

Pro Tem

Volume IX, Number II, Toronto, Canada, November 19, 1969.

Will Pro Tem print
next week?
Help us.

**you have been deceived. they have
made promises and failed to fulfill
them. you want dignity; they give
you money. you want a future with
hope; they give you despair.**



**you must fight for a future
with dignity.**

Voice of the People

First of all, let me say that I am against the war in Vietnam; I am opposed to the American presence there and I believe that the Saigon government is not representative of the people.

Neither am I a big fan of Richard Nixon. But my opinion should not, I believe, prejudice me against recognizing certain facts of the present situation. The silent majority are the people who elected Richard Nixon and many of those who voted for Hubert Humphrey, voted for those men because they promised an 'honourable peace' partly a settlement that will keep the South Vietnamese government from becoming communist and allow the US to get out of the conflict with as little a loss of prestige as possible.

Nixon pursues this goal not out of any moral scruples, but from a purely pragmatic viewpoint: he knows that the war can't be resolved militarily, but that catering to the minority, however vocal, who advocate immediate withdrawal will alienate him from the majority who would regard such an action as cowardice. Given the American tradition of violent solutions to conflicts and the boast that 'America has never lost a war yet', it is inconceivable that

Nixon would consider immediate withdrawal anything but political suicide. Apart from this consideration, he must contend with pressure from the Hawks in the Senate and, more important, with the tentacles of the military-industrial complex. Both of these are urging either continuation or escalation of the fighting.

On the other hand, it is clear that the U.S. is making little or no progress in Vietnam, and as a result the silent majority are becoming frustrated. If they can be made aware that a military victory is impossible, they may begin to press for a gradual withdrawal accompanied by a political settlement. But here, Nixon encounters his greatest obstacle -- the intransigence of the NFL, both at the conference table and on the battlefield. The North is not about to make things easier for him. Convinced that in the long run the Americans will tire of fighting and return home, they are refusing to make any concessions (such as 'post bellum' supervised elections) that will allow the Americans to retire gracefully.

The Saigon government and the basically apolitical peasants of the South render

Nixon's position even more difficult. If American troops withdrew today, the Thieu-Key regime would collapse tomorrow due to the lack of support. The communists know this; Nixon knows this; the now left knows this; and the silent majority at least suspects it. Yet the latter are unwilling to 'openly' allow Vietnam to come completely under communist control and to 'disgrace themselves by unconditional withdrawal'.

Nixon is therefore walking a tightrope ... and sends Spiro Agnew out to make inflammatory speeches, which both appease the right and draw fire away from the President himself. Nixon clearly is buying time; time to get the peace talks moving, time to build up the South Vietnamese army, time to find the way to his 'honourable peace'.

Whether or not the latter is possible, the minority opposition of the war continues to grow. If those who oppose the conflict wish to become part of a minority opinion, they would do well to accent methods of reasoned persuasion. Be sophisticated, guys: for it just may be that the flying of the Viet Cong Flags, the obstruction of army recruits, and the hurling of obscenities at pro-war factions, only serves to harden the grim determination of the silent majority to continue the war.

One final note: Nixon's strategy also gives a number of American soldiers the once-in-a-lifetime chance to die for their country in the coming months.

NORM MARTIN

Staff Meeting
Wed., 4.30
URGENT &
IMPORTANT



'Meow' Charlie told PRO TEM as he described his rescue by the Masked Beaver.

Catnappers foiled

Mister and/or Miss Charlie Breckenridge, PRO TEM's new kitten, was rescued last week by the Masked Beaver after a harrowing experience in which the aforementioned cat was abducted by the Viet Squirrel. The feline, who is on the PRO TEM staff officially as an adviser on the Vietnam Moratorium, was able to gasp the name of the catnapper before falling into a terrified faint.

The dastardly deed was seen as a reprisal for recent PRO TEM articles, which have been very unfavourable to the Viet Squirrel and the organization behind him. The Masked Beaver now has the unfortunate victim under constant surveillance. It was doubly fortunate that the commie pinkos chose an innocent bystander to make the target of their vendetta. "It's always the innocent that get hurt in a war," Peerless Possum, the Champion of Freedom's constant sidekick told PRO TEM.

The discovery of the abduction was made by David Starbuck, fascist front page star of the Globe and/or Mail. We asked Mr. Starbuck how he knew the cat was gone "Because it was

n't there," he told us with irrefutable logic, using the nonpresence of the cat as evidence for his thesis.

The Masked Beaver was immediately called into the case. The Defender of Justice was delayed in his pursuit by misleading evidence supported by several staffers. The staffers quoted usually reliable sources, who had told them that the kitten had undoubtedly picked the lock and lowered the drawbridge of the journalistic fortress and subsequently made his escape.

When these sources were later confronted with the evidence that the Viet Squirrel may have had inside help, they told PRO TEM, "We don't like to lie to little children."

Finally discovering the trail of the lost Charlie, the Masked Beaver was quickly to the rescue, locating the kitten at a point far from the scene of the kidnapping. Captain Bourgeois mung-rayed the area with saturation bombing, but the villains had made their escape.

The Protector of Truth has since consulted the Senior Administrator Berg, who assured the Masked Beaver his full cooperation in protecting Charlie. The safe return of the kitten, however, has failed to satisfy either the Beaver Legions or the PRO TEM staff. They are aware of the identity of the catnappers, and will not rest until justice is done. "Ungor ingagook mung arriba undula msagrok mucho nuga ayayayayiii," swore the Masked Beaver as he described the inhuman fate awaiting the guilty.

-NICK MARTIN

PRO TEM	
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CLUES TO THE
BIG IF
Poets and Media
L'Araignee
Thurs. Nov. 20
8 p.m.

GLENDON ORCHESTRA CONCERT

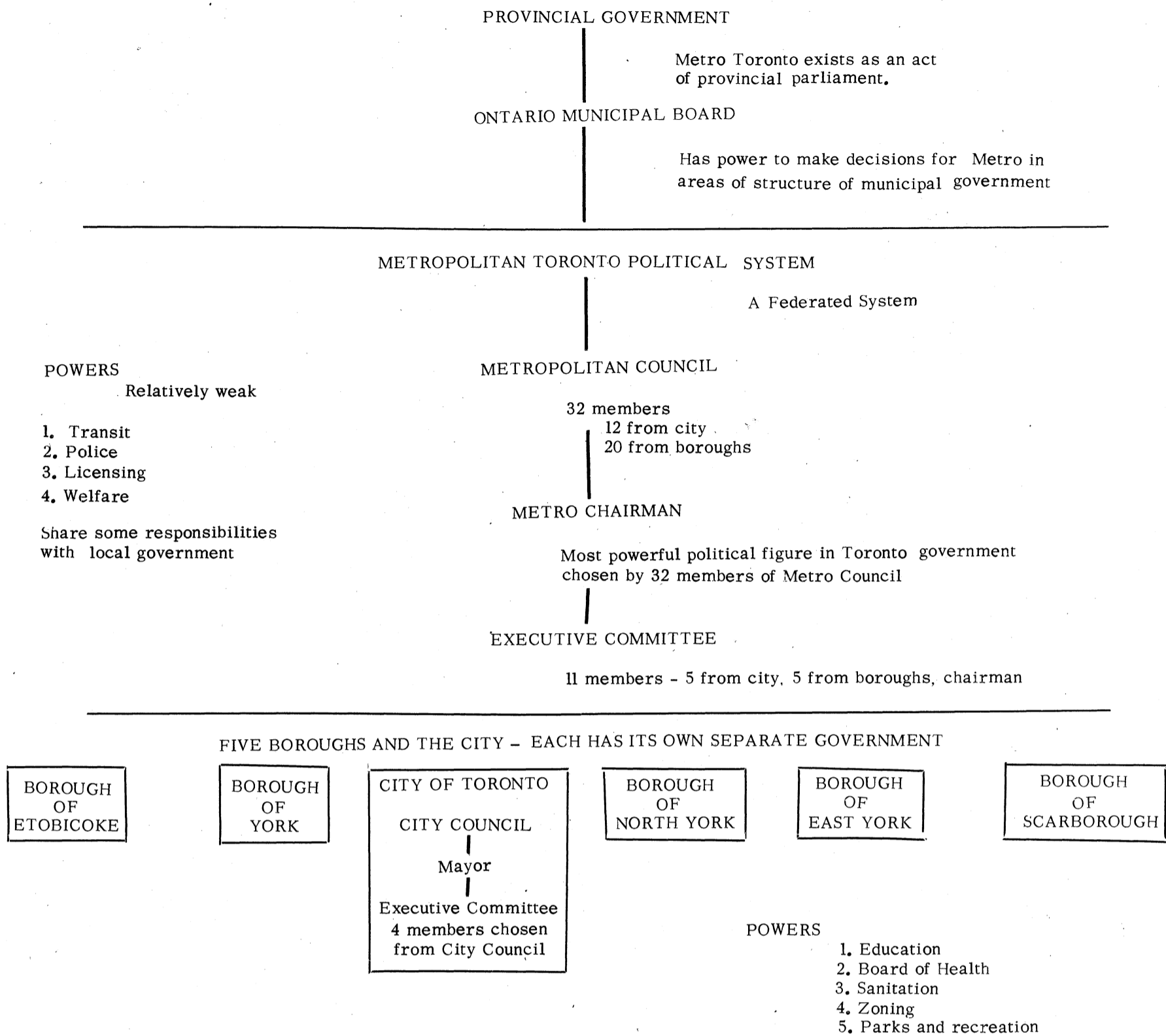
Thurs. Nov. 20th

8:30 p.m.

O.D.H.

Conductor:- Mr. Alain Baudot

Toronto Government Chain of Command



Municipal parties building base for '72

The up-coming municipal elections to be held on December 1st 1969 are extremely interesting because of several new developments on the municipal scene which threaten to alter the traditional character of local politics.

First of all and probably most far-reaching is the conversion from strip wards to block wards which ensure a community voice for lower-income areas. Under the old system wards ran from north to south with the result that low-income and high-income groups were often grouped together in the same ward. Usually the low-income group would get the short end of the deal.

A second major development is the entry of political parties into municipal politics. While the reasons for their entry is varied the most immediate cause of their interest is the apparent incompetence of the present City Council. The pattern of local government has been characterized by repeated pettiness on the part of the members and chronic buck-passing. The performance of city council stands in sharp contrast to the rising awareness of the crucial importance of the City as a social and political unit. The New Democratic Party's Municipal program states this concern clearly: "Canada is having a rate of urbanization greater than any other industrialized country in the world. Within the next few years the main political unit in Canada will be the City. No change in our national character has been more rapid or more pronounced." The N.P.D. statement goes on to read: "There is today a widespread feeling that one of the first obstacles to be overcome is the machinery and

methods we are still using for governing our cities." It is as an answer to the inefficiency and ineffectiveness of local government that many people decided to bring party organization and party discipline to the local level.

In theory the party system would seem to work very well. A political party 'X' would draw up a municipal program with as many people participating as possible. On the basis of this policy the Party would then elect a mayor and a majority of the aldermen. The alderman would then choose among themselves an Executive Committee to act as a sort of Cabinet. The members of the Party would then be able to work together to implement their political program. Party discipline would force the members to vote as the official policy dictated. Party organization would allow citizens to easily locate who was responsible in case an issue was mistreated or not acted upon.

However, as is common, things don't usually work out the way they're supposed to. The three principal political parties (Liberals, N. P.D., and the Civic Action Party) have all come up against serious obstacles during the campaign. The experience of the Liberal Party while not completely typical, still gives an indication of the problems which are facing the political parties in this election.

First of all the Liberals have been handicapped by the late start to their involvement in municipal affairs. Their final decision wasn't made until April of this year although preliminary decisions and plans extended back to January. Even then twelve months of organization is still too short a period for the Liberals to establish themselves as a credible force in municipal politics. Secondly, the Liberal

Party underwent a serious split within its ranks over whether or not to become involved in municipal politics.

The renegade group was lead by people such as developers and incumbent politicians who had a real interest in keeping their party out of municipal politics and took with them many experienced and important party workers. This outflow of talent has weakened the effectiveness of the campaign. Thirdly, many name candidates who are also Liberal Party members have refused to run on the Liberal ticket because they didn't feel the need for the party to project their name and also didn't want to be shackled by party organization and discipline.

Consequently, the Liberals have been deprived of candidates who conceivably could have won for them and instead have had to turn to candidates who young and capable, but unknown.

None of the three political parties has a chance this election of gaining what might be called a victory. Isolated candidates may be elected here and there but this won't be enough to judge the value of political organization and party discipline in city politics. 1969 is a building year for all the parties in which their main purpose is to introduce the concept of party involvement to the voter. They hope that the ward organizations which are established this year will continue to exist so that for the next elections in '72 they will be able to field a larger number of candidates with stronger support behind them.

The principle of local party politics has much to be said for it. While the type of organization that parties offer is not a cure-all for municipal problems, it is one important way of bringing about a more effective local government.

John Sewell Ward 7 will not buy

1 gross expropriation

17 canned educations

5 pkg. prejudice

1 white bullshit

8 lbs. apathy

2000 yds. red tape

3 mezagros mung

By LARRY SCANLAN

Linus: Do you really think Charlie Brown could get nominated for the president?

Lucy: What do you mean nominated?

Don't you know anything?

First you have to become a prince...then you get to be president!!!

Linus: It's frightening when you realize how little you really know about governmental affairs.

Indeed it is frightening. Petitions, demonstrations, and marches denounce what is happening thousands of miles away, apparently oblivious of the wholesale hypocrisy perpetrated right at our doorsteps. Exploitation shouldn't necessitate any scanning of the horizons. It's right around the corner.

It's on Cornwall and Oak Streets, where one of the worst municipal debaucheries is taking place in full view of a hushed press.

A new elementary school was proposed in 1968 for the Regent Park area. The Ontario Housing Corporation offered land in Regent Park North to the Board of Education for a nominal fee of one dollar, on condition that a swimming pool and a recreation centre be included.

Alan Archer, chairman of the Board's property committee at the time, refused the site and chose instead to expropriate fifty-two homes on Oak and Cornwall Streets, at a cost of \$900,000. In deciding to expropriate they overlooked both the Regent Park site as well as one directly north of the homes expropriated.

This decision seems all the more illogical in the light of the following insights. The children will now have to cross a busy street to get to school. (A study had deemed the area too heavily travelled by traffic for the building of houses ... but a school, well that's different). If they build a bridge over the traffic, kids being kids, will throw things off it.

But most contradictory to this decision is a survey taken in September showed that Regent Park residents were six to one in favour of the Regent Park site. And once again is heard the voice of democracy.

The man who unearthed this ghastly City Hall skeleton from its closet is John Sewell, independent candidate for ward seven, the same ward in which Archer is running for school trustee. Archer 'disagreed violently' with Sewell and the rest of the gang of 'beatniks', read a Star quote.

And Sewell does have all the semblances of a social outcast. He favours blue jeans, leather boots and leather jackets over a lawyer's pin stripe suit. Yet that's exactly what he is -- a married lawyer who for a sparse \$150 per month has worked and lived in the Cabbagetown area for the last two and a half years.

He began, fresh from law school, working with the Toronto Community Union Project, "helping to organize adults in the poorer areas around problems of concern to them." Concerns such as expropriation. The new Expropriation act, which guarantees a 'home for a home' came only after protest by Trefann residents about the prices being paid by the city for houses in urban renewal areas. But they were organized protest, by the Sewell assisted Trefann Court Residents Association.

Similarly, in Don Mount and on Cornwall and Oak Streets, Sewell worked with the expropriated victims in getting justice. And on Wilkins and Beverly Street, he helped the tenants to bargain collectively with the Ontario Housing Corporation.

But the biggest issue to mushroom in the next two or three years says Sewell, is going to be the area south of St. James Town. The same developers who built the sprawling St James Town apartment multiplex, are now buying the land south of it. Already they own seventy per cent of the area. Sewell has worked with the residents associated in the area, trying to get redevelopment to protect the tenants and homeowners.

His experience has taught him a great deal about the people and their problems. He finds the people capable and pragmatic, although expertise is sometimes needed. People should make the decisions which most affect them, since they more than anyone should know what's best for them.

But while he has optimism for the people's potential, he does have his reservations. Firstly, while sincere, and his efforts are appreciated, he is still considered as an invader. Secondly he must confront the fact that between one quarter and one third of the people in the poorer areas are on welfare, and that therefore his greatest enemy, next to distrust, is apathy.

'If cleaning a floor, which is so marked and scuffed already, has little or no effect on it, then why, say the people, 'should I bother'? And if the area has seven elementary schools and three technical schools and not one five-year arts school, what hope is there for university education for students? Especially when not one of the schools is at a par with other Toronto schools. Even if a student managed to escape that blackboard jungle he would, says Sewell, probably deny his environment before the cock crowed even once.

Despite and because of all this, Sewell is running, to gain legitimacy both within and outside his organizations and to attempt to bypass, the red tape of

typical politicians and party loyalty, that would stifle local pressure groups.

In addition, he would use the salary to initiate and finance a newspaper run by Ward Seven. He could throw \$5,000 into this cause, since he doesn't plan to change his present living-standard of about \$2,000 a year. It would appear every two weeks -- a factual and exact news account of what is really happening in the area -- something the Toronto dailies have failed miserably in doing. (Did you know about Cornwall St.?)

Ironically, Sewell is pessimistic about politics in general, but optimistic about local group pressure. Group pressure may halt city hall in things like Cornwall St., like needless expropriation, like buying houses for no apparent reason and leaving them vacant .. vacant except for a twenty-four hour security guard, who, because of bylaw stipulations must be maintained at a cost of \$4,000 a year. Why not pay someone ten dollars a day to live there, says Sewell?

And things like plans to make Dundas St. a fourlane highway, another well-kept secret. Or John Sewell and his wife walking down their own street one summer evening and being summoned by a policeman for no apparent reason. The cop at first refused to tell him why, but Sewell knew the law and said he had to. Does the law work in Cabbagetown?

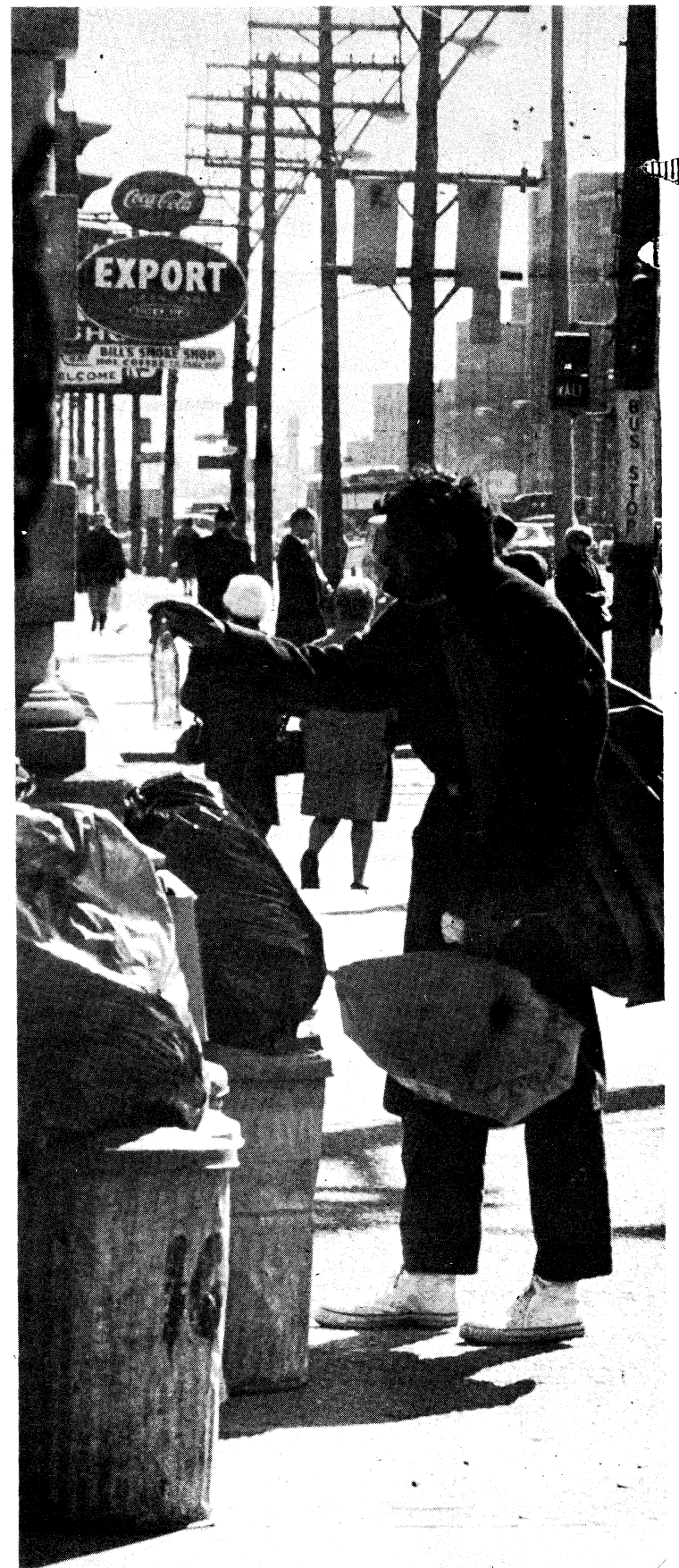
When I left John Sewell he was on his way to court to defend a young Greek immigrant who had been beaten up by a policeman and had found himself on the wrong end of the assault charge. No one else would take the case; the Greek had no money. They must have made a great pair in court -- the bedraggled immigrant and the 'beatnik' lawyer.

Charlie Brown (reading a newspaper to Snoopy) Hmm...maybe I've been wrong. It says here in the paper that it is alright to feed your dog little snacks between meals.

Snoopy smiles.

Snoopy: You can accomplish a lot once you get the sympathy of the press.

photo by MICHALSKI



"Our policy will not be determined by marches in the street" - OHC

By JANE RUBINSKI

The Ontario Housing Corporation seems to be the new (or old) Dirty Deed Doers of the Day in Metropolitan Toronto. Their purpose, to supply inexpensive or at least regulated housing, is contrary to the private landlords interests; and their methods of operation frequently contradict the need of tenants.

The OHC is a part of the provincial government which is attempting to provide some sort of viable alternative housing. They service a 'wide spectrum of the population' rather than just one particular class, and the total 14,207 functioning units in Metro Toronto range in quality accordingly. Currently, 5,445 new units are in developing stages and OHC hopes that they will better suit the needs of all the different types of tenants (i.e. families, singles, students - married and non-married - etc.) than the developments that were 'inherited from the city'.

An increasing demand for cheaper student housing is being worked out by the planned building of 352 units at York, 529 for Ryerson and more at U. of T. where 713 are already operating

Question of eligibility

Eligibility for public housing is one of the major points of argument in the controversy. Initially, it was made known that the OHC was operating on a points system to decide who was to get in. But the actual system was not presented, and requests for it were ignored. Eventually the system was 'procured' but helped no one, because it was impossible to figure out how it worked. This obviously gives rise to some serious doubts on the validity of the system. It was found that no range of points could be predicted to make someone eligible, and occasionally a person with 20 points would be accepted whereas another with 60 would be turned down.

Charges of favoritism

Looking at it practically, the OHC purportedly bases its decisions on considerations of size of family, income, the rent, condition of size of present accommodation, health considerations, and urgency of need. Those who score the highest on these counts supposedly are put nearer the top of the waiting list, which is now 16,000 names long and grows at a rate of 1100 to 1200 per month.

They have also been charged with favouring



Many tenants are dissatisfied with OHC homes like these, yet OHC officials shrug off complaints.

middle class tenants over the really poor, because they are able to collect more rent from them, especially in number of the high rise apartments they took over. The OHC takes as much as the tenants can pay in rent, geared to the gross income (and how much of that is left over after all deductions from the paycheck), or all of the allotted money for those tenants on welfare, virtually passing money from one department in the government to the other through a tenant who serves as no more than a connecting tube. According to John Sewell, candidate for alderman in Ward 7 - the slum of Toronto - "Twenty-six out of the thirty-five or forty OHC projects in Toronto pay for themselves", without the government subsidy.

Tenants may not organize

Another fact of the OHC set-up is that the tenants are given no say in the management of the developments. An OHC representative reasons this by saying that tenant management would not be a good thing because the personal aspects of each case would become public knowledge to all tenants in the building - a rather unhealthy or embarrassing situation. But that is not the issue; the way John Sewell puts it, "They just deny you any rights." Tenant organizations are encouraged, but only on the recreational or community action level.

Tenants also raise the question of the justice of the one month leases that OHC employs. They argue that a basic insecurity is caused by not knowing whether or not they will have to move, or whether the rent will be ambiguously raised. The OHC counters by saying that "We have a lot more to do than just shuffle

people around."

The OHC also uses administrative tangle to do to explain the inefficiency of maintenance, which crops up regularly in complaints. They try to service as fast and as well as they can but there is a lot of ground to cover. Also "We've inherited a lot of problems," in acquiring a variety of different kinds of living units.

Yet you hear examples such as this; the back door of an OHC unit had a broken latch. The tenant filled out all the necessary legal forms to have it fixed by the OHC but in the meantime it flew open in a strong wind and broke a window. The OHC came and replaced the window and charged the tenant for that, without repairing the latch. The same thing happened again, then again, costing the tenant parts and labour for the three calls, when only one had been required in the first place.

Finally, an example of OHC mentality. Their basic philosophy is to treat their tenants the same as private tenants while charging less rent. They get criticized for both too much interfering with the tenants' affairs, and too little supervision. The OHC feels that it is being as fair as possible what with so many units and an overwhelming administrative burden, but it must be remembered (quoth representative) that these people are in fact being subsidized by other taxpayers and this must be taken into account.

The OHC feels that it has served to lessen standard housing and provide an alternative to private landlords, and "A lot of people have been helped. You'll always get people who complain."

To humanize the de-humanized

By SALLY McBETH

John Mooney, Spokesman for the Just Society, is a poet -- by definition, a man who has not lost his sense of wonder. Mooney wonders at human beings who have learned to live placidly with promises of destruction, and to step carefully over the body in the street. The hackneyed, almost classic example of our dehumanization -- these too we have learned to live with. We truly cannot claim to be human any more.

But this is all too philosophical, said Mooney, shifting in his chair, you want to know about the Just Society. The Just Society is an organization of poor people, begun six months ago and consisting of about three hundred people and ten full-time coordinators -- all poor. They want 50% representation on the councils and organizations that govern their welfare, a \$3.00 an hour minimum wage, higher welfare benefits, government financed day-

care centres, and participation by recipients in welfare offices. These are the basic, necessary goals of the group, but Mooney had more than that to say about a just society.

Take, for example, the woman living on welfare. Early in the morning, or late at night, the social worker has the right to enter the house, without knocking and search for any object on which the welfare agency may have pronounced a moral judgement -- beer, liquor, a man.

Or the poor who are taken from the slum to a government housing project in the suburbs and left there to rot -- to be looked upon by the indignant, tax-paying neighbours as people with "something wrong with them".

The economic system functions competently only when a certain percentage of the population are unemployed. An efficient, government-controlled welfare machine keeps the unemployed alive. "Hu-

man being" does not enter the argument. Human dignity is given in exchange for the welfare check.

"Our over-all goal is based upon this view: That the political, economic, and social structures within which we live are not responsive to people."

The Just Society is interested in finding out why the poor are the most de-humanized of our de-humanized society. They work in cooperation with Praxis, a social research organization composed of concerned professional people who provide the analysis which the poor put into action. It is not enough that officially sanctioned committees enquiring into the causes of poverty come up with answers like "unemployment" or "the inner city". Tenement housing is a profitable, exploitive business. Most important, it is controlled from outside.

"Our goal is to bring about a radical change of political, economic, and social structure, which

would then allow the individual -- and the community -- to effectively control their lives and their environment."

In the Just Society there is a group of non-voting, associate members, among them students who are attempting to take the reality of the poor back to the "ivory tower" institutions.

Because the poor are not making it to university -- their environment tells them that they are stupid. The poor are lazy, alcoholic, drug-addicted, prostituted and demoralised -- the tax payers tell them its their own fault. The poor are poor, and the welfare agency tells them they are half-human to boot. But the poor are beginning to tell themselves differently.

Monday, 4.00 pm. Rm. I29
 "Things I Cannot Change"
 N.F.B. - montreal poverty
 A PRO TEM workshop

Pollution-is it too late for prevention ?

By MONIQUE ROBERT

Our life expectancy from this moment on is a mere twenty years. Such commodities as water and oxygen -- essential elements of man's existence -- will soon be at a high premium.

Man breathes about 14,000 quarts of air a day, but much of it is foul and harmful. For example, figures for Metro Toronto in 1966 indicate that in one year 420,000 tons of hydro carbon particles, 925,000 tons of carbon monoxide and 65,000 tons of nitrogen are released into the air over the city every year.

NO SMOKING - you don't need it! Just breathe in Toronto and you'll get your two packs puff by puff.

Pilots who fly over Toronto can see a brown cloud hanging above, even on days when people on the ground can see for miles. Cars and jet planes fill the air with noxious fumes. Wherever you turn the environment is being poisoned.

Water is being chlorinated to even higher degrees to make it safe to drink. How much chlorine will there be in water in twenty years from now?

The Hearn generating plant - the hydro's answer to pollution is the biggest farce in Toronto. This new 700 foot hydro smoke stack is to be built early in 1970 to take the place of 5 200-foot stacks and 3 300-foot stacks now in use.

Since the Hearn plant provides about 1/10 of Ontario's hydro it produced over 40,000 tons of sulphur last year. This means that 80,000 tons of sulphur dioxide came out of the station at that same time.

It is Ontario's Hydro concentration that the stack will provide "an acceptable solution to the problem", and it will "reduce pollution by achieving greater dispersal or dilution, thus holding ground level concentration at acceptable levels". This may be true. However, Hydro doesn't mention that sulphur dioxide (SO₂) is harmful to plant life which produces a great

quantity of our much needed oxygen. A look at Sudbury will convince anyone of this hazard. The maximum distance from Sudbury at which sulphur dioxide injury was observed was 68 miles in 1968 - 20 miles further than the previous year.

The Hydro seems to think that added height will give the stack some magical power which will enable it to perform a disappearing act on the sulphur dioxide. Misguided children (too much T.V.)! Oshawa and other municipalities close to the big city will become the recipients of our sulphur dioxide which on certain days combines with sulphur from the U.S.

Lampart and Dennison, with their visions of Toronto, the International City, are eager to aesthetically and ecologically devastate Toronto by offering her remaining parkland in sacrifice to their god - the almighty dollar. Toronto has a greenbelt which extends from Vaughan Township down to the Lakeshore. Dennison in his rush to destroy anything that has a semblance to nature wants to develop this greenbelt, the last of our parkland! If Lampart and his garden of posies are so keen on becoming international figures with an international city, he should instead be striving for an ecologically stable city. This stability render Toronto ideal for an international uni-

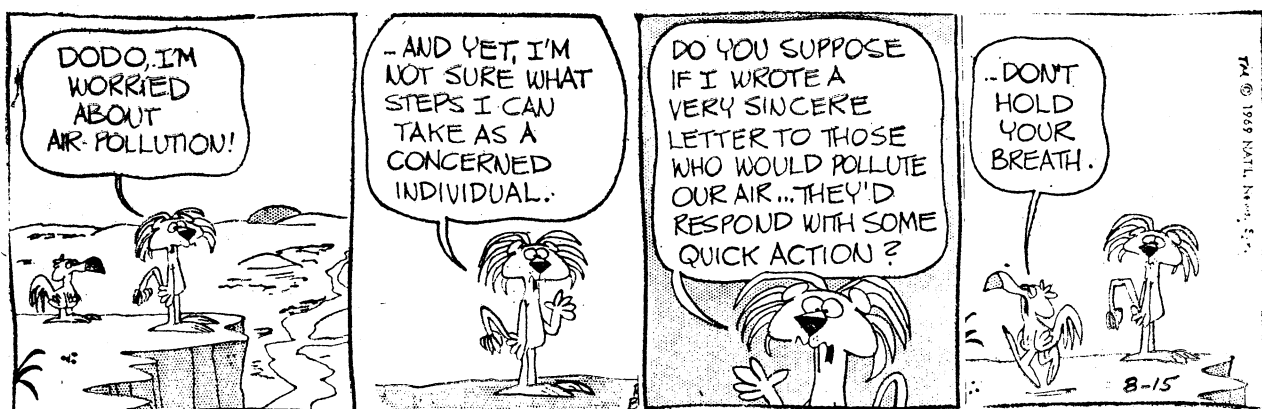
versity, as is Geneva, and international conventions which, by the way, no longer go to New York, because of pollution and filth.

The Don River, which we burried on Sunday, died of an overdose of sewage and industrial waste. Toronto has supposedly one of the better sewage systems in Ontario. Only 20% of Ontario's sewage is even treated before being dumped into rivers and lakes! The open sewer which crawls past Glendon gets worse as it flows towards Lake Ontario. So, if you think it smells up here you should go down to Broadview and Dundas. (Don't forget your gas mask).

Pollution Probe has been raising embarrassing questions. Dead duck inquiries and litter demonstrations in front of legislative buildings don't sit well with politicians.

However, politicians and industrialists are not entirely to blame. You and I are just as guilty of pollution as they. It is Probe's belief that if you educate the people, politicians will in turn be forced to enact pollution control measures which surprisingly enough already exist.

It seems a shame to disturb the politicians in their cozy governmental seats but perhaps if we rock the boat hard enough they'll act out of sheer fear of falling into the polluted water below!



Community School

"The Community School philosophy has evolved as a part of the Social Services Project at Flemington Road Public School under the direction of the Social Services Consultant, Mr. Dale Shuttleworth. In the belief that the school and the resources which it represents cannot be separated from the community which it serves, this school has endeavoured to extend itself as a partner in community development. Objectives of this concept might be stated as follows:

1. To improve the quality of living here and now.
2. To use the community as a laboratory for learning.
3. To make the school plant a centre of community living.
4. To organize the curriculum around the fundamental processes and problems of living.
5. To include lay people in school policy and program planning.
6. To provide leadership in the co-ordination of community services.
7. To practise and promote democracy in all human relationships."

- PROGRESS REPORT 1967-68

Whenever I see a list of objectives like that, I become suspicious. So I went to see how it works.

Not only was there no drop-in, but there was nothing else either. The woman in charge of the program on Wednesday afternoons was sick; nobody replaced her. So the kids had to fight in the schoolyard. The director of the Community School refused to speak to me. "Come back tomorrow and see the woman in charge. She's from the community. She can tell you about it better than I can." So I did.

6:50 pm, THURSDAY. The front entrance of the school is jammed with cigar-puffing thirteen-year-olds. They are here for the drop-in. The small plaza around the corner is also crowded with slightly older kids. Apparently we can't go into the school until 7:00. So I talked to the kids.

After a few bottles are broken and a few heads kicked in, the doors open and we are allowed in. There don't seem to be

Claire Ellard

any adult supervisors, just older kids, mostly from York University, who get extra credits for their Child Psychiatry course. These students are hero-worshipped. All activities take place in the hall and gym. "We can't use the classrooms cuz everybody leaves cigarette butts all over and the desks get smashed." So we have to stay in the hall. One wonders how the kids watching T.V. can hear with the record player turned up full blast. The card players are trampled by everyone else. Some small boys have a game of basketball going in the gym. Five or six teeny boppers are dancing to the latest CHUM hits. Somebody's brother is intent on kicking down a door. His sister goes over and tells him to cut it out.

These kids are really great, for all their shoving and swearing. They respect the property and each other. But the older kids, those over fifteen, are bored. There isn't much for them to do except play pool. After school there are games and crafts for little kids. A woman at the bus stop told me about adult activities. The kids said that there were discussion groups and films for adults, as well as a weight-losing club, sports, and a day-care centre. Their parents occasionally participate and, according to their children, enjoy it.

But what about teenagers? It seems that they've been left out. They don't want to play cards or dance with twelve-year-olds. It's far more interesting to drag around the block or shoplift at the plaza.

It seems that the Community School has failed to reach the two groups that could benefit from it the most - the teenagers and the lonely. It cannot succeed in creating a "better way of living here and now" until the teens are given something more stimulating than a pool table to work with. Nobody could tell me who decides on the program of activities, but teenage representatives would be a good idea. As far as I could tell, the school is not being used as a centre of learning (as is stated in the objectives), but as a recreational centre - well and good. However, I feel that "Community School" is an incorrect description of Flemington School. It is more of a community centre, a place to meet, and enjoy activities. And it succeeds at this, for the group of people it reaches.

the great canadian CHARITY BUBBLE

"...the poor have little time for middle-class social workers who specialize in freudian counselling sessions designed to help them adjust to their sorry lot."

by Peter Desbarats
Saturday Night, november 1969

ONLY AFTER THE EXPLOSION did we all become aware of the silence that had preceded it. In other canadian cities, people are still "giving at the office" without giving it a thought. But in Montreal, ever since the federation of catholic charities blew up, people have been asking questions. And the answers have created a disturbing picture of an archaic, inefficient and self-centred system which coolly defrauds the public of millions every year and which perpetuates the social evils that it pretends to attack.

Fraudulent is a strong word, but accurate in this case. The annual combined private welfare appeal in every large canadian city—the community chest, the red feather—is, in fact, an exercise by the affluent community in fooling itself and withholding from the poor money raised ostensibly to assist them.

Affluent in this case includes everyone down to lower-middle income and particularly the blue- and white-collar workers who are the biggest supporters and greediest consumers of the welfare fraud.

Poor refers to members of the self-perpetuating human junkheap at the bottom of society for whom private welfare agencies represent a subtle and effective instrument of oppression: the philanthropic "shower bath" that is, in reality, a kind of gas chamber. It is the private welfare system, presenting itself as an answer to poverty, that finally exterminates whatever hope the poor might have for a brighter future.

I know that this all sounds exaggerated...the usual journalistic build-up. But for a start, try a few questions: How much do you really know about the private welfare agencies in your own community? Who controls them? If you "give at the office" under an automatic payroll deduction plan, what democratic process assures you that this unofficial tax is used wisely?

In all likelihood, the little you know about private welfare agencies is exactly what they want you to know. The only image in your mind is the poster or slogan from the last campaign. The agencies long ago learned that the most effective censorship screen is a public relations program based on partial information. Because newspapers and other media are pressured to take an interest in agencies once a year, during the campaigns, most journalists early in their careers develop a revulsion for the whole subject.

When you combine this with the economic establishment's pride in this area, the result is an effective immunity from outside criticism.

Dangerous. In a world of uncontrolled exploitation, it might be true that private welfare (the czarina's hospital) is better than nothing. In our own world of developing social responsibility, where certain rights at least are enunciated if not fully recognized, private welfare can be seen as part of an older and opposite development, a negative phenomenon. And in that sense, worse than nothing.

This becomes clearer if you set aside the undoubted "good works" of private welfare agencies and concentrate on their philosophy. Put simply, this philosophy states that private welfare agencies are the instrument which enables the rich to help the poor. They fulfill a "religious" obligation of the rich toward the needy. This is the way in which most people are encouraged to view the agencies during the annual campaigns.

In fact, private welfare has remarkably

little to do with the poor. It is primarily designed to circulate money and services within a relatively affluent class. The entire system rests, during the fund drives, on a lie. The system in fact insulates the affluent from a true picture of poverty and insulates the poor from effective action.

The portrait of the private welfare agency as an *enemy* of the poor is so up-sidedown (for the affluent class, not for the poor) that most of us, trying to comprehend it, are like middle-aged doctors grappling with medicare. It requires a tremendous mental effort to understand the system as it is understood by the poor and a small number of rebel social workers. Just to begin thinking about private welfare in terms of recipients instead of donors, for example, is well-nigh impossible for most businessmen for whom annual campaigns and agency boards have become prestige projects and useful "clubs."

Most Montrealers, like most other Canadians, are a long way from this new perspective. If they weren't, the federated appeal at this point might just as well forget about its 1970 campaign. Even under the usual ideal circumstances, and with a two-week extension of its month-long drive, Montreal's 1969 campaign fell short of its \$10,800,000 objective by \$270,000.

But during the summer of 1969, the welfare education of Montrealers was started in an unscheduled fashion by a revolution among the professional social workers employed by the federation of catholic charities.

The federation is the central private welfare organization for english-speaking catholics in Montreal, as opposed to red feather for english-speaking protestants, the "federation" of french-speaking catholics and the jewish welfare services. (As a local social worker said to me: "In Montreal we ask them about religion before we ask their names.")

Directors of the federation unwittingly made a big mistake, as they later realized, when they began several years ago to staff their agencies with social workers who were young, progressive, not necessarily Montrealers and not even, in some cases, catholics. By last spring, a group of these young professionals led by the federation's executive director, William Dyson, felt strong enough to challenge their board of directors. They did this simply by releasing a few statistics.

For the first time, english-speaking catholics became aware of the coterie of priests and laymen who, since time immemorial, had decided how millions of dollars of welfare donations would be spent. It was immediately evident, from the ages and terms of service of some of the directors, not to mention their addresses, that the board was a self-perpetuating clique of ancient irish-canadian catholics from all the best parishes. Dyson also hinted at financial carelessness when he told a public meeting that a million dollars had been involved in the construction of an obsolete institution, allegedly without the necessary government approval, by one of the federation's agencies.

What did Montrealers learn during the bitter fight? Primarily that most private welfare federations and agencies are "democratic" in a purely formal sense. They are headed by boards which, in practice, regard themselves as above criti-

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cism and accountable to no one and which, with few exceptions, represent extremely limited economic, ethnic and geographic sectors of the community.

The new board of the catholic federation contains its first black and a rare italian, an astonishing fact considering the length of time that both communities have been established in Montreal. Even more surprising (because most blacks are protestant) is the fact that not a single black sits on the red feather board where the average income, according to a labour unions representative who frankly calls himself the board's "white nigger," is more than \$20,000 a year.

In Montreal, as in other Canadian centres, there have been some tentative attempts to place "clients"—as welfare recipients are euphemistically termed—on the boards of individual agencies. So far it hasn't worked out well, and this isn't surprising, considering the motive behind most of these "concessions." But the day may well be past when client representation on boards can help most agencies to involve themselves with the poor. Many agencies no longer have much contact with the rock-bottom poor. Most of their services now go to low-middle, middle and even upper-middle income groups.

Recent surveys in the United States have shown that more than sixty per cent of the average community's private welfare budget now goes to such "leisure" categories as improved recreation facilities, summer programs for children, adult education—services which the middle class employs more skilfully than the poor. Last spring, Montreal's family service association, a red feather agency, actually complained in the newspapers that not enough middle-class people were taking advantage of its services. This was particularly upsetting for an agency that, one by one, had closed all its branches in poor sections of the city to concentrate its services in a single efficient unit in a middle-class area.

Many agencies have realized that past programs of centralization for the sake of efficiency have isolated them from people who really need their services. Now they are falling over each other in a race back to the slums, setting up store-front offices and even forgetting old jurisdictional dispute to co-operate with other agencies in establishing community centres designed, at long last, to make their services accessible. But it might already be too late.

Social workers are discovering that the slums have changed during their absence. In particular, the poor have become accustomed to a far wider range of social security and public assistance which, despite its inadequacy, belongs to them by right of citizenship in an affluent society. Social workers for private agencies have discovered that a majority of the poor prefer to deal with public assistance officials.

There are at least two reasons: the public welfare officer is paid to serve them as efficiently as possible and without any sense of "mission" and, socially and economically, he is usually much closer to them than a master of social work graduate from McGill.

With a minimum income from public sources and a growing awareness of their right to an assured share of national prosperity, the poor have little time for middle-class social workers who specialize in freudian counselling sessions designed to help them adjust to their sorry lot—provided they meet criteria of religion, income and subservience. The poor have had a bellyful of this kind of "individual attention." Today they want to learn how to organize effective political groups to explore the limits of their power.

At first glance this seems to be a nice idea to the board members of many private agencies. They understand it, in a middle-class reference, as some sort of adult education (civics courses for the poor). But the funds from private agencies tend to dry up as soon as it becomes clear that "social animation" can produce such phenomena as violent demonstrations by the poor outside city hall or slum surveys by the poor which reveal that many of their tenements are owned by Vanier's and other prominent families, not to mention the churches. As soon as an economic nerve is touched, it becomes clear that there is little ambiguity about the allegiance of the private agencies.

Contrary to the agencies' repeated claim that they alone have the freedom to experiment with new programs, most of the important pioneering has been done by public agencies (the company of young Canadians) and private projects which are financed almost on an under-the-table basis by some churches and private foundations.

As the poor become accustomed to programs which "help them to help themselves," to use a meaningful phrase that the private agencies have almost succeeded in ruining, they begin to demand that the agencies define their loyalties. Is it possible, for instance, for Montreal red feather to proclaim solidarity with the poor when some of its own revenues come from short-term investments in consumer finance companies?

(Can you believe the first-hand report given to me about the woman on a red feather board who wondered aloud, during a meeting, if "we all couldn't talk about something else besides poverty?")

If the agencies intend to really work with the poor, in directions dictated by the poor, they must be ready to face the financial consequences. (As I put it to one fund-drive director: "How would you like to canvass for the company of young Canadians?") But if their primary role is collecting money from the affluent middle class to provide services to the donors and certain selected unfortunates—a self-help system for the middle class with relatively little leakage at the bottom—there should be an honest presentation of this role during fund-raising campaigns. It is socially dangerous for the affluent segment of society to believe that it is helping the poor when the poor know that the claim is a lie.

The next time they knock on your door, don't just say, "I give at the office." Ask questions.

It's whether you win or lose

By NICK MARTIN

"I want you to remember one thing, whether you're playing little league ball or making your way through life. Winning isn't everything ... it's the ONLY thing."

The speaker was Tom Wilkinson, Argonaut, quarterback, and he was speaking to a group of 11-14 year old boys at our annual baseball banquet a few weeks ago. Earlier in his speech, in answering a question about the Sonny Wade - Jim Tomlin incident in which Wade stomped on Tomlin's neck following a game-saving interception, Wilkinson indicated that he felt the action was all part of the game. Wade's only mistake was doing it out in the open where everyone could see him.

A couple of coaches made a few polite remarks in an effort to contradict Wilkinson's remark, but the damage was already done. All summer we had been trying to teach these kids that there were values to be learned from sports far beyond the mere fact that you won. Now Wilkinson had negated all that with his win-at-any-cost attitude.

We felt that participation was far more important than winning.

Probably Wilkinson's attitude is a very viable one in the pros. Certainly no professional athlete, whether he's an insane animal or a Lady Byng winner, is going to put anything between himself and winning. Victory puts bread on his table.

Yet should this attitude carry over into amateur sports, on any level? The professional attitude of win no matter what the price has permeated nearly every level of sports competition.

I asked the players on my ball team who they would be playing hockey with this winter. Maybe one or three is playing this year. The others aren't sitting it out because they aren't interested in hockey - they're just not good enough. A few are going to try out for the local house league, but they're not too optimistic. The important words here are 'try out'. If you don't meet a certain standard, even in a house league, you don't play. At the ripe old age of twelve they're over the hill.

Students revolting

"They sure are," intellectual philosopher Al Capp told PRO TEM. However, that's got nothing to do with the story, but just another in a continuing series of sensational headlines designed to trick you into reading our irrelevant stories.

Our big headliner is the news that the Glendon Red Guards continued their shut-out streak by studentpowering the faculty one-zip. Dave Cox dropped two full grades as he got the winning tally. Bob Hallbrooks recorded the shutout (69¢ at SAM's). The faculty got outstanding performances from Roger Gannon, Brian Bixley, and Roger le Bras; Rick Schultz felt that he turned in a superb game. "I was superb," Schultz told your correspondent.

The faculty protested vehemently the refereeing of Tim Taylor, who by a strange coincidence is also the Red Guard coach. The faculty, stooping to any means

Several of the ones that are playing are on allstar rather than house league teams. These kids are hotshots, so people are interested in having them play, so interested in fact that a number of teams woo them for their services. Once you make one of these teams, you're expected to pay close to a hundred dollars for top equipment, registration fees, ice fees for practices that may be held anywhere from five in the morning till late at night. In the summer these kids go to hockey school, at sixty dollars a time. It's an expensive way for a young boy to play a little hockey.

Weeded Out

Before they've even reached their teens, these boys have been selected as an elite to be allowed to play our national game. As they get older, there are increasingly fewer teams as those of lesser calibre are carefully weeded out. The very few that survive the Junior A level are funneled to the NHL, which is what the whole system is about.

There are 240 players in the NHL. There are millions of kids in this country. Millions of them just don't have a chance, because the whole system is based on cultivating an outstanding few to reap a harvest of victory. Yet the trouble goes far beyond hockey and little league baseball; it's prevalent in every walk of Canadian sports.

Every time Canada gets trounced at the Olympics, a few outraged citizens start an outcry to produce better athletes in this country. They're thinking of the select few that can reach gold medal ability; perhaps it's time they changed their priorities and started thinking of the populace as a whole.

Perhaps it's time they started thinking of the millions of men and women that are carrying around thirty extra pounds of fat; of the millions of men who are afraid to pick up a snow shovel because they are liable to drop dead. The vast majority of people in this country are badly out of shape.

We're not talking only of the forty-and-olders. We're talking about the 60% of the men in this school and an even higher percentage of

to avoid responsibility for their defeat, have instituted a vicious slur campaign against Taylor. Acting on behalf of an outraged student body, PRO TEM sent Captain Bourgeois to investigate the charges. The Captain reports "If there's anything I hate, it is bigots and foreigners."

In intercollegiate volleyball, Glendon slaughtered Founders two-nothing. Serge Colekessian, Mike Lunycz, Ron Maltin, Will Bruce (not if it's chiquita), Joe Aiello, Greg Lloyd and Kevin Kilbey were picked as Colekessian's three star selections. Doesn't that make more than three. Perhaps we were never meant to know.

Why does the guy say "You're Mona's kid, aren't you?" We've only seen him talk to Sid. Why doesn't he say 'Sid's kid'? Howcum he knows Mona so well? What do ya think they're doing in that medicine cabinet, guy? Send your answers to Con-

test, C/O PRO TEM. Winner gets to warm up the mung when the Masked Beaver unglutes on Charlie's catnappers.

Winner of last week's contest is Miss Beth Redmond of our very own staff. In reply to "Did you get any on you?" Miss Redmond said, "A little but luckily the Masked Beaver scraped it off."

Henry Wood wants us to remind you about Olympic Night tomorrow night at Proctor. "Remind them," Henry pleaded. For any of you who have never squashed before, you can learn at the novice tournament today.

If any of you guys are interested in buying new equipment for the upcoming hockey season, we would recommend Brown's Sporting Goods on Yonge Street just above College. They offer discounts of one-third on all sports equipment to college students. Free student discount cards are available from the equipment room in Proctor or in the PRO TEM office.

"The subject who is truly loyal to the Chief Magistrate will advise and submit to arbitrary measures." - Spiro Agnew.



Tom Wilkinson....is winning the only thing?

women last year who didn't participate in as much as one intramural activity. It's not that these people don't like sports or don't have the ability to participate on an intramural level—they were turned off to sports long ago.

Turned Off

In high school you get two physical periods a week. If you're lucky, you might have a few minutes left after all those pushups to do a couple of baskets. If you're one of the elite dozen on the basketball team, then the gym is yours every night of the week. But if you're just one of the crowd, then the gym is yours only for that short hour each week. The average high school student, unless he is a 'superjock', is cut off almost completely from athletics.

It's not surprising then, that col-

lege students are slow to take advantage of the opportunities which the average college offers them for athletics; even here at York the winning attitude lives. Coach Bill Purcell of the hockey Yeomen distributed a letter this fall which bluntly told players not to bother to come for tryouts unless they had Junior B experience or higher. Purcell is building a juggernaut, and giving a paying student an equal opportunity just doesn't fit into his timetable.

Recently an official of the National Collegiate Athletic Association pointed out that less than two hundred rookies make the NFL-AFL out of tens of thousands playing ball every year. Perhaps, he said, it's time to re-evaluate the football factory concept and start thinking about the student body. Perhaps it's time Canada did the same.

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