

Poverty Organization

has been able to develop its ac-
vider area.

work for the Distribution and
ter was done over the winter of 84.
uced meetings to once every two
Women's Center folded and FAPO
space at 629 King Street.

developed friendly relations with
who helped with a big Christmas
ids and their parents and they lent
their facility on a number of occa-

st year FAPO received most of its
donations, from fund raising and
ers. FAPO held its first annual
ting in May of 1984. The member-
another executive and laid plans
ng year. FAPO received money from
ces for the Distribution Center, and
Oxfam for the Resource Center. In
sent three members to the Federa-
our convention in Moncton. The
me back with the donation jar full
convention participants with the on-
litical literature given out.

***the ground work for the
builion and resource center
done over the winter of '84.
PO took over the space at
King Street..."***

g and summer of 1984 saw a number
tions carried out by the Saint John
cton groups. The Head office of the
was occupied by Anti-Poverty
protesting the continued policies of
t cutbacks; submission of a detailed
st restraint policies; and developed a
t against the second restraint budget
servative government.

the latter days of summer, FAPO
contacts on a wider more Maritime
mbers were invited to join the
organization called Gatt-Fly, and the
nated social policy research commit-
United Church. Nationally, FAPO joi-
ional Anti-Poverty Organization as an
oup. The Organization was invited to
money from an inter-church funding
lled PLURA, which we did, holding a
e in late summer at St. Thomas

***uring the latter days of sum-
F.A.P.O. developed con-
s on a wider, more maritime
s. Members were invited to
'Gatt-fly'..."***

y. FAPO's connections with the Chur-
h community groups, with Labour, and
Voluntary sector are of a fraternal
the fight against poverty. FAPO is the
anization that wants to be a mass

organization of poor working-class people.
FAPO will not willingly be owned or controlled
by any other organization.

During the fall of 84 FAPO held a number of
literature tables in the Malls and at the univer-
sities. One of the hardest organizational tasks is
to do enough to keep new people interested.
The development of the Distribution and
Resource Center helped somewhat with this; but
disagreements over policies money and egos
began to take its toll. FAPO was forced inwards
as its young democratic structure tried to sort
out the organizational difficulties. In February
of 1985, FAPO held an internal seminar over a
two day period with two outside moderators
from the Cooper Institute in P.E.I. The objective
of the meeting was to pinpoint both the failures
and accomplishments of FAPO up to this date.
The members decided to develop a more Collec-
tivist organizational structure as opposed to the
traditional business type.

By the end of May 1985, FAPO held its second
annual general meeting. The executive was ex-
panded to four, a new constitution was formed
to reflect the current state of development and a
membership form was created to define
membership. The form contains the definition
and purpose of the organization at this par-
ticular time. At present FAPO is involved in ex-
panding the Distribution Center over four coun-
ties; in organizing with the Provincial Alliance
and other Maritime groups; in developing our
membership base and the issues concerning
them and to help other groups to understand
the scope of the poverty situation, and the
policies that produce and maintain it. Mass
poverty seems to be the inevitable and fun-
damental consequence of the policies of this

***"On October 16, F.A.P.O. is
sponsoring a conference on the
topic 'the Politics of Food' at
the Monsignor Boyd Center. As
well, they will be holding
literature tables periodically..."***

economic system. FAPO would like to en-
courage the spirit of mutual-aid and the develop-
ment of a collective self-reliance on the part of
working people. This social strength is
necessary to face the growing poverty situation.

FAPO will be holding literature tables
periodically again this year. On October 16
FAPO is sponsoring a conference on the topic
"The Politics of Food" at the Monsignor Boyd
Family Center; and a conference during the
winter hosted by Gatt-Fly at Memoramcook on
"How Government maintains the Status-Quo".
FAPO has recently given birth to a number of
groups; 'Handi-Aid' is a group of handicapped
people who intend to be vocal about the situa-
tion; 'Overview' is a small group of ex-
psychiatric patients; and the Capital Region
Tenants Association is an emerging group in
response to the housing situation.

The present Aims and objectives of the
organization as taken from the membership
form and the constitution are:

1. The organization of the poor and the
marginalized in order to educate and protect
themselves against any form of prejudice and
oppression.

2. The dissemination of information and
analysis to all sectors of society about poverty
and conditions facing the poor and the
marginalized.

3. To offer assistance and suport to those in
economic or social need.

4. To conduct educational and motivational pro-
grams internally for the benefit of the member-
ship.

5. To contact and work with like-minded
organizations to advance the interest of the
poor and the marginalized in our society.

Quotations on the subject:

***"There is no scandal like rags,
nor any crime so shameful as
poverty."***

-George Farquhar

***"If a free society cannot help
the many who are poor, it can-
not save the few who are rich."***

-John F. Kennedy

***"Short of genius, a rich man
cannot imagine poverty."***

Charles Peguy

***"The Fredericton Anti-Poverty Organization
(FAPO) is a voluntary, non-profit, democratic
peoples organization unaffiliated with any
political party. FAPO is dedicated to the con-
cept of social and economic equality, the
destruction of planned poverty and the develop-
ment of social and economic self reliance.
FAPO is dedicated to help organize the poor and
all other progressive forces towards an
economic and political system, that can provide
through the democratic participation and con-
trol by its people, the hope, dignity and freedom
from oppression, that is most necessary for the
further development of New Brunswick and
Canada."***