a brief organizational history, a list of Steering Committee members (who also double as regional contacts), and the method for calculating contributions. If you wish, you can also send us a list of prospective Networkers, and we will contact them for you.

☐ PERSONAL UPDATES: There are a number of short communications in this issue from Network members, letting us know about new jobs, projects, what's happening in their lives, etc. We encourage this. Sharing this kind of "where-I'm-at" information helps create a sense of community, provide contacts, generate support, and generally act like the network we strive to be.

☐ ADDRESS CHANGES: Many Networkers seem to move around a lot. When you do, please let us have your old address and zip code as well as your new ones. Names (like luggage) sometimes are identical, and we want to be sure we change the right address card. Moreover, our cards are maintained in zip code order (because that's the way the Post Office wants the mail); so if we don't have your old zip code, we can't find your old card; and we wind up paying postage for phantom recipients. So please help out and send both old and new addresses.