

jects as birth control, family care, family budgeting or whatever courses the people want or need. The basis behind such a program is that if a person is learning and communicating with others the feeling of pessimism will soon disappear. At the same time a day nursing centre could be in operation to alleviate mothers of their burden with pre-school children. To gain full use of the community centre concept, a cooperative store could be established for use by low-income families who would become members of the co-op and thereby entitled to reduced costs on items sold.

The purposes of such a centre are fairly obvious. First of all the low-income group is becoming organized in a self-help type group which would create a much-needed voice for them in community affairs. Also a community centre would establish a community entity or feeling to combat the feelings of neglect and alienation these people often encounter. Finally the centre, nursery and co-op store could be employing people of this class, thus creating more chances for success which at present are obviously lacking. Certainly the idea could be modified to meet the needs of the particular group, yet the community centre concept in itself is an excellent approach to the urban problem.

Another type of program now offered which could be expanded upon is the use of night schools and Technical schools. This program is excellent and should be extended to offer chances for greater and higher mobility of such persons so they can become fully competitive in our society. At present an individual who is lacking a basic education (i.e. grade school) or has no specific trade will be subsidized by the Federal government to enable him to go to Technical school. Yet another use is lacking. Both Technical school and night school courses should be offered to adults in fields of economics, legal rights of an individual, etc. with the intent to educate the person on our society and also stimulate interest in education beyond the point of employment. This will help to create a better learning atmosphere in the home of the low-income families which as I have already stated is sadly lacking at present.

In the urban society the poor are often suffering from a lack of recreation as well as a lack of education. As I have said before, this is very costly to society. If more resources were channelled towards recreation programs for these children, delinquency now and crime in later life could be curbed with

many, thus saving what resources would have been spent to detain criminals. There are three types of programs which I shall discuss. Although none are new concepts, they could be more fully utilized.

The first idea is one which recently has been attempted in Saint John. It is designed for the early teens at a time when frustration in school is at its peak. The first is the idea of drop-in centres where the centre is run by the youth and the programs are also planned by youth for their own particular needs and wishes. They require minimal cost in that the only thing they actually require is a place to drop into.

This program could be instituted into the community centre program very easily and provides youth of this age with a useful outlet for his energies.

Another program designed more for the younger children is the idea of camping, both day camping and resident camping. Although programs of this sort are being carried out at present their scope is quite small. For instance last year was the first year a resident camp was offered completely free of charge specifically to children between the ages of 9 and 12 years whose low-income background would otherwise have prevented them from attending. It involved about 100 young boys. Much more of this is needed. It offers an ideal chance for a poor child to get away from the crowded urban setting, to enjoy optimum chances for not only recreation, but also to break down the feeling of frustration and restlessness these children often have in the city. If enough resources were offered every child could have a chance to attend camp for a few weeks while for the rest of the summer they could attend day camps and other recreation programs as are carried on in any urban area. Yet the key to the success of such programs is that enough qualified staff with enough adequate resources to work with are maintained for them.

My final idea is a program designed for the older youth, some of whom may be working, others who are just separated from their families. The idea comes from the universities across the nation where the trend in living accommodations is towards co-op housing. Co-op housing offers cheaper accommodations than residence housing because the bulk of the work is done by the residents. At the same time the residents are providing a social function for themselves by the mere fact that there are a number of them living and work-