## **Special Senate Committee**

with transportation to and from work. There is, however, often a conflict between friendliness and rivalry, particularly in securing assistance from welfare authorities.

Leisure-time activities consist largely of watching television, listening to radio, and playing bingo. There are few organized recreational activities for children. Most of the young people go outside the immediate area for their recreation. They do not participate, ordinarily, in the organized sports of the town proper (for example, in the baseball league, or in swimming at the public beach), for these activities are too far away from Fringeville. Children's recreational activities are unorganized, for the most part, and are related to outdoor activities such as skating and coasting in the winter; and berry picking, swimming, and camping in the summer.

## (b) Education, employment, income and debt Education

In any study of poverty culture, education is recognized as a fundamental factor. Seventy-four per cent of the adults in Fringeville have had five years of schooling or less and are functionally illiterate. Only five per cent have had more than Grade VIII.

A lack of basic education on the part of the parents, plus a lack of interest in their children's education, makes it extremely difficult for Fringeville children to profit from the educational facilities now available to them. Most of the parents would like their children to find jobs better than those that they have themselves and, for this reason, want their children educated. For girls, the preferred occupations are nursing, teaching, and office work; for boys, the

70.

71.

69.

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