COMMUNITY ENGINEERING

A city or town is not simply a geographical location, a group of houses or a number of human beings. It *has* a geographical location; it *contains* a number of houses, and *is inhabited* by a number of individuals. Wherever a number of human beings settle, common needs develop. Soon an organization to take care of these common needs begins to take form. These common needs and the organizations effected to take care of these needs are the distinguishing marks of a community.

We have in Canada three ranks of community—the national community, the provincial communities, and the local communities. Each of these exists to satisfy some group of needs. The problems which arise in the attempt to satisfy these needs are problems of

> organization,
> procedure, and
> personnel.

In planning for any community, irrespective of its area, population, or age, the fundamental questions the citizen should ask himself are:—

1: What human needs should this community attempt to satisfy?
2: Is the community meeting these needs satisfactorily?
3: If not, what are the defects of organization, procedure and personnel which interfere with the highest possible community success?

In the long run no community gets better public service than it works for and pays for; in other words, than it deserves. A permanent improvement in government requires, therefore, a permanent improvement of the

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