

The inspiration for the show's title

Photo by Mark Simpkins



# **Atlantic First**

by ELLEN REYNOLDS

The Atlantic regions' first gallery to show photography, exclusively, is gearing up or its first big show this spring. "Does Justice Have a Colour?", is the working title of the show put on by the Nova Scotia Photo Co-op on the theme of prejudice.

David Middleton, one of the organizers, says that "there has been a fair amount of response but not many real submissions yet', and for that reason the deadline for submissions has been extended tentatively to the third week in May. The theme of the show is open to interpretation. "In fact", says David, "we want the show to be as interpretive as possible!" Notices have been sent out across the region and so far submissions have been on the subject of prejudice towards the

physically handicapped, a panoramic view of Africville and a series of photos based on a racist urban myth.

"One of the scary things," says David "was one submission was racist." A few guidelines, set by the judges of the show, wili allow them to refuse any submissions they deem racist or offensive. A cross-section of artists and instructors will judge submissions, each with his/her own particular slant, some will stress political or technical merit and others purely the aesthetics of the photography. Both in submissions and judging, the aim is diversity.

Preparations of the gallery and studio at the photo co-op's relatively new location on Gottingen St. (above Buckley's Music) are actively under way. Co-op members are enthusiastic about their new, larger home and are doing renovations to provide some "light tight" working space for developing and other studio work. Eye Level gallery, in the same building, offered the space to the co-op to sublet, and being on Gottingen St. is providing them with a new perspective on the city. "Things are happening here," says David. Another member of the co-op, Jan Meyerowitz, says "There's a wider range of people. A grassroots movement is happening in the north end."

Robert Bean, from the Eye Level gallery, suggested the co-op become involved in a show they are presenting in April about the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa which sparked the idea of the "Does Justice Have a Colour?" show. Originally, the two shows were to be at approximately the same time but since then the co-op's show has been postponed until sometime in

Jan says, "Now the people will see the Eye Level show and become inspired to make submissions to ours.



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