

*Mr. S.* Who sparked all this? how did it come about that suddenly you're going to have a Winter Carnival?

*Answer:* It came about by Mr. Ron Brothers, Supervisor for the Recreation Department, and the mothers and teens, to do something. The Recreation Department has a Carnival, with costumes, judging, in their different drop-in centres about the City. But this one is going to take in the "drop-in" and the Valley residents, so they're going to have a parade.

*Mr. S.* In other words, it's more than for the kids, more than for the teenagers—you get the mothers and the dads, the dogs and the cats, everyone.

*Answer:* Right! Everyone can become involved—quite a few people are involved in it right now.

*Miss Gale:* About how many are involved, Mary?

*Answer:* Twenty or so—in the planning—There are more than that involved in the whole plan. We need all the people we can get. We are hoping they will do some decorating on their own apartments, outside their windows. Floats have been donated, and are being decorated by the teenagers. We have fire trucks, the police department have two cars in. We have, we hope, the Sea Cadet Band, and the Majorettes, the Scouts and Guides, and all the children are going to march in costume, and their costumes will be judged, according to age groups, at the end.

*Mr. S.* How many people live in the area?

*Answer:* There are 388 apartments in the Crescent Valley area, approximately 5.4 people per unit... about 1,900 people.

*Mr. S.* What, for instance, are the things that are common to you all, that seem to bother you most?

*Cathy:* Well, this is a public housing unit in Crescent Valley, and most of the houses are alike—there are two different kinds here—the apartment that I'm living in right now has hardwood floors and tile, and I have a basement with a furnace. The other type has completely tiled floors; they have a basement, but they are without a furnace. It's generally considered the lower section of town.

*Mr. S.* What do you mean by that?

*Answer:* Slums yes.

*Mr. S.* How has this been made known to you?

*Answer:* There are three different categories for public housing in Saint John. You have Crescent Valley, which is the lowest; Thornborough is next—a little higher; then the public housing down around Rockwood Court, Brunswick Drive, the new high-rise apartments.

*Mr. S.* These are all subsidized through the municipality, is that right? And you have to have a certain level of income before you qualify for residence... How does that work, can you tell me?

*Answer:* If you apply for public housing... in my own case, I applied for public housing and I didn't care where they put me, but I was on welfare at the time, so you'll find most welfare cases are channeled to Crescent Valley, away from Thornborough, or Rockwood Court or Brunswick Drive. Most of them are channeled into the Valley.

*Mr. S.* By whom? The welfare department?

*Answer:* No, the Housing Authority.

*Miss Gale:* What about the Rifle Range area next door? Is that public housing, and how does that rate with Crescent Valley?

*Mary:* That is the housing that was built for the war veterans, so they're quite a bit older than Crescent Valley, and they're set rates... one should be a war veteran to get in there.

*Mr. S.* Let's go back to the Valley arrangements. You mentioned that there are different kinds of apartments. How are these assigned to you... on the basis of the size of your family? Is there any measurement taken?

*Cathy:* I wouldn't say that. I have three children, myself, and have a three-bedroom place; but right next door there's a family with 12 children. They've got a four-bedroom

*Mr. S.* The maximum is four bedrooms... what are some of the other things? You mentioned something about the furnace arrangement or the heating arrangement. I heard that this is quite a sore point amongst some of the residents.

*Answer:* It is. They are obsolete. They are coal and wood.

*Mr. S.* The kitchen stove is coal and wood?

*Answer:* The furnace is coal and wood. In your kitchen you use whatever you have.

*Mr. S.* The furnace is a central furnace?

*Answer:* No. Each apartment has its own furnace, and you have to supply the coal or wood.