

# Housing prices rise 'due to speculation'

LONDON, Ont. (CUP) — Outrageous prices for houses are charged in areas where the market is monopolized by large land owners and developers, a consumer activist told University of Western Ontario students recently.

James Lorimer said the price for the same accommodation varies according to the city and depends on whether the area is under the control of large realty corporations or small speculators.

The only reason the large outfits get away with it is by keeping consumers in the dark, said the graduate of the London school of economics and author of "A Citizen's Guide to City Politics".

Backing his argument with figures from the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and interviews with contractors, Lorimer said a three-bedroom bungalow in suburban Toronto costs \$64,000 and only 35,000 in Montreal.

This is due to the competition between a high number of small land speculators which keep lot prices down in the Montreal area, he said.

But in areas such as Toronto and London, the presence of a few major developers cripples competi-

tion and allows the developers to reap windfall profits, according to Lorimer.

This allows the corporations to charge \$64,000 for a house that cost \$32,000 to build on a lot that cost only \$12,000 to develop and such situations allowed developers to reap profits up 44 per cent in 1975, he said.

But the developers make even greater annual gains by paying an average of only 13 per cent in income tax under deferred tax laws, Lorimer said.

Contacted after Lorimer's talk, a spokesperson for the local Sifton Developments said, "London developers are being tarred with the same brushes as Toronto developers."

Warren Wolfenden said the lot price for a \$57,000 home in London was \$16,500 rather than the \$23,000 figure Lorimer claimed, but did not state the costs of building the house.

Don Matthews of Matthews Developments denied his firm made much in deferred taxes but refused to divulge any financial figures.

# 'Multinationals harm Canada'

WINNIPEG (CUP) — Unemployment and rising prices in Canada are linked to American domination of the country's industry and only nationalization will solve the problem, an economics professor told an audience at the University of Manitoba recently.

Addressing a forum on American economic domination Nov. 25, Paul Phillips said foreign-owned multinational corporations in Canada take economic control out of Canadian hands.

Canadian subsidiaries of U.S. owned industries are invariably located close to the parent plant

and result in high degrees of industrial concentration, according to Phillips.

In noting that Ontario has the highest degree of industrial concentration with 60 to 70 per cent of its shipments foreign-controlled, Phillips said, "You can't get them to move since they serve the same interests."

"In the Atlantic provinces, U.S. exports represent 19.2 per cent of the total manufacturing shipments; in Quebec this represents 32 per

cent, in Ontario 52 per cent, the prairie provinces 52 per cent, in B.C. and the Northwest Territories 33 and one-third per cent," he said.

"Essentially, Canadians do not control their own economy. What we have here is a foreign multinational economy which is supported by the American political machine."

He said the administration of former U.S. president John Kennedy financially backed the liberal party in order to oust former Prime Minister John Diefenbaker

# Acting was professional

by Denise Currie

**Oedipus the King** is a play originally written by Sophocles in 450 BC. We are more familiar perhaps with Freud's application of it in terms of the Oedipus complex. The play has been recently given new light by a young and vigorating group of actors known as the Young Vic Company, touring from Great Britain and who performed this traditional piece of work with style and expertise last week at the Rebecca Cohn.

The theme is that of a young man, King Oedipus (Barry Rutter) who finds he has been raised by strangers. In the course of events he unknowingly kills his real father and marries his real mother (Judy Wilson). Rutter does an excellent job of portraying the anxiety felt when confronted with such a truth. His horror and terror are truly felt in a dramatic scene where he faces the audience after gashing out his eyes in provoked fury and cries in dismay at his misfortune.

The play is carried well by David Henry playing Oedipus's best friend Creon, and a cast of eight members playing the citizens of Oedipus's town. It is this group of actors that give excellent minor effects vocally and show definite direction on stage keeping the play tight and moving smoothly.

This company is professional and succeeds in presenting a production that is simple with no elaborate scenery or costumes. The play itself was clear and understanding and for that reason opened doors to more conventional theatre goers, by supplying a script that is not extremely heavy in terms of content and speech.

The company's aim is to provide good theatre at prices within the reach of all young people. There is no doubt that this group has provided good theatre but unfortunately prices like \$4.50 and \$5.50 for students tend to eliminate a

young audience. Consequently the majority of people attending were older and probably regular theatre goers. Hopefully, theatre prices will eventually reduce and lead more people away from screen movies and into a world of live professional theatre such as Young Vic.



# Violinist here

Demetra Angelopolous, the youngest musician ever accepted by the New Brunswick Youth Orchestra, performs the challenging **A major Violin Concerto** by Mozart when Klaro Mizerit brings the ASO's ever-popular Young Artists Series, December 20-21 in Halifax.

At 17, Demetra is already a seasoned touring musician, having travelled with the NBYO to the United Kingdom International Festival of Youth Orchestras and, more recently, to Banff for the Canadian Festival. Her program includes Ravel, "Ma Mere L'Oye" Suite.

# Winner of nurses' \$1000

The draw for the lottery by the Dalhousie Nursing Society was held at 1:30 p.m. on November 26 in the main lobby of the Dalhousie S.U.B. The winner of the trip for two or the one thousand dollars is Jeff Velensky. Jeff is a student at Dal who is presently living at Studley. He has chosen as his prize the one thousand dollars. The

proceeds from this lottery will send some nursing students to the Canadian University Nursing Students Association's Conference to be held in Calgary in February. The students of Dalhousie Nursing Society wish to thank all of those who bought tickets and extend their congratulations to Jeff.

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