□ PN FRELOADERS/POSTCARD: Well, El Postcard Oboxiosi went out Monday, April 2, to some 480 PNers who (our records show) had not contributed financially in more than a year. Fear of receiving it (after the warning in PN #80) sent quite a number of you into a last-minute contributing frenzy (see the Financial Mini-Report, below). Often, the contributions were accompanied by short notes: “I am truly embarrassed and ashamed . . . ” “Mea culpa! Mea culpa . . . ” “My most humble and sincere apologies . . . ” Even so, many checks and postcards no doubt will have crossed in the mails. We will adjust our records accordingly. We really do hope and expect that those of you who still are in the freeloading category—the most penurious excepted—will ante up. Not fair otherwise. (Once again, our apologies in advance to anyone unfairly accused; just let us know the true facts, and we’ll correct our records.)

□ PN PURGE ALERT: Our quasi-annual PN Purge is about to happen once again. A reminder of the simple rules by which we play: “We don’t hear from you; you don’t hear from us.” Unlike the issue of financial contributions (see PN Freeloaders/Postcard, above), on which we rely on cajoling and embarrassment, this rule we enforce. We keep records of any communication we get from you—whether it be an item for the newsletter, a check, a complaint, a compliment, whatever—anything that shows you’re alive and reading the newsletter. We have no reason to keep sending you the newsletter unless you want to keep getting it; and, if we’re not to have a huge, expensive mailing list, half of which is “dead,” we need tangible evidence of your continued interest.

So: Look to your address label to see whether you’re headin’ for Purge-ville. The key is the number of # signs: One means you’re heading for a PN-less life; two means you’re okay. If your label has only one # sign, you still can take evasive action, by communicating with us (preferably accompanied by a check). Otherwise, you will get one more issue, with another warning. Then—you’ll be dropped (a condition we can reverse whenever you come to your senses, and realize the gaping hole in your PN-less life). Take heed.

□ REVISING PN DUES: The process of developing a revised PN dues structure has taken longer than anticipated: so, instead of a proposal as promised in PN #80 for this issue, we have to ask your patience for one more newsletter. Meanwhile, please forward any and all dues ideas, complaints, etc. to Bob Beauregard, Dept. of City and Regional Planning, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, NJ 08903, 201/932-3822, 4053.

□ FINANCIAL MINI-REPORT: Since the February newsletter, we have received contributions from 76 Networkers totaling $2,692. Our thanks to each of you. Our year-to-date contributions have come from 162 PNers, totaling $5,700. These totals compare with 343 contributions providing $11,122.50 in the year 1989. Clearly, we’re ahead of the curve, and credit has to go to your response to our efforts at converting PN freeloaders into paying Networkers.

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 need funds for operating expenses. The Steering Committee has recommended the following amounts as minimums for Network members: $15 for students and unemployed; graduated payments for the employed of $25 plus $1 for each $1,000 earned above $10,000.

Members of the Steering Committee: Chester Hartman, DC, Chair; Emily Achtenberg, Boston; Eve Bach, Berkeley; Bob Beauregard, New Brunswick, NJ; Donna Dyer, Durham, NC; William Goldsmith, Ithaca; Charles Hoch, Chicago; Joochul Kim, Tempe; Judy Kosy, Buffalo; Jacqueline Leavitt, LA; Peter Marcuse, NYC; Alan Rabinowitz, Seattle; Tony Schuman, NYC; Andree Tremoulet, Pittsfield.

Newsletter Editor: Prentice Bowsher.

□ 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 # 1601 Connecticut Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009
Passing the Word

☐ WOMEN ORGANIZERS: A Beginning Collection of References and Resources, by the Women Organizers' Collective, is a compilation of both published and unpublished books, articles, manuals, films and videos about and by women organizers. Contact: Terry Mizrahi, ECCO, Huron College School of Social Work, 129 E. 79th St., New York, NY 10021, 212/452-7112.

☐ MUMFORD MEMORIAL: A Memorial for Lewis Mumford is planned for May 20 at the Hotchkiss School Chapel in Lakeville, CT, close to Mumford's Amenia, NY, home. Details were still in process at press time. If you're planning to attend, please contact W.H. "Ping" Ferry (914/725-5362), co-organizer of the memorial, with the Kirkpatrick Sale.

☐ PROGRESSIVE PLANNERS/QUERY: From Clara M. Thagard (719 Albitross Rd., Andalusa, AL 36420): Our small town of 12,000 residents is facing a school building crisis. We need copies of similar studies and outreach from other cities, which include comparisons of total costs, local tax revenues, and projected outside revenues.

☐ CONFERENCE PROPOSAL: The Washington School, a continuing education program sponsored by The Institute for Policy Studies, is interested in organizing a national conference with other public education programs which focus on political, environmental, and social justice. If you know of any similar programs, or if you are interested yourself in such a conference, please contact Sue Goodwin, The Washington School, 1280 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036, 202/234-9382.

☐ DEVELOPMENT BURDEN/QUERY: The city of Little Rock, AR, is annexing land west of the city, and is increasing user fees in older, incorporated areas (eg. sewer fees) to pay for the new development. Arkansas ACONR is looking for ways to place the burden of development more on developers and less on residents of older, low- and moderate-income sections of the city. Anyone living or working in the city should contact Robin Conner, 523 W. 15th St., Little Rock, AR 72202, 501/376-7151.

☐ ENVIRONMENT/MARYLAND: The Feghorn is a monthly newsletter supporting individual action for the environment, published by Friends of Gaia Inc. (Box 302, West River, MD 20778). No price listed. Contact: Keith Oliver, 301/263-7290.

☐ CRITICAL TEACHING is a new bi-monthly newsletter of the National Association of Women Working College Professors, which provides support, develops new ideas, ideological pointers, and networking opportunities. Contact: NAWCWP, 1358 16th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.


☐ HOUSING/WOMEN: The Women and Housing Task Force (c/o National Low Income Housing Coalition, 1014 12th St. N.W., Washington, DC 20005, 202/622-1530), chaired by PN Planner Neda Dolehner, has issued a 16-page report, Unlocking the Door: An Action Program for Meeting the Housing Needs of Women. The report sets forth the dimensions of the housing problems facing women, and makes specific recommendations for solving them. Copies are $5, plus postage.

☐ HOUSING LENDERS: Directions in Affordable Housing Finance is a new bi-monthly newsletter provided as a membership service for the National Association of Affordable Housing Lenders (4 Commercial Wharf 99, Boston, MA 02110, 617/742-0532). Membership is open to low- and moderate-income housing lenders, and also to non-lenders involved and concerned with affordable housing. There are also reports of financing for our dwindled housing stock, automobiles and public shelters. In Philadelphia, we estimate that even a 35 minute person another experiecne homemlessness.

What we have learned all too painfully is that the "informal" city has magically provided low- and moderate-income housing in sufficient quantity for all those in need, nor have those charged with providing and financing housing done so in an equitable and color-blind fashion.

Two entities integral to the production, distribution and financing of our nation's housing stock, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the savings and loan industry, are roten with fraud, mismanagement and moral bankrupcty. Neither economic system nor laws nor regulatory agencies have seen to this. No, the question here is: what experts have determined that a household should spend more than 30% of its income on housing in order to be able to afford the other necessities of life. Nationally some 5.9 million owners (10.5%) and 8.5 million renters (26.2%) are spending in excess of 40% of their incomes towards housing: this represents approximately 10% of all households.

In Philadelphia, approximately 100,000 households are spending 5% or more of their income on housing. Of those 10,000, 90,000 are households with annual incomes at or below $12,000; 45,000 are households headed by minorities; and 65,000 are headed by women. In short, one in six Philadelphia households is in a position of having to either down grade substantially or lose their homes. Simultaneously, Philadelphia maintains a stock of approximately 20,000 aban

PN Special Feature

Homelessness: Sign of the Times
by Ina Goldstein

Over the past several months, citizen groups across the country have been organizing under the name of the Nation's Housing, a continuing education program sponsored by The Institute for Policy Studies, is interested in organizing a national conference with other public education programs which focus on political, environmental, and social justice. If you know of any similar programs, or if you are interested yourself in such a conference, please contact Sue Goodwin, The Washington School, 1280 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20036, 202/234-9382.

The purpose of this project is to address the problems of housing, particularly in urban areas, and to develop solutions that are equitable and accessible to all. In an effort to achieve these goals, the project will focus on issues such as: the role of government in housing policy; the impact of race and ethnicity on housing outcomes; the relationship between housing and economic development; and strategies for improving access to affordable housing.

The project will provide a structured learning environment for participants to explore these issues, engage in critical reflection, and develop practical strategies for addressing housing challenges. The project will include a series of workshops, discussions, and hands-on exercises designed to build participants' knowledge and skills.

Participants will have the opportunity to network with others working on similar issues, share best practices, and collaborate on local and national initiatives. The project will be facilitated by experienced housing experts and will be tailored to meet the needs and interests of participants.

The Nation's Housing project is committed to inclusiveness and diversity, and will actively seek out perspectives from a range of communities, including communities of color, low-income communities, and communities affected by displacement.

We believe the project will contribute to a growing movement of individuals and organizations working to address housing challenges and create more equitable, sustainable, and just communities.

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PN Special Feature

In its Special Feature, Planners Network will profile and provide pro-active writings about substantive concerns and issues in the planning profession. (Letters can be submitted. Essays typically require a minimum of one week's notice.) The Network will be publishing a single issue, and illuminate it with examples and insights.

The Special Feature editor is Bob Beauregard (Dept. of Urban Planning, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, New Jersey) who is the editor of the Network (323-0303). We will have additional involvement in the Network as well.

We would be grateful for Networker's support of this feature, and encourage continued ideas, suggestions, commentary, and dialogue.

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<2/Planners Network #81/ April 19, 1990

PASSING THE WORD

Women Organizers: A Beginning Collection of References and Resources, by the Women Organizers' Collective, is a compilation of both published and unpublished books, articles, manuals, films and videos about and by women organizers. Contact: Terry Mizrahi, ECCO, Hunters College School of Social Work, 129 E. 98th St., New York, NY 10121, 212/452-7112.

Mumford Memorial: A memorial for Lewis Mumford is planned for May 20 at the Hotchkiss School Chapel in Lakeville, CT, close to Mumford’s Amenia, NY, home. Details were still in process at press time. If you’re planning to attend, please contact W.H. “Pine” Ferry (914/725-5262), co-organizer of the memorial, with Kirkpatrick Sale.

Progressive Planners/Query: From Clara M. Thagard (719 Albritton Rd., Andalusia, AL 36420): Our small town of 1200 in our southeast, and you folks, I was interested in your experience with environmental studies, and would like some information on ways to find progressive community planners in our area. Thank you for any help you can provide.

Great Books/Planning: Pfer Paul Niehans (College Eight, Univ. of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064) offered again last winter his “Great Books in Planning” seminar, and has compiled a two-page list of books chosen by his students.

Networker Update: From Julie Moe (790 Church St., #314, San Francisco, CA 94114): For the past year I’ve been researching the history of the San Francisco Conserva-
tion Corps, which is the first nonprofit youth corps in the country working with out-of-school, unemployed youth aged 16-24. The program has a 20 year history of community programs in San Francisco or Mexico, nearly all the others are black, and 90 percent are male. My job is a combination of project development, grant management, and evaluation. I would appreciate any help you can offer me in hearing from other CNRers working in similar areas, and also in helping me to locate other planners to assist me in the youth service and development work; the work has been extremely rewarding and challenging.

Networker Update: From Jill Nathanson (2951 St. Lq., Wickerhawke, NJ 07087, 201/348-6119): I am an artist who also runs an architectural gallery, doing interior and exterior color work at very low cost for housing-the-homeless projects. I don’t choose colors to create a decorative feel, or for color schemes, but to show people how to develop ways to use color that are expressive, beautiful, and dignified, i.e., truly vital. I want to work with tenants of affordable homes to develop color choices for their buildings as well as with planners and architects.

Public Services/Query: From David S. Burgess, Executive Director, Metropolitan Ecumenical Ministry (404 University Ave., Newark, NJ 07102, 212/623-9259): The Newark mayor and city council are prepared to study the city’s need for housing, health care, nutrition, education, welfare, and police protection, including an expected shortfall in local tax revenues. Rutgers (Newark) Graduate School of Administration is preparing a study outline, and has asked us to prepare one also. We need copies of similar studies and study outlines from other cities, which include comparisons of total costs, local tax revenues, and projected outside revenues.

Conference Proposal: The Washington School, a continuing education program sponsored by The Institute for Policy Studies, is interested in organizing a national conference with other public education projects which focus on political and social problems in the social justice. If you know of any similar types of programs, or if you are interested yourself in such a conference, please contact Sue Goodwin, The Washington School, 523 W. 15th St., Suite 310, Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20009, 202/234-9382.

Development Burden/Query: The city of Little Rock, AR, is annexing land west of the city, and is increasing user fees in older, incorporated areas (e.g. sewer fees) to pay for the new development. Arkansas ACON is looking for ways to place the burden of development more on developers and less on residents of older, low- and moderate-income sections of the city. Contact: ACON, 523 W. 15th St., Little Rock, AR 72202, 501/376-7151.

Environment/Maryland: The Floghorn is a monthly newsletter supporting individual action for the environment, published by Friends of Gaua Inc. (Box 302, West River, MD 20778). No price listed. Contact: Keith Oliver, 301/263-7290.


Alternative Philanthropy: The National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy (2005 1 St. S. N.W., Washington, DC 20009, 202/787-9177) has a four-page list of publications, fundraising help, and other philanthropic resources, including women’s funds, and foundations and the United Way.

Housing/Women: The Women and Housing Task Force (c/o National Low Income Housing Coalition, 1014 14th St. N.W., Washington, DC 20006, 202/622-1530), chaired by PNR member, launches a 10-page report, Unlocking the Door: An Action Program for Meeting the Housing Needs of Women. The report sets forth the dimensions of the housing problems facing women, and makes specific recommendations for solving them. Copies are $5, plus postage.

Housing Lenders: Directions in Affordable Housing Finance is a new bi-monthly newsletter provided as a membership service by the National Association of Affordable Housing Lenders (43 Commercial Wharf, 9th, Boston, MA 02110, 617/742-0532). Membership is open to low- and moderate-income housing lenders, and also to non-lenders involved and concerned with affordable housing. Copies are $20 per year.

Housing Principles: Following the October? Housing Now! march on Washington, representatives of a number of the sponsoring organizations (including PNR Chair Chester Hartman) met to develop a set of principles to guide future housing work.

PN Special Feature

Homelessness: Sign of the Times

By Ira Goldstein

Over the past several months, citizens of most major cities in America have been treated to a series of opinions on the roots and resolutions of "the homeless problem." Many of these opinions reflect anger and frustration at those who are homeless; others express outrage in a more con-
structive direction—at the structural causes of homelessness.

In an attempt to gain some insight into some of these opinions, the Washington School, in cooperation with the Corporation for Public Service, has produced a report: The State of Homelessness: The Changing Nature of Homelessness, and the Changing Nature of the Response. The report is now in final draft.

The report contains a number of findings, some of which are surprising. For example, the research shows that the number of people who are homeless in any given city is not constant but varies with the times. The report also finds that the number of people who are homeless in a given city is not constant but varies with the times. The report also finds that the number of people who are homeless is greater in cities with larger populations, but that the number of homeless per capita is greater in cities with smaller populations.

The report concludes that the most important factor in determining the number of homeless people in a given city is the availability of jobs. The report also finds that the number of homeless people in a given city is determined by the number of people who are unable to find jobs, the number of people who are able to find jobs but who lose their jobs, and the number of people who are able to find jobs but who are not able to make a living wage.

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Passing the Word (continued from page 1)

progressive housing activists. This nine-point document is available by sending a SASE to PN (1601 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Wash., DC 20009).

MOBILE HOMES/SITE RENT: Owners of mobile homes frequently rent the land on which they place their homes, using the cost of the site as part of their monthly housing expense. This housing sector is potentially abusive because the cost of moving can be $10,000-$15,000. In Florida, with over 400,000 rented mobile home sites, a high percentage of site rent disputes are seldom successful (only 25%) reach any form of agreement). A team at the Florida State Univ. Dispute Reso

РURAL WORKING POOR: The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (777 N. Capitol St. N.E., 20003, 202/408-1080) has issued "Fulfilling Work's Promise: Policies to Increase Incomes of the Rural Working Poor". A 56-page report that estimates the earned-income tax credit and full restoration of the minimum wage. No price listed.

THE ECOLOGIST: A 21-year-old, British periodical, which has become the leading international "Green" journal, is now offered for distribution in North America by MIT Press (55 Hayward St., Cambridge, MA 02142, 415/253-8049). Subscriptions are $25 for students, $30 for other individuals.

GLOBAL ECONOMY: The Global Factory is a 94-page analysis of the impacts of job creation and the locational tie between economic dislocation in the United States and distorted development in the benefits from the burgeoning shift to recycling. Single copies are $5; bulk rates are available.

FIGHTING HUNGER in Your Community is a guide from the League of Women Voters, 1730 M St. N.W., Wash. DC 20006, 202/429-1965) establishing a local hunger effort, with profiles of 10 model projects and lists of local and national contacts on hunger and food programs. Strategies highlighted by "reinvesting" the tax cuts previously granted to the wealthiest five percent of the people.

HOUSING PRIMER: Low-Income Housing in America: An Introduction, by PNC Larry Yates is a 44-page essay on the housing situation of low-income Americans, and the institutions and policies that affect it. Copies are $7, from Low Income Housing Information Service, 1012 14th St. N.W., #150, Wash. DC 20005, 202/662-1530.


TECHNOLOGY GUIDE: The Process of Technological Innovation, by Louis G. Tornatzky and Mitchell Fletcher, is a 320-page compilation of research-based knowledge about innovation that updates a 1983 edition. Copies are $45.75, from Lexington Books, 125 Spring St., Lexington, MA 02173, 800/253-3565.

NETWORK UPDATE: From Kate Foster (506 Lawrence Apts., West Drive, Princeton, NJ 08540): After a two-year assignment with the Peace Corps and a year managing a housing cooperative for the Swisswalt Ministry of Natural Resources, I'm studying for a Ph.D. in public affairs at Princeton. My research interest is in government/administrative cities, the interplay between different levels of government in the planning process, and the city's potential for "industrialization." I'm focusing on Washington, D.C., and would like to hear from PNC there involved in planning activities.

CBDC NEWSLETTER: Targeting Times is a new newsletter from the Coalition for Low-Income Community Development (1000 Wisconsin Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20007, 202/342-0594), which focuses on the community development field, provides weekly news and events, and programs to increase its low-income benefits. Subscriptions are $10.

PUBLICATIONS LIST: The Urban Institute (1090 Vermont Ave. N.W., Wash. DC 20005) has issued a four-page tabloid with a comprehensive list of over 100 periodicals. The list includes among other titles: National Housing Programs: How States and Localities are Responding to Federal Cutbacks in Low-Income Housing (231 pages, $30); Affordable Housing: Twenty Examples from the Private Sector (106 pages, $22); and a video, Affordable Housing: Restoring the Dream (12 minutes, $29.95).

ENVIRONMENTAL MAGAZINE: Garbage: The Practical Journal for Environmentalists, published by the Environmental Magazine, with articles on food, health, and

A reply by the December 1990 Planners Network #11/5
perpetuate the problem. Homelessness is not a problem easily solved within the temporal constraints of a fiscal year or a term of office. That is, serious proposals to address the homeless problem call forth an investment model in which the returns are likely to come years after any official leaves public office. Direct anger and energy toward systemic solutions. Homelessness is a systemic problem. When people walk by — seek and succeed on their own — affordable housing we must rethink our approach of relying on the private market to provide for the poorest amongst us. Many homeless Philadelphians indicated that 11.4% were employed but with incomes too low to obtain housing. Advocates for reform of state welfare policies, which in Pennsylvania, "able bodied" persons to 90 days of assistance (approximately $500 a year). This program is targeted to those persons aged 18 to 21 who meet the state's age requirements for assistance who are able-bodied, or who "claim" the welfare benefits.

Ira Goldstein is Associate Director of the Institute for Public Policy Studies, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA 19122. Copies of Homelessness in Pennsylvania: How Can This Be? (10), and Homelessness in Philadelphia: Roots, Realities and Solutions ($15), are available from: Philadelphia Committee for the Homeless, 607 N. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19130.

Fourth HUNGER in Your Community is a guide from the League of Women Voters of the United States, 1730 M St. N.W., Washington, DC 20006, 202/429-1965 on establishing a local hunger effort, with profiles of 10 model projects and lists of local and national contacts on hunger and food. The organization highlighted by "reversing the trend of tax cuts previously granted to the wealthiest five percent of the people." No price listed.

HOUSING PRIMER: Low-Income Housing in America: A Primer, by PNER Larry Yates is a 46-page essay on the housing situation of low-income Americans, and the institutions and policies that affect it. Copies are $7, from: Low Income Housing Information Service, 1012 14th St. N.W., Washington, DC 20005, 202/662-1530.


NETWORK UPDATE: From Kate Foster (506 Lawrence Apts., West Drive, Princeton, NJ 08540): After a two-year assignment with the Peace Corps, last year Kate was placed in a small community in the Andean region of the Swissland Ministry of Natural Resources, I'm studying for a Ph.D. in public affairs at Princeton. My research interest is in government/administrative cities, the interplay between different levels of government in the planning process, and the cities’ potential for “industrialization.” I'm focusing on Washington, D.C., and would like to hear from PNER there involved in planning activities.

CDBG NEWSLETTER: Targeting Times is a new newsletter from the Coalition for Low-Income Community Development (100 Wisconsin Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20007, 202/342-0540), which focuses on the community development block grant program, and efforts to increase its low-income benefits. Subscriptions are $10.

PUBLICATIONS LIST: The Urban Land Institute (1090 Vermont Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20005) has issued a four-page tabular summary of its recent publications, which includes among other titles: Federal Housing Programs: How States and Localities Are Responding to Federal Cutbacks in Low-Income Housing (213 pages, $30), Affordable Housing: Twenty Examples from the Private Sector (106 pages, $22), and a video, Affordable Housing: Restoring the Dream (12 minutes, $29.95).

ENVIRONMENTAL MAGAZINE: Garbage: The Practical Journal for Urban Environmentalists, is a bi-monthly magazine published environmental magazine, with articles on food, health,

Passing the Word (continued from page 90)

progressive housing activists. This nine-point document is available by sending a SASE to PNI (1601 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20009).

MOBILE HOMES/SITE RENT: Owners of mobile homes frequently rent the land on which they place their homes, using the rent as a source of income. Mobile home owners have no say over site treatment or changes in the land they lease. The majority of sites on which these housing units are located are potentially abusive because the cost of renting can be $10,000-$15,000. In Florida, with over 400,000 rented mobile home sites, the median site rent is $150 per month. This amount of rent is a significant portion of the household’s income. In several states, mobile home owners are taking legal action to challenge rent increases and to seek new ways to improve the quality of life for mobile home residents. A team at the Florida State University Dispute Resolution, 5372 Old Tampa Trail, Sarasota, FL 34233, has available several publications on financial markets, institutions, and policy issues in the South. Among them: What’s the Guarantors’ Inflation-insured line of credit (PILC) about? Public, and Guarantors Funds in the South (22), and Democratic Money: A Populist Persuasion ($1). Subscriptions are $10.

HOUSING AIDS/CANADA: The University of British Columbia Center for Human Settlements (Vancouver, BC V6T 1W5, 604/228-5254) is carrying out a national study for Health and Welfare Canada on the existing housing situation and on policy and program options for persons with AIDS. It is interested in contacting others doing similar research. Contact: Dr. David Holbach, Director.

RURAL WORKING POOR: The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (777 N. Capitol St. N.E., 20004, Washington, DC 20002, 202/408-1080) has issued Fulfilling Work’s Promise: Policies to Increase Incomes of the Working Poor, a 56-page report designed to expand the earned-income tax credit and full restoration of the minimum wage. No price listed.

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GLOBAL ECONOMY: The Global Factory is a 94-page analysis of the information society, and the links between economic dislocation in the United States and distorted development in the
garding, and more. Subscriptions (six issues) are $21, from Garbage, Box 56520, Boulder, CO 80302. Editorial offices: 435 9th St., Brooklyn, NY 11215; 718-788-1700.

**MEMBER UPDATE:** From John E. Davis (11 Germain St., Burlington, VT 05401): I am Housing Director for the City of Burlington, VT. I work part-time in developing affordable housing, encouraging resident management and homesteading, enforcing fair housing, and helping make public housing drug free.

**S & S BAILOUT/HOUSING:** Planners Network has joined with ACORN (522 Eighth St. S.E., Wash. DC 20003, 202-547-9203) and other organizations to appeal to the Resolution Trust Corp. to comply with provisions in the S & S bailout legislation for low-cost financing for low- and moderate-income purchases of homes, purchase loan modifications, and rent reductions to nonprofit developers and low-income homeowners. Details: Brian Maney or Jane Uebelhor at ACORN.

**PEACE DIVIDEND:** The World's Wasted Wealth, by J.W. Smith, is a 300-page book which describes how to claim the "peace dividend" created by lowered superpower tensions and reduced arms requirements. Copies are $12.95 (paper) from New World Press, Box 1458, Kalispell, MT 59903, 406-756-7067.

**Networkers' Reports**

**East Germany:** Transition to Capitalism

by Peter Marcuse

(PN Steering Committee member Peter Marcuse of the Columbia Univ. Urban Planning faculty is spending the year in East Berlin doing research for a forthcoming book, "Beer Street 54," 5010, 1054 Berlin, German Democratic Republic. (37) (2)-26-15-13.)

As the recent elections show, the promise of a higher standard of living is an overwhelming pull from the capitalist West for the residents of Eastern Europe. For each country, combined in addition with nationalist sentiments of varied tones, the pull gave the conservatives an absolute majority in the new Parliament. The tiny fringe parties in the German Democratic Republic are for the opposite unification—the Spartacists, for instance. All of the other left parties in the G.D.R., whether they oppose unification or not, take the public position that it should go through with better protection for East German citizens, but that it must and should come.

That also was the position of the Modrow regime; Modrow's party, the Party of Democratic Socialism, the former ruling Socialist Unity Party, concedes the inevitability of German unification, and simply opposes the unconditional surrender that the most conservative West German leaders are calling for. The conditions most often called for are the protection of the social benefits built up over 40 years of a centralized and paternalistic state system. But, still recently, going slowly and protecting social benefits have been generalized slogans, playing on widespread uneasiness with the aggressive and overwhelming strategies of the Bundessicherheitskohl, rather than the results of specific threats or concrete fears. Protection against unemployment has been the only social benefit that has figured widely in the political debates so far.

A new fear now is taking hold in the G.D.R., however, that may change the terms of the discussion on unification significantly: the fear of displacement, dispossession, homelessness. The newly formed East German Tenants Association held its first mass rally last month in Alexanderplatz in Berlin; representatives of all major political groupings spoke, with the notable exception of the conservatives.

The organization was touched off by the reappearance of private landlords who years ago had abandoned their property to communal management because of strict rent controls, but now are coming around talking to tenants about repairs and higher rents. Rents, in public as well as private housing, have been amazingly low; about 4% of income, on the average. Maintenance also had been low, because the society is not rich enough to do more; everyone wants better quality, but cannot afford the price.

The conservatives see the private market as the simple answer, with housing allowances for the poor.

There is tremendous interest here in our experience with housing allowances, and with the private market generally. Recently a West Berlin firm with something of a shadow record made an offer to the local communal housing office to manage all of its 50,000 units for it, for 2 marks a unit a month, coupled with a right to buy as soon as sales were permitted. Figuring out how to analyze or respond to such an (ostrogarde) offer is something new for people here; Westerners unfortunately have experienced with such dealings.

Ownership issues are also high on the list of concerns; most are content with public ownership (or would be if the KWS were managing public entities, were more open and democratic and had adequate resources), but are very worried if the "public" now becomes conservative Western-run. So models of cooperative ownership are being explored; when we add "limited equity" or "nonprofit," the concept sounds strange, because profit from speculation in housing is only known about from newspapers or television.

On paper, and in important ways in reality, the housing system here is an example of a social way of handling a basically private activity too bad the future agenda probably will be only to preserve what can be defended against the private market, instead of opening the system out and improving it within its own context.
MEMBER UPDATE: From John E. Davis (11 Germain St., Burlington, VT 05401): I am Housing Director for the City of Burlington, serving over 1,000 low-income households; lobbying resident management and homeowner associations; encouraging resident management and homeownership; enforcing fair housing practices; and helping make public housing drug free.

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The tiny fringe parties in the German Democratic Republic oppose unification—the Socialists, for instance. All of the other left parties in the G.D.R., whether they oppose unification or not, take the public position that it should go on its way with better protection for East German citizens, but that it must and should come.

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On paper, and in important ways in reality, the housing system here is an example of a social way of handling a basic problem, but too bad the future agenda probably will be only to preserve what can be defended against the private market, instead of opening the system out and improving it within its own context.
Upcoming Conferences

☐ HOUSING RIGHTS: The Shelter for the Homeless Foundation (22 Morrow Ave. #100, Toronto, ONT M6K 3E3, Canada; 416/538-7511) will sponsor a conference May 11-13 in Ottawa on "Working for Housing Rights." Registration is $135 (Canadian). A separate conference, "Leadership in Housing: The Next Decade," has been scheduled in Ottawa May 13-16.

☐ LAND TRUSTS: The Institute for Community Economies (151 Montague City Rd., Greenfield, MA 01301, 413/774-7956) will sponsor the third National Land Trust Conference August 14-19 in Burlington, VT. The theme: "Land & Affordable Housing: A Legacy for Our Children.

☐ SRO HOUSING: The National Alliance to End Homelessness (518 K St. N.W., Washington, DC 20001, 202/336-4480) will sponsor a conference June 23-27 in Cincinnati for decent and affordable housing and an end to homelessness. The conference is a follow-up to its October 7, 1989, rally in Washington.

☐ TUFTS INSTITUTE: The Lincoln Filene Center (Tufts Univ., Medford, MA 02155, 617/353-5491) will present the seventh annual Management & Community Development Institute June 4-9 at the Center. The Institute offers four one-day seminars in professional training for people active in community development.

☐ WOMEN/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: The Ms. Foundation for Women and The Women's Foundation of Northern California are co-sponsoring the third annual Institute on Women and Economic Development, scheduled for June 7-10 in Berkeley, CA. Registration fee of $430 includes tuition and room and board. Financial aid is available. Please contact: Sara Gould, 212/353-8580.

☐ PEACE/HUMAN SERVICES: A May 14 forum at Hunter College School of Social Work (129 E. 79th St., New York, NY 10021) will utilize videos to inform, illustrate, and mobilize participants to action in relation to the enormous military establishment and its role in the deterioration of human services. Contact: Solveig Wilder, 212/452-7112.

☐ COMPUTERS/SOCIAL CHANGE: June 8-9 are the dates for the fifth annual conference on "Computers for Social Change: Tools for Political and Community Organizing," to be held at Hunter College (129 E. 79th St., New York, NY 10021, 212/452-7112). The conference is sponsored by the Education Center for Community Organizing at Hunter College's School of Social Work. Registration: $40. Limited scholarships are available.

☐ HOUSING MINISTRY: The McAuley Institute (1320 Fenwick Ln. #600, Silver Spring, MD 20910, 301/588-8110) will sponsor the third housing ministry conference June 1-3 in Baltimore. The theme: "If Not Us, Who? If Not Now, When?" Registration, room, and board are $190 (double occupancy).

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT: A "World Congress of Local Governments for a Sustainable Future," has been called at the United Nations on September 5-8 to design a strategy for local governments to address the global environmental crisis. The United Nations Environment Programme has joined with the International Union of Local Authorities, the U.S.-based Center for Innovative Diplomacy and the National League of Cities, to hold the gathering. Details: Job Bruggeman, Congress Director, 45 Rice St., Cambridge, MA 02140, 617/491-6124.

Calls for Papers

☐ TRAFFIC CONGESTION: The Institute of Transportation Engineers and the American Society of Civil Engineers (c/o Eva Lerner-Lam, The Panhandle Group, 83 Palmer Ave., Tenafly, NJ 07670, 201/567-6830) have issued a call for papers for a May 6-8, 1991, conference in New Jersey on "Implementing Urban Mobility Solutions." The conference will focus on cooperation among the public and private sectors and transportation professionals on implementing/paying for mobility solutions.

☐ HUMAN SERVICES/COMPUTERS: The Special Interest Group on Computers & Society of the Association for Computing Machinery (c/o Ron Anderson, 5116 Edgewood, Mountain View, CA 94043) is sponsoring a call for papers at a September 13-16, 1990, conference in Washington, DC, on "Computers and the Quality of Life." The focus will be on promoting computer applications for people with special needs.

☐ RURAL DEVELOPMENT: The Economic Research Service of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (1301 New York Ave. N.W. #334, Wash. DC 20005) is seeking papers for a planned symposium on "Rural Development: Strategies That Work," which will also be published. One-page proposals are due July 2. Details: PNR David Sears, 202/786-1544.

☐ RADICAL SCHOLARS: The Open Unv. of the Left (Chicago), Monthly Review, and the Union for Radical Political Economy and Board are co-sponsoring a conference in Chicago, October 19-21. Planning committees are soliciting papers on the following topics (among others): Ecology, Labor, Political Economy, and Race and Class. Details: David L. Williams, Conference Coordinator, Open Univ. of the Left, Box 3034, Chicago, IL 60654.

Jobs

☐ PN REMINDER: Some of the jobs we list may have application deadlines earlier than 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.

☐ SENIOR ASSOCIATE: The Ms. Foundation for Women (141 Fifth Ave. #6S, New York, NY 10010, 212/353-8580) is hiring a half-time Senior Program Associate to staff a new funding initiative called the Collaborative, to support innovative economic development projects benefiting low-income women, and increase learning in the field. Contact: Sara Gould.

☐ ICE INTERNS/STAFF: The Institute for Community Economies (151 Montague City Rd., Greenfield, MA 01301, 413/774-7956) is seeking to fill three staff positions and several internships. The staff positions are Revolving Loan Fund Officer, Housing Provider, and Maintenance and Property Manager. The three interns begin in June. Compensation is based on need.

☐ REINVESTMENT SPECIALIST: The North Carolina Legal Services Resource Center Inc. (112 S. Blount St., Box 23743, Raleigh, NC 27611, 919/821-0042) is opening for a Community Reinvestment Specialist to aid local groups in benefiting from statewide CRA agreements. Salary is $30,000.

PN Quilt Raffle!

Ralph Nessen, Executive Director of the Washington County Economic Opportunity Agency (Fayetteville, AR), suggests we might do a raffle for a genuine handstitched Ozark Mountain quilt to raise funds for PN—something he has done quite successfully in his community.

It will work, of course, only if PNers will buy (and sell) raffle tickets. Ralph has generously offered to carry out some of the basic tasks. We need to get feedback on the idea.

Please use the coupon below to let us know your interest/commitment. Only if we get sufficient response will we go ahead with the plan.

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PN Communications Director: The National Housing Institute (439 Main St., Orange, NJ 07050, 201/678-3110) is seeking a Communications Director, to oversee, develop, and implement short- and long-term communications strategies in support of Institute programs and activities. Salary is up to $35,000. Contact: David Stengel.

SF REDEVELOPMENT: The San Francisco Redevelopment Agency (Box 664, San Francisco, CA 94101) has openings in several staff positions: Development Specialist ($49,374-$60,034), and Assistant Development Specialist ($40,690-$49,374), both with experience in housing development; Senior Planner ($47,710-$57,980), with experience in large-scale urban redevelopment; and Financial Operations Manager ($55,770-$67,782), with accounting and personnel experience. Contact: Administrative Services Officer.

RESEARCH/ANALYSIS: The Southern Finance Project (320 Reeserlaff, Charlotte, NC 28203, 704/372-7072) has open a position for a Researcher/Policy Analyst, with experience in investigating and analyzing firms and issues in the financial industry. Salary is $18,000.

DEVELOPMENT SPECIALISTS: The Santa Cruz Community Housing Corp. (Box 632, Santa Cruz, CA 95060, 408/423-1318) has openings for two Housing Development Specialists and also for an Economic Development Specialist, to help implement new projects in the rebuiding of downtown Santa Cruz in the aftermath of the October 17th earthquake. Salaries depend on qualifications.

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE: The Community Information Exchange (1029 Vermont Ave. N.W. #710, Wash. DC 20005, 202/628-2981) is seeking a Research Associate to help community groups understand strategies and resources for community revitalization, and use information and computer technology in their community development work. Salary is based on experience.
Etcetera

□ JUNE PN DEADLINE: The arrival deadline for copy for the June Planners Network is Monday, June 4. We look forward to hearing from as many Networkers as possible. As always, our thanks to those who type their notes. It's a great help in production, and it reduces our chances of misreading what you write.

Arrival deadline for PN #82 copy: Monday, June 4.

□ 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 of calculating contributions. If you wish, you can also send us a list of prospective Networkers, and we will contact them for you.

□ MOVING? TELL PN: When you move, please let us know directly. If our (non-forwardable) Third Class newsletter is returned to us, with your new address, which is the way we usually learn of PNers' moves (we mark the newsletter "Return & Forwarding Postage Guaranteed"), it costs us 69c per; a thoughtful change-of-address card to us on the other hand will cost you just 15c.

□ 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 contact, 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.

□ "CALL" STATEMENT: We have a one-page, broadside version of the "Call for Social Responsibility in the Planning and Building Profession" which appeared in PN #89. Copies are available on request. It makes a good addition to "The Planners Network—What It Is" in recruiting members.