

Action corps cares

By STEVE BELDING

Perhaps the most important benefit of involvement with Action Corps is the development of understanding of some of the more complex problems of modern Society in New Brunswick. Exactly what is being accomplished by the group is unclear but it is deemed generally as a valuable experience for those who are into it.

Just what Action Corps is, cannot rigidly be defined. The constitution states that "the purpose of this association shall be to render social and/or educational services to the community at large. The nature of these services will be determined each year by the need of any part of the community."

Research in the community is done to determine where needs exist that could use student potential. Projects are then developed out of consultation with the people concerned and the volunteers from Action Corps.

Kingsclear is the site of two projects in action at the moment: one for school children grades 1-9 of the Indian Reserve, the other at NBCR (New Brunswick Central Reformatory.)

Briefly concerning the former, Action Corps sends out groups to houses on the reserve Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings weekly. The prime purpose is to aid selected children with their homework. Beyond this, the Corps members attempt to assist these young people in overcoming other problems which their ethnic minority group engage in our society.

Sources reply that these children seem to be adjusting better and that "it appears that they are doing better in schools."

However, there is no valid means of evaluating the success of Action Corps. Perhaps these children would have done better anyway or indeed are they (Action Corps) conflicting with their daily teacher's methods; are such questions that Action Corps members seem to be asking themselves.

At NBCR, the program is also social-educational in nature. In the past Action Corps groups dealt mainly with tutoring (correspondence courses, etc) the people at Kingsclear. This year the program has taken on a new dimension. Corps members involved make group presentations or discussions of relevant topics of today's world (Tues.-Thurs. nites weekly). The purpose of this, one group member explained, is to help these people adopt a different view of society and unentrench them from their pasts. The group member also explained that it seemed futile at times because Corps members don't really have time to know and reach these people to really inspire them.

However Corps members involved felt the effort is worthwhile for them because they really gained insight into these people: what they are like, their problems etc. As one said "At times it's hard to tell who is getting more out of it—them or us. We've learned how to stay loose with the guys there and in the meantime discovered "they" are not different from us. We've all got problems."

Action Corps is engaged in other projects: one at the County Jail. Others in the making are at the Oromocto Reserve and Marysville Public School. Also Corps members may have an opportunity to be involved in the Elm City Foundation's plan for a halfway house for alcoholics. The

structure of the groups which the association prescribes for projects varies with each.

Autonomy of members is stressed within Action Corps. However the executive is comprised of a co-ordinator: Peter Bauma, from UNB, a secretary:

Beth McLaughlin from STU, and a treasurer: Karen Menard from UNB.

The association, is financed by campus SRC and grants or donations from public or private sources. Over 100 people have signed up for Action

Corps, with 80 being active at the present time.

Membership is open to all students from Teacher's College, UNB, STU, members of their faculties, staffs, and alumni, as well as interested members of the community at large. Action Corps' office is located in room 38 of the SUB.



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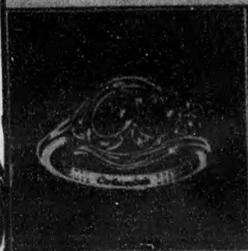
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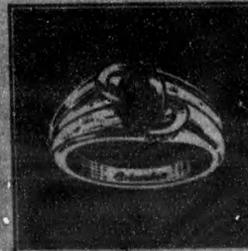
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Housing upswing

By MYRNA RUEST

The last word from the New Brunswick Housing Corporation was that no plans are being made by them for student housing. The reasons given were that; student housing is subsidized by the Federal Government's responsibility; and the NBHC obtains their money from the CMHC just as the Co-op does.

The September figures released show the most significant increase in housing starts in the Maritimes to be in NB during the first eight months of 1971 over 1970.

In the Maritimes a total of 881 dwelling units were started in September and it appears that none of these were in the form of student housing.

Scholarships

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of financial assistance from the university. Wallace continued to say that athletes play a major role in the university life of practically all students at UNB; otherwise, we would not be spending one-quarter million dollars on athletics. He concluded saying that, if we are to participate in collegiate athletics we must be competitive; that is, unless we desire to be the Mount A University

of the 1960's in the 1970's.

It should not be forgotten that UNB has had successful varsity sports without the need of athletic scholarships or financial assistance to the student athlete, but without a doubt, the future question remains, can UNB continue to compete against 'paid' athletes in varsity sports? Write the Bruns and air your opinion.