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A view from the top of the bottom of the Osgoode pile striving to reach the top of the pile

# Poor claim United Appeal board is not representive of Toronto

By DAVID LAMPERT
The Just Society, "an organization for the poor, by the poor", is denouncing the United Appeal.

At a press conference Tuesday the organization, which borrowed its name from prime minister Pierre Trudeau's election-winning slogan, complained that only four of the 64 directors on the com-

Objecting that this group was not representative of the broad spectrum of society in Toronto, the organization issued a leaflet

munity charity's board were community people.

Forty of the directors are business executives and the other 20 are trade union executives, civil servants, politicians and professionals.

Saying: "The United Appeal is oriented towards making the campaign successful. Success is often viewed in terms of how it has pleased its corporate giver and its board of directors.

"The interests and views of other community oriented towards making the campaign successful. Success is often viewed in terms of how it has pleased its corporate giver and its board of directors.

"The interests and views of other segments of the community have been largely ignored." Another accusation brought against the appeal was that it is

trying to suppress representation of the poor on boards which have decision-making power.

"Not only does it (the appeal) not

appear to want its constituent agencies to allow poor people to be freely and democratically involved, but it threatens to destroy them by 'reviews' and ultimate withdrawal of funds if they attempt to do so," the leaflet says they are the says in the leaflet says they are the are they are they are they are they are they are the are they are the are they are they are they are they are they are they are the are they are the are they are they are they are they are the are they are the are they are they are they are they are the are

withdrawal of funds if they attempt to do so," the leaflet says.

The United Appeal has decided to review the right of the Ontario Welfare Council, which serves as an information and coordination center and also recommends center and also recommends legislation to the government, to continued support from the fund. The Just Society claims this action has been taken because the

United Appeal resents the democratization of the board of the democratization of the board of the OWC. Two young people and two welfare recipients were elected to the board of directors of the OWC in May. A letter from the United Appeal to the OWC said that the action regarding the future of support for the OWC was delayed because of this "difficult meeting."

The Just Society was formed a few months ago by poor people, many of them on welfare, to see what they could do to improve their situation.

what they could do to improve their situation.

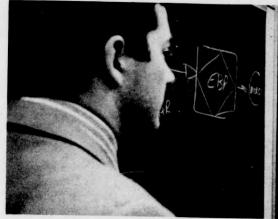
By its own estimate the society now claims 450-500 full members and 70-80 associate members. Most of the associate members are professional social workers teachers or university students. Associate members cannot vote but are influential in decision-making in the society, and as a group may take action on its own. The Just Society was instrumental in organizing the tenants' march on Queen's Park earlier this month.

earlier this month.

Now most of its activities are confined to publicizing the movement and helping inform individual welfare recipients of their rights. Most of the publicizing is done through distribution of leaflets at welfare and Workmen's Compensation offices.

What The Just Society wants now is a public accounting from the

is a public accounting from the United Appeal on the whole Ontario Welfare Council matter. What it ultimately wants is far greater participation of welfare recipients and social workers in decision-making.





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