

#7-Feb. 12, 1977

Dear Network People:

Well, once again the standard apology for not meeting the bi-monthly schedule. Work and writing commitments have been unusually heavy for me over the past months. The last Newsletter (#6, dated Oct. 22, but actually sent out somewhat later) included an updated list of all Network members, plus a background description of the Network and selected items from past newsletters, to give newcomers some of the back material, without having to send out all past issues (which we've run out of anyway.) It was sent third class bulk, as first class postage for something that big would have been really expensive, and the system being the way it is there doubtless are some of you who never received it. If you didn't, let me know, and I'll send a replacement. (Several of you already have indicated #6 didn't arrive; I haven't re-sent those, as I wanted to wait to see how many I had to have reprinted.) I'll try to use 1st class whenever possible, but sometimes it is beyond our budget.

UPCOMING MEETINGS: The Midwest Network Group is having its first meeting on Saturday, Feb. 19 at the Lincoln Presbyterian Church, 600 W. Fullerton, Chicago. Most of the Network people in the Midwest (except those who have recently joined) have received a leaflet and schedule on the meeting. (The leaflet did say "Saturday, Feb. 18," but we really meant Saturday, Feb. 19.)

For the benefit of those just learning about the meeting, here are the pertinent details: It's from 9-5, with a dinner and/or party to follow. 9-9:30 is arrival; 9:30-11 is introduction, preview of the day's schedule, and an autobiographical go-around from participants; 11:15-12:30 is a structured discussion on what people think the Network can and should do, ending with a tabulation of the most favored ideas; 2-3:30 is small group discussions of these ideas, according to personal preferences or regional interests, with each group trying to develop an action proposal; 3:45-5 is full group discussion of each group's report or proposal and formation of work groups to develop or carry out these proposals.

Directions to the church: From Rt. 74 N or S, take Fullerton exit and drive east on Fullerton to church, which is at the corner of Fullerton and Geneva. For further information, transportation, housing or childcare assistance, you should contact one of the organizers as much before the 19th as possible. They are: Barry Checkoway, Urbana (217) 333-7127; Bob Cassidy, Chicago (312) 947-2560; Richard Gross, Madison (608) 257-6410; Beth Shapiro, Lansing (517) 374-6085; Leslie Gary, Iowa City (319) 354-1474. I plan to be at the meeting and look forward to meeting lots of you there.

The Bay Area Network will be having its second meeting on Saturday, March 5, an all-day affair, probably at Antioch West, 1161 Mission St., S.F. Hold the day, and a more detailed flyer will be on its way to you in a week or so.

The Boston Network is up to meeting #10, held Feb. 3, at which the film **Redevelopment** (a Marxist critique of urban renewal, made by a S.F. film group) was shown and discussed. At the previous meeting the group (which now has 132 members) voted to adopt the name Boston Area Network of Radical Architects, Planners and Urbanists—a decision which led to some good political discussion, which in turn was provoked and guided by a letter Michael Stone had previously circulated. I think Michael's paper is useful and important and am reprinting it in its entirety below. Based on his proposal, the group has embarked on a study project, the outline of which, suggested by Michael, I am also reprinting, as it will be useful to others in the Network.

The Boston Network also plans to continue having large program meetings, monthly or bi-monthly, and acting as a clearinghouse as needed. Some of the topics discussed for future programs include: a radical economic analysis of the state of Massachusetts development; a close look at the NYC fiscal crisis and its implications for Boston; a discussion of community economic development in Boston and across the country; planning and housing in contemporary Cuba; a survey of communal/utopian social organizations.

12/7/76

To Members of the Boston Network

Dear Friends,

It is time to acknowledge that the Network is a political organization. As important as the Network has become in meeting our needs of fellowship, this is not sufficient to define and sustain and guide us. We need to begin the task of establishing our identity and developing our political role and purpose. This does not mean that we must put aside our need and desire for fellowship. Quite the contrary. Our ability to grow into a viable and effective political organization depends upon our ability to meet our personal needs for identity and support at the same time as—and as an integral part of—our pursuit of larger goals.

As a starting point, I think that we have to agree that the problems and issues which we perceive and are concerned about personally and professionally are rooted in a complex web of institutions and ideology called **capitalism**. I think we have to agree that capitalism has demonstrated that it is **structurally** incapable of solving these problems—whether they be called "social," "urban," "policy," "economic," or something else. I think that we have to agree that while it may be possible to ameliorate some of these problems in the short run under capitalism—indeed it is important to fight for some such reforms—in the long run capitalism is not only incapable of solving the problems, but in fact spawns even more problems as it attempts to cope with existing problems without changing its basic structure.

Thus, I think that we have to agree that the **possibility** of dealing adequately with the kinds of issues which concern us depends on building a new kind of society called **socialism**. I do not think it is necessary to have a precise or fixed definition of socialism before we proceed. In fact, one of the tasks we should take on is the development of our own working agreement about what we mean by socialism. Suffice it to say at this point, that I do not conceive of socialism as a static, sharply-bounded package which we should ponder as an option to another static, sharply-bounded package called capitalism—in the way that we might have to choose between a Chevrolet and Ford (a Carter or a Ford?) Socialism is historically linked to capitalism. It will not—it cannot—emerge as a finished product. Rather, we need to perceive it as a process, as a direction, which we can help to define. It is a new and fundamentally different kind of direction which will require some sharp and perhaps painful breaks with the present and past. We must decide if we want to participate in this process, and, if so, How?

I personally would like to see the Network, nationally and here in Boston, emerge with an explicitly socialist identity, under a name such as the Network of Socialist Planners and Urbanists. I think the time has come to begin to overcome the anxiety and mystery about socialism in this country—to promote serious debate, analysis, and struggle, while resisting the tendency to become dogmatic, simplistic, and unduly defensive. I realize,

though, that many of you are not willing to publicly identify yourselves as socialists; some of you may not even be sure privately that you consider yourselves to be socialists. Therefore, I would not push too hard for a socialist label at this time. I do think, however, that it is minimally necessary to identify ourselves as Radical for external consumption, and that we internally engage in a serious exploration of the meaning, relevance, and implications of a socialist perspective for our political identity and practice—without in any way hiding what we are doing or looking over our shoulders to see who is watching.

More specifically, I propose that over the next eight to twelve months, at least, we engage primarily in internal political study and education. I propose that the theme be the relationship between the urban crisis and the international crisis of capitalism. I am sure that this theme encompasses far too much for some people and excludes much of particular interest to others. Nonetheless, I believe that for most of us it does provide a solid point of contact with our education, experience, or interest, while at the same time enabling us and forcing us to grow in a collective way beyond our present limits. The theme also provides, I think, a concrete and relevant basis for discussing the relationship between capitalism and socialism, as well as the kinds of political strategies which may be necessary and possible. Finally, it provides a framework for making some sense out of our own experience—both positive and negative as planners and urbanists and for examining the kinds of political roles we might play as an organization.

The kind of process I am suggesting could include a combination of presentations, readings, and small-group and large-group discussions. In order for it to be productive and meaningful, though, we will need a fairly specific, popularly-supported plan of what we feel able and willing to cover, plus a commitment to regular and active participation. We will not have to start from scratch. In recent years there has emerged a growing and impressive body of analysis of the economic crisis and urban phenomena from a radical (and in some cases—dare I say it?—Marxist) perspective. Thus we would be drawing from what has been and is being done by others and attempting to synthesize it with our own experience and prior knowledge.

I would hope that after such a period of internal work, we would have reached a place where we would have developed

- increased understanding and sophistication (from a socialist perspective) about the issues and problems that concern us;
- a greater amount of solidarity, confidence, and willingness to engage in political work together;
- an ability to embark collectively on external political work, integrating it with continued internal political study and analysis.

One of the great weaknesses (among others) of the left in this country has been the failure to develop an adequate theoretical understanding which both builds upon and serves as a guide for our practice. The New Left was all too often characterized by a discomfort, even a fear, of theory, equating it—understandably, but mistakenly—with the dogma of the older and re-emergent sectarian left. The time has come to move dialectically beyond the uneven development of the thirties and the sixties to a more balanced and powerful basis for the political struggles of which we must be a part.

Michael Stone

**BOSTON AREA NETWORK
OF RADICAL ARCHITECTS, PLANNERS, AND URBANISTS**
Preliminary Bibliography for a Study of
the Relationship between
the Urban Crisis and the Crisis of Capitalism

The study might begin with the following set of readings on the crisis of capitalism, radical urban political economy, and non-radical analyses of the urban crisis:

- I. **Radical Perspectives on the Crisis of Capitalism: A first look.**
Radical Perspectives on the Current Economic Crisis of Monopoly Capitalism.
New York: Union for Radical Political Economics, 1975:
Raford Boddy and James Crotty. "The Current Economic Crisis: Historical Perspectives and Future Projections."
David M. Gordon. "Capital v. Labor: The Current Crisis in the Sphere of Production."
Editors of *Monthly Review*. "Banks: Skating on Thin Ice."
Arthur MacEwan. "Changes in World Capitalism and the Current Crisis of the U.S. Economy."
David Barkan. "The Economic Crisis of Imperialism."
Roger Alcaly. "Capitalism, Crises and the Current Economic Situation."
Robert Zevin. "The Political Economy of the Empire, 1974."
David M. Gordon. "Orthodox and Radical Economists: Differences in Analysis of the Current Crisis."
O'Connor, James. *The Fiscal Crisis of the State*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1973.
- II. **The Urban Crisis from a Radical Perspective**
City Bureau of Common Sense. "Cities in Crisis." **Radical Perspectives on the Current Economic Crisis . . .**
Kapitalistate, Focus Issue: The Urban Crisis and the Capitalist State, Summer 1976:
Manuel Castells. "The Wild City."
Richard Child Hill. "Fiscal Crisis and Political Struggles in the Decaying Central City."
Ann Markusen. "Class and Urban Social Expenditures: A Local Theory of the State."
Liberation, Special Issue: NYC Crisis, Spring 1976:
Frances Fox Piven. "Slicing the Big Apple."
Robert Zevin. "Taking Care of Business."
New York City in Crisis. New York: Trade Union Educational Alliance, 1976.
Michael Stone and Emily Achtenberg. **Hostage! Housing and the Massachusetts Fiscal Crisis**. Boston: Boston Community School, 1977.
- III. **Non-Radical Perspectives on the Urban Crisis**
Boston Globe articles.
New York Times articles.
New York City's Financial Crisis: An Evaluation of its Economic Impact and of Proposed Policy Solutions. A Study Prepared for the use of the Joint Economic Committee, Congress of the United States, 94th Cong., 1st sess., 1975.
Roger Starr. "Making New York Smaller." **New York Times Magazine**, 14 November 1976.
- IV. **Radical Urban Political Economy** (urbanization, theory of rent, etc.)
David Harvey, Matt Edel, et al.
- V. **A Deeper Look at the Crisis of Capitalism**

HANS HARMS has sent in a review of the "Alternatives in Housing, Building and Planning" and "Alternatives in Housing, Collective Action and Social Change" programs he has been involved in at the Architectural Assn. in London. (Copies are available from him—29 South Hill Park, London NW3—or if you send in a buck, I'll send you xerox copies.) He also mentions 2 articles he had in the April, 1976 *Architectural Design*—one on "Limitations of Self-Help", a critique of John Turner, the other on housing and politics in Europe.

SOME FACULTY OPENINGS: Cornell's City and Regional Planning Dept. is looking for an Asst. of Assoc. Prof. (PhD, background in social sciences and/or planning) and an Asst. Prof. (masters plus 3 years of professional experience.) Contact is Prof. Burnham Kelly, Dept. C&RP, Cornell, Ithaca NY 14850. Columbia's Div. of Urban Planning is looking for 1-2 Asst., Assoc. or full Professors. Contact is Peter Marcuse, Chairman, Avery Hall 410C, Columbia Univ. NYC 10027. Both I believe have (had) Feb. 1 application deadlines, but quite possibly would accept something a few days late. Sorry for that.

"CONFERENCE ON AN ASSESSMENT OF NEWARK, 1967-1977": In the last newsletter I apologized for getting the announcement of this event to you too late to do anything about it. Now I have a new and improved apology on the same subject: I misread the announcement from Stan Winters. The conference will be held on Oct. 1, 1977 (not 1976). "The meeting will place the civil disorders in historical perspective, evaluate socio-economic and political trends in the city and region, and suggest options for public policy in dealing with urban problems. Participation by scholars, public officials and community people is welcomed." It's a big event, with arrangements well underway and a grant from the NJ Committee for the Humanities secured to run the conference and publish the proceedings. Winters writes: "There's a May 1, 1977 deadline for final drafts of papers and proposals. Anyone interested should write me with his or her idea of what they want to do (papers especially welcome.) A 100-word abstract of the proposal will be very welcome, and our Program Committee will consider its applicability and approve or reject the proposal." Winters is the conference director and is reachable at the Dept. of Humanities, NJ Inst. of Technology, 323 High St., Newark N.J. 07102, (201) 645-5215.

LOU COLOMBO writes: "I am a planner/anthropologist interested in doing a community study of the impact of the diffusion of ethnicity, assimilation, and succession in a former ethnic enclave. I'm looking for an ethnic area that was once a cohesive community—perhaps a first settlement area—but now has lost its essentially ethnic/gemeinschaft character. I would like to assess the impact of this change on the lives of the people living there, those who have moved out, and succeeding generations. If you know of such an area or areas—in a major city—please get in touch: Lou Colombo; PhD. Program in Urban and Regional Planning; University of Michigan; 2035 Dana Building; Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109."

A JOB IN THE MUNICIPAL COMPOSTING FIELD: Neil Seldman, Co-Director of the Inst. for Local Self-Reliance (1717 18th St. NW, Wash. 20009) writes: "We are looking for someone with practical experience in municipal or large-scale composting for a project in N.Y.C. It would help keep costs down if the person lived in that area. The person would probably have to stay on top of things directly for 2-3 months, and then return for brief monthly visits.

Also, I would like to contact any engineers or planners with practical experience in non-water toilet systems and/or solid waste planning collection/recycling systems."

RENT CONTROL: From Dennis Keating:

"I'm doing a comparative analysis of rent control as traditionally administered, self-regulation by landlords (as in New York's Rent Stabilization system), and tenant union-landlord collective bargaining (it doesn't exist in the U.S. but Sweden initiated it in 1975) for my Ph.D. dissertation. I would appreciate contacts from those Networkers actively involved with tenant unions and tenants organized around the issue of rent control. I'm also interested in tenant self-management and cooperative housing.

In Berkeley I've been involved in the fight for rent control and unionization of tenants for 8 years. In June the California Supreme Court ruled Berkeley's 1972 rent control initiative unconstitutional. California's real estate lobby then lobbied through the Legislature a bill prohibiting local rent control, but Governor Jerry Brown finally vetoed it. Berkeley Tenants Organizing Committee and Berkeley Tenants Union have written a new rent control initiative for the April 19, 1977 municipal ballot. We have also written an ordinance mandating collective bargaining between tenant unions and landlords. If passed, this law would be an historic first in the U.S. For copies of these initiatives, write to: BTOC, 2022 Blake Street, Berkeley, CA. 94704.

BILL TONER (5531 S. Kenwood, Chicago 60637) writes:

In August I resigned my research position at ASPO to pursue independent research and writing. There were a couple of subjects that seemed to be of some interest to local planners but which did not seem to interest traditional research funders. The first has to do with the preservation of prime agricultural lands at the local level. I have found a series of excellent local programs which I will review in the research. But I really need some help from network members to identify more local programs. Anyone? The second project is the preparation of an introductory level textbook on environmental planning and regulation. I would be anxious to hear from people who have or are teaching this course re important subjects to be covered, books/reports that have been used in teaching courses, particularly successful local programs, or interesting methodological approaches.

THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF URBAN AND REGIONAL RESEARCH is a new journal, just starting this year. Michael Harlowe, the editor, wants to bring it to the Network's attention and invites submissions from members. He's at the Centre for Environmental Studies, 62 Chandos Pl., London WC2N 4HH.

JOHN FRIEDMANN, just returning to UCLA after a year at the Centre for Environmental Studies in London, writes:

After nearly 12 months in London, I am returning to LA. The year away from home has taught me quite a few things, not the least of which is that American and European radicalism are very different things and probably will always remain so, reflecting our diverging intellectual traditions and historical experiences. Capitalism in Europe is layered upon the still formidable residues of the feudal era, whereas our own brand has been structurally influenced by the opening of the continent, the unheard-of expansion of productive forces, the secular faith in science and technology—no tragic sense of life for us! Whereas class struggle is still very much in the centre of politics in Britain, France, Spain, Italy, and so on, it does not occupy this position in Canada or the United States. West Germany, too, is different in this respect. Of course, we, too, have social cleavages, and there are plenty of 'contradictions' that grow out of the very structure of the capitalism we have evolved, but they don't neatly line up in the classical pattern of revolutionary polarization: bourgeoisie vs. proletariat.

American radicalism must seek to transform our own structural forms of social relations and, above all, prevent the further concentration and abuse of economic power. Since the base of our countervailing power does not lie in corporate production, we must look for it among communities and regions having a territorial base. It is for this reason that I believe that the coming struggle will arise in the contest for power between corporate and territorial (rather than class) interests.

Our Network members may be interested to know that I've recently completed a book-length manuscript, **THE GOOD SOCIETY: A PRIMER OF TIS SOCIAL PRACTICE**. My purpose in writing this book was to lay down a rational and moral foundation for social practice in the public realm. The foundation was to be rational, because it would be logically derived from a simple model of man-in-society; it was to be moral, because it would describe how we ought to act in relation to one another.

I'm in the process of looking for a suitable publisher. Meanwhile, **THE GOOD SOCIETY** may be obtained, at cost, from Ms. Catherine Kroger, School of Architecture and Urban Planning, UCLA, Los Angeles, Cal. 90024.

INDEXING US NETWORKERS: Beth Shapiro has taken the useful step of indexing the Oct. 1976 Network membership list by subjects, as indicated in the biographical statements included there. It certainly can make that list a more valuable internal resource. As for the non-descript members, Beth writes: "Many individuals listed no interests, so they aren't indexed. This list can easily be kept up to date if each new member of the Network [and those who haven't yet sent in a personal description-CH] indexes him/herself." The index is attached. Thank you, Beth.

REDLINING IN ST. LOUIS AND PHILADELPHIA: Missouri ACORN has just published its mortgage disclosure study—write Richard E. Ratcliff, ACORN, 2334 So. Grand, St. Louis 63104 for information. The Inst. for the Study of Civic Values (401 N. Broad St., Rm. 810, Phila. 19108) has just published "Mortgage Money in the City: An Analysis of Mortgage Disclosure Data", by Jane Shull and Hilde Jeffers; seems to be free.

ANENT REDLINING, NATHAN WEBER HAS THE FOLLOWING TO CONTRIBUTE ABOUT "GREENLINING":

"I have a question for discussion: How should radical planners/community activists approach the issue of 'greenlining'?"

Essentially, greenlining is the grass roots answer to redlining, the policy of banks and other financial institutions to disinvest in various urban communities. Redlining is very destructive, as it removes the capital (mortgages, home improvement loans, small business loans) that people need to buy homes, repair houses and apartment buildings, keep neighborhood stores functioning, etc. The result of redlining is usually housing abandonment and neighborhood decay. Now greenlining efforts seek to restore that capital—but the price is continued dependency on banks and the mortgage system, a dependency which reinforces the powerlessness of poor and moderate-income working people. Greenlining also reinforces the credit trap: neighborhood groups who are successful in pressuring a bank to give them a mortgage for a house may eventually discover that they cannot meet the mortgage interest rate. After all their efforts, they may be forced to give up the house in a foreclosure action.

The dilemma is this: disinvestment (redlining) creates decay, destroys low and moderate-income housing, etc.; reinvestment (greenlining) may restore or preserve the housing, but not for the people who need it the most.

To sit back and say, 'The answer is socialism' may be quite correct, but rather ineffective. It doesn't deal with the daily reality faced by a neighborhood group, for example, whose only short term hope for a decent place to live is some kind of bank loan (or government program which utilizes bank loans). Since people live in the short run as well as the long run, what to do?

I would be interested in knowing how radical activists have been dealing with this issue in a concrete, practical way."

WOMEN'S SHELTERS: Susan Sternberg (62 Montague St., Brooklyn NY 11201) "would very much like to hear from people in the Network who are working on . . . organizing women around the issue of wife-beating, creating shelters or other networks or refuges, being party to a lawsuit, or even just living in a community or city where women are working on this problem. If someone would like to talk to or write one of the lawyers who is involved in the lawsuit [mentioned earlier in her letter—on the inadequacy of police and court responses to women's calls for help] she/he could contact Laurie Woods, MFY-Legal Services, 759 10th Ave., NYC 10019.

Some resources on the topic: a recent special section in **Ms.** magazine, which included a list of people working on creating shelters for battered women; a new paperback called **Battered Women** by Del Martin. I could also provide copies of an article with short bibliography written by one of the lawyers involved in the suit, if anyone wants—but please send self-addressed stamped envelope.

P.S. Good article in summer 1976 issue of **Signs**, a feminist scholarly magazine, about women and architecture and urban planning, by Dolores Hayden and Gwendolyn Wright. It is a comprehensive review essay."

HOUSING AND CLASS IN BRITAIN (eds. M. Edwards, F. Gray, S. Merrett and J. Swann) is a new book produced by the Political Economy of Housing Workshop in London (to whom checks should be made payable.) It's available for \$3 (individuals), \$7 (libraries) from F. Gray, School of Cultural and Community Studies, Arts Building, Univ. of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton BN1 9QN England. Get your library to order one. Contents include:

Marx's theory of rent: urban applications by Matthew Edell, **Owner-occupation** by Michael Ball, **Building societies and owner-occupation** by Martin Boddy, **Gentrification** by Stephen Merrett, **Property exchange in Salfrey** by Geoff Green, **Council tenants and housing policy in the 1930s: the contradictions of State intervention** by Steve Schifferes, **A note on Housing allocation** by Sean Damer, **The Management of local authority housing** by Fred Gray, and **Social physics and local authority planning** by A.J. Gough.

THE CITIES' WEALTH, a ten-year history of radical political programs for community economic control in Berkeley, published by the Community Ownership Organizing Project and the Institute for Policy Studies, is available (\$2.50, cheaper in quantity) from COOP, 349 62nd St., Oakland Cal 94618.

HOSTAGE! HOUSING AND THE MASSACHUSETTS FISCAL CRISIS is a new publication by Michael Stone and Emily Achtenberg, published by the Boston Community School (107 South St., Boston 02111, \$1.50). It's well illustrated, readable, usable by organizers as well as those who just want to know more about the housing crisis, with much of it applicable outside Massachusetts. And it's written and researched by two of the most creative housing people around.

HOUSING IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN: THE ONLY SOLUTION is a new publication by Peter K. Hawley, available through the Metropolitan Council on Housing, 24 W. 30th St., NYC 10001 (\$1.50). I've only had a chance to skim it, but it looks very worthwhile.

THE INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL SELF-RELIANCE (1717 18th St. NW, Wash. 20009) is gathering information on decentralized planning programs throughout the country. "We want to identify successful efforts to provide residents of urban neighborhoods with effective participation in the process of planning for their communities. We plan to publish brief descriptions of these programs as a resource for other communities wanting to establish their own neighborhood planning programs.

We would like to hear from anyone who is involved in or has information about neighborhood planning programs which are helping communities move from negative local resistance to outside pressures, to the positive assertion of neighborhood control over neighborhood issues."

UNIONIZATION OF ARCHITECTS IN ENGLAND: Bob Maltz writes:

"The item on 'FAECT' was timely, as the unionisation of architects (80% of whom are salaried here) is beginning to be an issue here. (Many architects in local government offices, which comprise almost half the profession here, are already organised, but they are in a rather docile union of white-collar local gov't employees which has, up to now at least, taken little interest in the environment.) There is a 'new architecture movement' which has been starting up over the past year here and which will make unionisation a major issue at its 'national convention' in November [1976]. What is the situation in the USA at present concerning unionisation of workers in design and planning?"

I don't know if I mentioned last time, but following the lead of the Australian Building Workers 'green ban,' the construction workers union here, along with local community groups and 'conservation' pressure groups, is beginning to take industrial action to prevent 'anti-social' (etc.) building projects (and demolitions) from going ahead. Could be significant if it develops."

THE COLUMBIA JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (Box 16, 435 W. 116 St., NYC 10027) has written us inviting Network members to submit any articles on the environment or law as it relates to the environment.

THE WOMEN'S PLANNING ALLIANCE is a new Bay Area group, described thusly by Judy Breakstone:

Four women planners in the Bay Area have formed the Women's Planning Alliance, a non-profit corporation dedicated to providing planning and educational resources for women and other underserved communities in the Bay Area.

We began meeting together out of a common concern over the absence of any organization which focused on community level planning for women and other underserved populations. As we discussed alternatives to traditional planning approaches, we decided to work together as a team, integrating our diverse backgrounds and experiences into an action-oriented planning group. We see our immediate strength as a group of women planners able to work with other professionals and non-professionals towards making planning more accessible to the public.

The objectives of the Alliance are to assess planning problems from a grass-roots, community-based perspective, to increase public and community input in the process of planning; and to provide an integrative approach to planning which takes into account the political, social, economic, environmental, and professional aspects of planning.

The Women's Planning Alliance intends eventually to establish a resource center that will provide technical planning assistance and educational resources to community and neighborhood organizations, public and private planning agencies, and women who are either planners or interested in planning. We are now seeking a grant to implement the first phase of our project.

Anyone wishing more information about the Women's Planning Alliance can write to us at **Women's Planning Alliance**, 1208 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94102.

ALTERNATIVE LOW-COST HOUSING CONFERENCE? "Anyone interested in attending a conference on alternative low cost housing during the summer of 1977 in Maine? This conference would be oriented toward our nation's rural environment, but there is no reason why some of the building principles involved in alternative low cost housing could not be applied to urban environments. If you are interested, please contact Roger Leisner, S.K.V.C.A.P., Corner of Oxford and Franklin Streets, Augusta, Maine 04330."

INFILL HOUSING: Charlotte Sobel (School of Arch. & Urban Planning, Univ. of Wisc., Milwaukee 53201) writes: "I am in the process of researching a paper on the feasibility for an infill housing program in the Milwaukee inner city as a way to re-establish the validity of inner city areas that have not become totally blighted. I would greatly appreciate it if other Network people who have worked on or are working on a program of this nature can relay their experiences to me. I am doing this research as part of a course in Advocacy Architecture here at UWM this spring semester."

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SUMMER JOB ANYONE? Russel Feldman (9 Eldredge St., Newton, Ma. 02158) is a registered architect presently studying public policy at Harvard. His interests revolve around cities and the development of metropolitan government. He is looking for summer employment and hopes that anyone who might find use for someone with such a background will contact him.

THE REVIEW OF RADICAL POLITICAL ECONOMICS is considering a special issue on "Uneven Spatial Development in Advanced Capital Countries." They write:

"We are soliciting articles which apply a class analysis to regional and urban-rural differences and to problems of local development and stagnation. These may include:

1. Studies of the effects of centralization and concentration of capital on different regions and regional disparities;

2. Analyses of patterns of exploitation associated with geographic inequalities;

3. Theories and critiques of theories of unequal exchange, internal colonialism and associated formulations;

4. Discussions of the role of the state or, of financial and multinational corporations in generating and perpetuating uneven development; and,

5. Studies of local and regional bases of class conscious activity and the impact of uneven monopoly capitalist spatial development upon them.

We are especially interested in articles and notes which relate theoretical insights to the analysis of political practice addressed to issues of uneven development. Purely descriptive pieces are discouraged.

Please send FIVE (5) copies of submissions for review to the Editorial Coordinator of the **Review**: Constance Blake, Economics Department, New School for Social Research, 65 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10011."

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FORUM is a national affirmative action monthly that Network people may be interested in. The Jan. 1977 issue (Vol. 4, no. 4) they sent us was a 24-page tabloid size paper, and on cursory lookover seems pretty good. Address: 8240 Beverly Blvd., LA 90048. Subscriptions appear to be free.

WORLD GAME '77 is a multidisciplinary conference to be held in the early summer at the Univ. of Pennsylvania. It's billed as "An International Workshop on Comprehensive Planning." The publicity sheet indicates it's pretty Fuller-esque. Anyway, information is available at World Game '77, University City Science Center, 3500 Market St., Phila. 19104.

HOUSING EDUCATORS JOURNAL is something that just came to my attention, put out by the Amer. Assn. of Housing Educators. The issue we were sent seems sort of home-economics-y. Further information from Suzanne Lindamood, School of Home Economics, Auburn Univ., Auburn, Ala. 36830.

WESTERN GERONTOLOGICAL CONFERENCE: Martha Holstein would be delighted to explore possibilities of Network members' participation in this conference (Denver, March 20-23). Contact her at the Western Gerontological Society, 785 Market St., Rm. 616, S.F., CA. 94103, (415) 543-2617.

AGRICULTURE IN THE CITY is a 76-page collectively-written account of El Mirasol Farm, a "downtown" polyculture farm in Santa Barbara, using organic methods, solar energy and methane experiments. Available (\$2.75) from Community Environmental Council, 109 E. de la Guerra St., Santa Barbara, Ca. 93101.

stppnews is an interdisciplinary newsletter on science, technology, public policy and society, put out by the Dept. of Political Science, Purdue U., W. Lafayette, Ind. 47907. They've asked to do an exchange sub with us, so I bring it to your attention.

NEW ARCHITECTURE CALENDAR, 1977, done by the New Architecture Movement in England is a wall calendar with radical architectural and planning/housing themes. It's available through Bob Maltz, 14 Holmdale Rd., London NW6 1BS, for \$2.50, air post paid (so you won't miss too much of the year). 10 or more copies, prepaid to the same address, drops the price to \$2.

JOHN TURNER'S U.S. TOUR, announced in the last letter, has been postponed til the fall because of family illness. When his new dates are firm, we'll announce them. He also sends in the following items:

I am accepting applications for the April 26-July 15 Special Programme on Housing and Urban Development at the Development Planning Unit, 10 Percy Street, London W1P 9FB. Those interested in the 1978 session can also apply now. My intention is that these should be workshops on alternative policies for housing as an instrument of development according to the principles which our group use as criteria for qualifying actions: 1) that they must increase personal and local control over vital matters such as food, clothing and housing; 2) that they must generate wealth and income where most needed and limit their concentration either geographically or socially; and 3) that they must conserve the use of non-renewable and polluting resources and the consumption of capital while maximizing income through the use of plentiful, renewable and non-polluting resources. We will not support any kind of action that seems likely to be counterproductive on any of these three accounts. The DPU courses I am responsible for will also provide opportunities for others committed to the same principles to do their own work. In time I hope to build up a small cooperating group that will provide continuity for the occasional workshops (which the Special Programmes may complement or even become).

Parallel with this development, Judith Ryser, Peter Stead, other friends and I are preparing interregional and local nodes or centres to act as clearing houses for the network of people acting in accordance with the 3 principles. Proposals will be presented to interested and potential funders shortly and, as soon as we are sure of the necessary resources, we will announce the formal establishment of the nodes (we are not establishing a new network but supporting and extending existing sets of interrelationships, and others such as the Planners' Network).

My own book, **Housing By People** has been (or is about to be) published by Pantheon Books, New York. It has a new introduction on the US scene, referring mainly to the St. Louis tenant management developments, to U-HAB and Co-op City in New York. I also quote from Rolf Goetze's new book **Building Neighborhood Confidence: A Humanistic Strategy for Urban Housing** (Ballinger, Cambridge, Mass. 1976) which I find highly relevant and supportive.

I have just received a pre-publication copy of **Places for People, A Resources for Learning Handbook** edited by Harford Thomas and Leslie Smith and published by The Guardian (the best liberal newspaper in Britain) 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER. Although focusing on current British experience (which is a hair raising warning to naive socialists) it also deals with international and especially Third World issues. It is particularly useful for its 'Discussion and Inquiry Starters' (designed for school use) and its Further Readers. (L2.45 incl. surface mail).

A PEOPLE'S HOUSING COURSE: Tom Connell writes:

"I work with the Newark Tenants Organization and its educational and research arm, Community Housing Education Corp. We run a 'People's Law School' for tenants of Essex County.

Our first offering is an 18-week course (2 hours per week) in landlord-tenant law, tenant organizing and the economics of housing. We cover specific laws such as Eviction for Cause and rent leveling, and also explain affirmative action strategies for tenants. The section on housing economics attempts to answer the how, where and for whom questions in regard to the production of housing. One of our goals is to dispel the fears that many tenants have about organizing and about lawyers, judges and courts. It is our hope that through this course students will gain a heightened understanding of how the system operates against the interests of the 'land-less' and develop their organizing and leadership skills.

Tenant organizers and attorneys in the Network who are interested in the PLS can write to the Community Housing Education Corp., P.O. Box 10170, Newark, N.J. 07101 for more information on the housing course. Our text 'Tenants' Manual on the Law' (1976, 43 pages, illustrated) is available for \$3.00."

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WHO IS PAUL R. PORTER?: Al Wroblewski has just been hired as a community organizer in the Summit-University area of St. Paul, scene of a "Back to the Cities" movement that is attempting to boot out lower income people and attract the upwardly mobile suburbanites back to the area. He writes:

"Who I would like info on is Paul R. Porter. Do you know this turkey? I still don't have all the pieces together (do you ever?) but it seems as if he has played a big part in this whole St. Paul experiment. Have you read his book **The Recovery of American Cities?** Or read his testimony before the Committee on Banking, Currency and Housing in the House of Representatives this fall when the committee was looking at 'The Rebirth of the American City'?"

If you're not familiar with him, he was a ring leader for the Marshall Plan. Wants a new version of it now for the cities. Booting the poor off choice property in the city, starting up a full fledged resettlement program, and importing high income people. And I'm not reading between the lines. The guy says it just that matter-of-factly!! If you haven't read his book yet, READ IT! This joker fits nicely into the mold described in **After the Planners**. I think Adolf would have enjoyed his style.

Anyway, too much editorializing. This guy is dangerous and powerful. In St. Paul his thinking is dominant, no question about it. No visible opposition or alternative thinking other than some of the stuff we've been running in the neighborhood paper.

I would appreciate info on Porter or the interests behind him and this whole return to the stone age mentality where people are viewed as pieces on a chessboard to be shuttled about wherever they make the most strategic sense economically."

Al also has a good article on the effects of such thinking on the Summit-Univ. area, in the neighborhood newspaper, the **S-U Free Press** (Dec. 76); for a copy write him at 2314 Elliot Ave. S., Mpls. 55404.

CEDAR-RIVERSIDE AMICUS BRIEF, ANYONE? Jack Cann, community organizer in the Cedar-Riverside area of Minneapolis—which won a landmark EIS suit against a new-town-in-town planned in that area—writes the following:

"I was delighted to see in the last Network Newsletter that one function of the Network might be helping with legal actions, specifically, **amicus** briefs. 'Cause we really need some. As you know, HUD has appealed the decision in the Cedar-Riverside case. Their legal arguments we can handle. But they've recruited **amicus** briefs from the Minnesota AIP Chapter, the Minnesota Building Trades Council, and, possibly (no decision yet), from the Metropolitan Council (the local regional government and A-95 review agency). These briefs legally aren't worth shit but politically they could hurt us with the Court of Appeals—they all essentially argue public policy questions. This is serious because the Court of Appeals really has a thing about Miles Lord, the Judge in our case; they've overturned him on several very important cases with significant public policy implications.

Thus, it would be a really big help if we could get some counter briefs dealing with public policy questions—from the Housing Law Center, or other Network groups, or the Network itself. We would need them really soon. They would not need to be long or detailed, and we could help. If you can come up with anything, could you call me collect at 612-338-6376 and I'll get the information wherever it's needed right away.

Thanks a lot."

HOUSING LAW CENTER STILL LOOKING FOR DIRECTOR: The Natl. Housing Law Project has extended its deadline to Feb. 28 in its search for a new director. It's funded (handily) by the Legal Services Corp., primarily serves the research and litigation needs of Legal Services attorneys in the area of housing and community development, and has a hell of a lot of potential under the right person. It's now part of the Univ. of California, Berkeley, but probably will become an independent unit in a short time. A background in housing/poverty law is pretty much a prerequisite. If you are or know of someone who is interested and qualified, I urge you to get an application in to David Madway, Natl. Housing Law Project, 2313 Warring St., Berkeley, Ca. 94704.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUREAU: I mentioned this group in a previous newsletter, but would like to give it some further description, as it's an excellent model and something Network people might want to get involved with.

"The Economic Development Bureau is a consulting and research organization aimed at responding with a third-world perspective to the problems and needs of third-world people. It is independent of governments, corporations, foundations, and international organizations; it is action oriented, anti-imperialist, and socialist in outlook. The EDB is a nonprofit institution.

Principles: Whether they come from the third world or from other countries, Associates of the Economic Development Bureau are part of the growing number of those who look critically at the various policies and programs directed toward the third world by governments, foundations, international organizations, and private corporations; who believe that these fail to produce development, indeed contribute to further underdevelopment; and who argue that the theoretical and applied approaches found in the literature are reproduced as failures at the institutional and social levels.

The EDB is an organization directed at providing alternative approaches and alternative solutions in certain critical development areas. In addressing the goals and demands voiced by third-world countries and in attempting to provide a choice to private, bilateral, and multilateral consulting services, it is guided by certain essential principles. The EDB will only agree to undertake work when analysis suggests that it will lead to progressive change. That is, programs and activities: where benefits accrue directly to peasants and workers and which do not contribute significantly to the interests of other classes; and that lead to decreasing foreign dependency, foster utilization of local technologies and materials, and develop self-reliance. The EDB will analyze the social and political, as well as the economic and technical aspects of all problems and evaluate the socio-political consequences of technical solutions. The EDB will not do work that can be undertaken by people in the country requesting its services and will draw primarily on third-world citizens for consultants.

The Economic Development Bureau is a nonprofit organization and aims at internal financial self-sufficiency through the fees received for its work, after an initial period of external support. Consulting work is done on a contract basis and the EDB is committed to provide services at a low cost.

EDB's activities include consulting and research/publications. The EDB is not merely a clearing house or an employment agency for socialist consultants. It consciously seeks to insure in its consulting work that the conceptual approach to the problem is geared to the achievement of locally defined and clearly understood progressive goals, that local involvement is maximized throughout all phases, that its own role is self-eliminating, and that from the beginning control of the consulting work is in local rather than in foreign hands. EDB consultants are selected from the pool of Associates for their technical and political suitability.

Associates' Membership and Role: The Economic Development Bureau attracts Associates, because it is one of the few organizations providing opportunities for direct support of the progressive aims of third-world countries. . . . Associates will find it possible to work creatively, to receive collective support and criticism, to gain wide exposure to their ideas, to work without worrying about profits, to avoid getting caught in the tangle of large institutional bureaucracies, and purposely to integrate political ideas into their technical product.

Those interested in associating with the EDB should write to: Dr. Idrian N. Resnick, Executive Director, Economic Development Bureau, Inc., 234 Colony Road, New Haven, Conn. 06511. Tel. (203) 776-9084 or 624-7827.

If you would like to become an Associate, please send detailed resume emphasizing areas of skill, experience, and interest, indicating how you can help, and if possible giving some indication of your availability."

NEIL PINNEY (1639 Seal Way, Seal Beach, Ca. 90740, (213) 431-0077) describes two projects he's working on that he thinks will be of interest to Network people:

"A minority group in San Bernardino is just finishing a State funded housing rehab and weatherization program. Dovetailing into that is a HUD and CSA funded solar energy facility that is breaking ground. The solar part is unique in that in my knowledge it will be the first neighborhood solar heating facility (in effect a neighborhood run utility). The collectors instead of being retrofitted into the randomly oriented roofs of the existing houses will be built on a long narrow post and beam structure running down the back yards. This pavillion will be built from recycled utility poles and railroad ties. It is intended to glaze it in when finished for food growing green houses. There is 2000 sf of collectors serving an estimated 80% of the yearly space and water heating needs of ten small houses. Hot water from the collectors is gathered at a central heatexchanger-storage tank then redistributed to the houses which are separately metered and can be billed the very nominal costs of water use and pumping. An integral part of the program is minority youth job training in what seems to be growth industries: rehab and solar. My role was in designing the pavillion and in managing the early team efforts and systems design. The locale is the Delmann Heights area of San Bernardino, a largely run-down and abandoned minority area. The developer is the San Bernardino West Side Community Development Corporation, a non-profit, mostly black but integrated group that hopes to use this project as a stimulus to other public and private efforts to bootstrap this area and its people back up. At this time it is hard to say if this concept of heat delivery is a valid prototype. There are some obvious scale economies and diseconomies. To get the answers the system will have to be evaluated over several years. Anyone wanting more information can contact me.

Another project that is just starting is a community planning, balanced housing and open space project in the Long Beach area. One of the first orders of business that the developer is enthusiastic about is to start a citizen participation planning process. The surrounding areas are white, middle class, above average income and education. We are talking about a third low and moderate income housing, some self-help housing, and use of appropriate technology in energy, waste management, and other things. If anyone has some good references on how to structure a participation mechanism that isn't too complicated I would appreciate hearing from them."

There haven't been more than a handful of responses to the list of future potential Network activities I put out in the last Newsletter. I'm not sure whether that represents lack of interest or lack of a sense that they could become a reality. Under the assumption that the latter is the true explanation, Jerry Horovitz and Maria Vermiglio of the Bay Area Network are developing an initial proposal for a central support service to the Network which could make at least some of those things happen. This probably will receive some discussion at the March 5 Bay Area Network meeting, and certainly will be circulated once it has been prepared.

That about wraps it up for #7. Hope we can meet an early April deadline for #8,



Chester Hartman

**PLANNERS' NETWORK MEMBERS BY INTEREST AREAS
FEBRUARY, 1977**

AGED: C. Estes; M. Holstein; J. Marosy; L. Pearman; J. Pynoos; E. Sclar; R. Surpin.

ALTERNATIVE SERVICE AGENCIES: A. Withorn.

ARCHITECTURE: M.J. Baker; E.P. Berkeley; P. Broches; N. Calavita; D. Conway; S. Curlin; R. Eisner; J. Farbstein; R. Goodman; S. Grabow; D. Hayden; C. Hitchcock; M. Kennedy; M. Lugo; C. Poster; J. Reichek; J. Reiner; S. Ruffenbach.

CABLE TV: L. Lillow.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: M. Appleby, J. Armbruster; S. Feldman; W. Jamieson; D.H. Johnson; E. Li; E. Lurie; P. Pflaum; M. Pyatok; S. Ruffenbach.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: M. Appleby; J. Armbruster; E. Bach; R. Bratt; F. Cooper; S. Fendell; R. Goldstein; W. Harris; M. Hibbard; E. Kirshner; C. Poster; S. Matthews; J. Stoloff.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS: R. Beckley; R. Goldstein; D. Moritz; S. Ruffenbach; K. Sousa.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZERS: J. Cann; G. Cincotta; R.W. Clark; L. Cunningham; J. Falk; S. Feldman; E. Frankford; R. Galanter; M. Hibbard; S. Mathews; V. Menager; R. Montgomery; K. Patchen; J. Pearlman; M. Rosenberg; M. Vetter; R. Weiss.

COOPERATIVES: E. Bach; R.W. Clark; E. Eden; S. Friedlander; L. Gary; E. Jeffords; E. Kirshner; D. Pearson; L. Sheehy; M. Vozick.

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: G. Bricker; T. Campbell; L. Gary; J. Hamburg; A. Leibowitz; L. Peattie; I. Resnick.

ECONOMIC PLANNING: D. Pearson.

EDUCATION: B. Ewens.

ENERGY: B. Bogen; R. Brady; N. Pinney; I. Zusevics.

ENVIRONMENT: T. Campbell; J. Cann; E. Comay; P. Daniels; C. Deknatel; R. Galanter; J. Hill; L. Klein; J. Lichterman; D. Lu-Smith; B. Poster; C. Poster; B. Siembieda; E. Widess; D. Wiley; I. Zusevics.

FISCAL CRISIS: E. Achtenberg; P. Ashton; R. Hill; P. McGuigan; B. Shapiro.

FUTURISM: T. Benson; B. Ewens; E. Jeffords; P. Pflaum.

GROWTH CONTROL: R. Applebaum; R. Brady; H. Gardner; R. Glance.

HEALTH CARE: B. Beelar; E. Feingold; D. Feshbach; L. Gary; M. Mandell; R. Mills; G. Parston; L. Pearman; P. Pflaum; H. Waitzkin; S. Wenocur; E. Yelin.

HOME OWNERSHIP: R. Bratt.

HOUSING: M. Bierbaum; R. Brady; R. Bratt; G. Cincotta; F. Cooper; L. Cunningham; C. Dolbeare; G. Dunham; S. Fendell; L. Gary; O. Kahn; C. Keil; K. Patchen; N. Pinney; S. Ruderman; J. Safir; M. Stone; M. Tasker; J. Turnbull; N. Weber; M. Zeitlin.

HOUSING DISCRIMINATION: Y. Rabin.

HUMANISTIC SOCIALISM: P. Broches.

LABOR MOVEMENTS: N. Di Tomaso; R. Mier; H. Roberts; D. Shearer.

LAND USE PLANNING: M. Appleby; J. Baloutine; C. Deknatel; K. Patchen; P. Procuniar.

MANPOWER PLANNING: T. Benson; A. Cunningham; R. Mier.

NEIGHBORHOOD GOVERNMENT: R. Brady; R. Fazio; H. Gardner.

NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION: J. Armbruster; R. Cassidy; G. Cincotta; J. Falk; E. Frankford; K. Patchen; P. Procuniar; J. Woodoff.

NEW TOWNS: R. Fidor; R. Glance; P. Latimer