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Brief to the Human Resources Development Authority

A DREAM OF THINGS THAT NEVER WERE

A Proposal For the Single,
Unemployed Man in Edmonton

Edmonton Social Planning Council
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Edmonton, Alberta

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COMMITTEE ON THE SINGLE UNEMPLOYED MAN IN EDMONTON

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In a world that is fast becoming accustomed to daily crises, one of the most encouraging factors on the North American continent in recent years has been the growth of the concept of the development of human resources as a first priority of government. For, given a sincere commitment to this concept at the governmental level it is possible for all of us, in the words of the late Senator Kennedy, to "dream of things that never were and say 'why not?'".

Nowhere is the "dream of things that never were" more necessary than among those of us who work with the single, unemployed man in the downtown areas of the large cities of this continent. For this single, unemployed man has always been the Lazarus who gets the bits and crumbs that fall from the table of the rich. Even in our affluent society of today, the image remains true. Despite a growing research, precious little has been done anywhere to change the basic situation for these men who, in large cities throughout the continent, "live in cheap rooming houses, cubicle rooms in dilapidated hotels, or even lofts and converted garages, who survive from day to day on paltry incomes and sandwich handouts from missions..."¹

EDMONTON - A PLACE TO START

The City of Edmonton is an excellent location to begin working for "things that never were" for the single unemployed man. For a

1. Social Planning Council of Calgary, Proposal for Preventive and Rehabilitative Services for Calgary's Family-Less Man (Nov., 1966), p.1.

combination of reasons, it is in a position to become a beacon of light for other cities across the land. Edmonton already has self-help organizations among the men in the City Centre Co-operative Club, which has had some five hundred members since its inception in February, 1965, and in the Community Upgrading and Rehabilitation Edmonton Society (CURES) which was founded last winter. Edmonton possesses a number of dedicated individuals, representing a variety of agencies, who are working together ever more closely toward the common goal of obtaining a fuller human life for the men they serve. Edmonton, primarily through its Provincial Hostel and its home for the disabled at Gunn, Alta., along with the co-operation of other agencies, has been providing for the basic material needs of the men much better than the average city has. So much so that in the words of T. J. Garvin, "Edmonton is referred to as a 'Haven' for men and for one specific reason; food, shelter, and clothing can be obtained relatively easily for lengthy periods of time".² Finally, the commitment of the Provincial Government to the development of human resources, through its Human Resources Development Authority, makes possible the pursuit of goals for the human development of the single, unemployed man which were heretofore beyond reach.

CLASSIFICATION CENTRE

Key to further work toward the human development of the single, unemployed man in Edmonton is the establishment of a Classification Centre. This suggestion was first voiced by a group of the men themselves - the Community Upgrading and Rehabilitation Edmonton Society - in

2. T. J. Garvin, Urban Community Development - Edmonton (July, 1968), p.4.

a creative paper which was presented to a meeting of government officials and agency representatives last spring (see Appendix A).

The logical location of such a centre is at the Provincial Hostel since it is at the Hostel that the single, unemployed man registers in order to obtain food and lodging. It is clear that the operation of a Classification Centre is a function beyond the present capacity of the Provincial Hostel personnel and that as an additional function it requires additional staff and budgeting.

One of the purposes of the classification would be to determine the degree of employability of the men. Age, health, education and work experience would be the primary determinants. For example, a man of thirty in good physical and mental health with a secondary education and good work experience would be employable. A man of fifty in good physical and mental health with a secondary education and good work experience would also be employable but to a lesser degree.

A purpose of no less importance for the Classification Centre would be to determine the men who have problems, so that each can be dealt with personally according to the nature of his problem, and proper referrals made. The Calgary report of 1966 has the following to say about problem men: "Physically, mentally or emotionally disabled or ill men are judged to comprise about one-fifth of the family-less men in the downtown area. These include men of all age levels who are handicapped, by physical or mental disability, alcoholism or other condition, and unable to handle a job or to relate to any family some may even have had. It is this group - a small number indeed in terms of other downtown family-less men - who

give some validity to the term 'skid row' to designate the southern portion of Churchill Park."³

Father Mark Barrier, a Catholic priest who has been working among problem men in the Boyle Street area over the past year, describes these men as follows: "Men from various origins, backgrounds, ages, suffering from all kinds of physical and mental disorders happen to find themselves on skid row without having a clear idea of why or how they even got there. What are they? Human refuse of the established society thrown away on its dumping ground? What are they supposed to become? Who cares?" Then, after indicating the inadequacy of a program that stops at food and shelter, he asks, "Can we dare more? Should we dare more and restore them to their human privileges and dignity? The first step toward this aim would seem to be to put some order in that situation by sorting out individuals and organizing them into groups according to age, abilities, disabilities, so that proper care may be given to each personality." (See Appendix B).

SEPARATE HOUSING FOR YOUNGER MEN

At the time the Classification Centre is established arrangements should be made for the separate housing of young men twenty-five and under. There has been an increasing number of single, unemployed young men in Edmonton over the past year, and their human development requires that they be lodged separately from the older men and that a special social worker be assigned to assist them in their needs. A large number of these young men, for example, are school drop-outs who would be eligible for educational up-grading or job training programs, and the social worker

could help them get into a Program without long and discouraging delays. The separate housing for these young men should be in lodgings outside the Boyle Street area.

NECESSITY OF ADDITIONAL WORK

In addition to the Classification Centre, the human development of the single, unemployed men in Edmonton requires that additional jobs be found that they can do or for which they can be trained. There is indisputable evidence that the vast majority of the men are working at least a portion of the year. At Marian Centre, for example, the number of men served during the lowest employment period is more than triple the number of men served during the period of highest employment. During periods of high employment a large percentage of the men served are either pensioners or in the "problem man" category.

THE RIGHT TO WORK

The "right to work" has been very much in social vocabulary since the early Roosevelt years in the 1930's. An impetus toward guaranteeing this right for Americans was given by President Johnson's Message to Congress last winter entitled, To Earn A Living: The Right of Every American. In this message, the President pointed out that "there are many Americans for whom the right has never been real", and later adds:

"Their idleness is a tragic waste both of the human spirit and of the economic resources of a great nation.

"It is a waste that an enlightened Nation should not tolerate."

For the human development of the single, unemployed men no single item is more important than making real his right to work. Large numbers of these men are general labourers for whom there is a decreasing amount

of work in our society. Large numbers are in the age bracket forty-five and over for whom there is especial difficulty in obtaining employment.

ECONOMIC ADVANTAGES

It is easy to find statistics which testify to the economic advantages of specialized services assisting hardcore unemployed find work. One of the programs of Detroit's Human Resources Development Committee is the Specialized Training and Employment Placement Services (STEPS). Covering a relatively brief period of operation STEPS reports that "the 992 persons who have received employment will earn approximately \$1,877,699 and pay in Federal, State, and Local taxes some \$469,424. These results have been achieved at a total program cost to date of \$234,764. The cost per person employed has been \$237."⁴

Locally, The Edmonto Day Centre offered the following statistics regarding 113 men placed in significant jobs during the period of a year:

" 34 men employed one full year (estimated average annual income \$2,600)	\$ 88,400.
" 79 men employed average of three months (estimated as above)	<u>\$ 51,350.</u>
"113 Total employed.....Total estimated income	\$139,750. " ⁵

The savings to the Provincial Department of Public Welfare was also estimated:

"Estimate: (based on probability that each of the 113 men would spend an average of 60 days per man per year at the Single Men's Hostel at a daily cost of \$2.00) \$ 13,560."⁶

4. The mayor's Committee for Human Resources Development. Human Resources Development Program Summaries (Detroit, June, 1967), p.17.
5. The Edmonton Day Centre Annual Report, 24th April, 1967 (Executive Director's Report, p.3).
6. Ibid.

OPENING UP EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Human Resources Development Authority of Alberta should begin now to search out more employment opportunities for the single, unemployed men who register at the hostel. Profiting by the example of our neighbor to the south, it should utilize press, radio and TV in order to publicize our civic responsibility to assist the hardcore unemployed find work. Speeches should be given at Service Club luncheons and individual firms who are large employers in the area should be personally contacted. Both the Provincial and City Governments should prove the sincerity of their commitment to human resources development by themselves participating generously in a program of opening up work to the unemployed with limited skills. Job pledges should be obtained, and the matching of the job with the man who can perform it should be done at the Classification Centre.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Our specific recommendations to the Human Resources Development Authority are:

1. Begin a dialogue and negotiations with the Provincial Department of Public Welfare to accomplish the following:
 - a) Establishment of a Classification Centre at Provincial Hostel by Jan. 1, 1969.
 - b) Provision of separate shelter for young men 25 years and under outside the Boyle Street area by Jan. 1, 1969, and assignment of a social worker for the special needs of these young men.

- c) An immediate withdrawal of the recently established seven day limit on the single unemployed man's stay at the Provincial Hostel, and an agreement that any future blanket limitations on a man's stay at the Hostel be only in relation to a man's unwillingness to co-operate with the program of the Classification Centre to be established in January, 1969.
2. Begin immediately to seek out additional employment opportunities for the single, unemployed men who register at the Hostel so that job pledges will already be available at the opening of the Classification Centre on Jan. 1, 1969.

RESEARCH

The Classification Centre itself should provide an excellent starting point and stimulus for further research on the single, unemployed man in Edmonton. Certain possible areas of research suggest themselves immediately:

1. Research on the cost to the Provincial government of keeping a single, unemployed man on welfare as compared to the cost of getting him off welfare by providing him with a job.
2. Research on the numbers of problem men assisted through referrals of the Classification Centre and the kinds of help received.
3. Research on those single, unemployed men in the "problem man" category who never reach the Classification Centre.

FURTHER WORK

The recommendations we offer to the Human Resources Development Authority are no panacea. There is a need for many more dedicated people working on a personal basis among problem men. There is a need for strengthening bonds of community among the single, unemployed men. There is a need of their greater participation in the political process. As T. J. Garvin says, speaking of the poor generally, "it is almost a sin to be poor. There is at the moment an almost complete lack of communication with the people at the bottom of the socio-economic scale, who have needs, and

those who are at the policy making level and are in fact setting policies to fulfill needs. The policy maker and many people providing services have little or no exposure to the actual experiences of the poor. From this realization that the 'little' people are non-participants in our society we can justly question various aspects of our political structures which, if the democratic process is to be operative, should encourage genuine participation."⁷

There is no question, however, but that an acceptance of our recommendations by the Human Resources Development Authority would be a significant step in the direction of the human development of the single, unemployed man. In addition to the positive benefits pointed out in this brief, the support and concern indicated by the carrying out of the recommendations would be a great encouragement both to the single, unemployed man and to those of us who work with him for his fuller human development.

CONCLUSION

Let there be no mistake about the importance of undertaking serious programs on behalf of the single, unemployed man. If ever there is to be a "just society" in Canada, it will only come about if all elements of Canadian society are given the opportunity for human development. It is clear that no such opportunity is offered to the single unemployed man in the downtown areas of our large cities. Few groups have been subjected to more human indignities. Few groups have suffered more from the unkind generalities of the ignorant and the unfeeling. Few groups have had their arrival greeted with greater reserve and their departure with greater joy.

7. Garvin, p. 8.

So much is this so that there is no greater test for the sincerity of any governmental pronouncements on human resources development than that government's willingness to take positive, significant action to assist the single, unemployed man.

We strongly request the Human Resources Development Authority to accept the recommendations of this Brief. We strongly request also that this Authority exhibit a continuous concern with the human development of single, unemployed men. If these requests are granted, people of Edmonton, and eventually people in large cities throughout our continent, will be enabled not only to "dream of things that never were" for one of the most underprivileged groups in their midst, but also to progress steadily toward a realization of their dream.

APPENDIX A

COMMUNITY UPGRADING & REHABILITATION EDMONTON SOCIETY

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SUGGESTED REHABILITATION PROGRAMME FOR TRANSIENTS

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Transients are described as men without jobs, money or homes - men on skid-row for a complexity of reasons. All have one common motivation on entering skid-row - to seek shelter and food. Hence, their coming to hostels.

Once in the hostels, the men are trapped ... thrown into a pack without a thorough understanding of the exact nature of their problems or of their needs to get out of skid-row. It is left to the strong to overcome a great number of difficulties and to the weak to resign themselves either to a fate no less than pitiful co-existence in a fruitless transient society or to suicide.

Following is a brief outline of some of the problems transient men have encountered when wanting to get out of skid-row in Edmonton, Alberta.

LODGING: The existing facilities are the Main Provincial Hostel, Colonna Rooms, Lil Abner House, Salvation Army ... etc.

Although room accommodations can be termed satisfactory at the Main Hostel they are not so at most of the other places, i.e.

Castel Hotel: two men per bed, dirty linen and improper washing facilities ... etc.

FOOD: It was expressed that although the quality and quantity of the food served at the hostels could be much improved, the main concern was the unrealistic impractical schedule of meal hours. The breakfast served between 8:00 and 9:00 A.M. is too late for men to look for work or get to work; the evening meal served between 4:00 and 5:00 P.M. is too early for men returning from work.

CLOTHING: Although there are existing agencies providing clothing, in many instances services are inadequate and/or even discriminatory.

TRANSPORTATION: Bus tickets available in limited amounts. We, therefore, ask, is there really an effective system whereby transportation is provided for men to go look for work; in town or out of town?

JOB OPPORTUNITIES: Employers and Employment Agencies are reluctant to hire men boarding at hostels. Are the Agencies aware of the special difficulties men encounter in this respect and what can be done to provide work for those seeking employment?

JOB RE-TRAINING & UP-GRADING OF EDUCATION: Are such programmes available for men on skid-row? It appears that there are in effect only for those that are permanent residents of Alberta.

HEALTH: Lack of adequate treatment to physically or mentally ill or impaired.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES: Outside of card rooms and a limited scattering of discarded books and magazines, recreational

programs and physical conditioning facilities are not available to the men who need it most.

CHARACTER UP-GRADING: Transient men suffering from alcohol or drug addiction, those with criminal tendencies and records, the mentally and emotionally unstable are not sorted out, given treatment or directed to agencies dealing with their specific problems.

We have reviewed some of the problems now existing that can be assessed as detrimental to proper rehabilitation ... what then are the possible solutions?

RECOMMENDATIONS: Certainly it can't be in building more or better hostels, nor can it be in abolishing them altogether. The only possible answer is a positive, wide-scope rehabilitation programme geared to the individual. To realize this, means a thorough but not drastic re-aligning of existing programme offered by the Government and private Agencies.

Since the transients direct themselves, first of all to Hostels, the Department of Welfare must, therefore, bear the responsibility of initiating any such programme. They must adopt a new concept of rehabilitation including foremost Hostel operation.

HOSTELS: The hostels should act as a twofold operation:

- a) A temporary shelter for transient men up to a period of one week or ten days, with re-aligning of services (meal hours etc.)
- b) A Classification Center whereby transient men would be interviewed by professional people, classed, and directed to their respective rehabilitation programme where applicable.

It would be found that these men would fit one of the following three major classifications:

- 1) "REHABILITATIVE"
 - a) Physically
or
Mentally
IMPAIRED
 - b) Physically
&
Mentally
FIT
- 2) "NON-REHABILITATIVE"
 - a) Old Age Pensioners
 - b) Permanent Mental or Physical Disability
- 3) "UNWILLING" (Temporary non-rehabilitative)

TEMPORARY NON-REHABILITATIVE (Unwilling)

Temporary lodging and meals for a period of one week or ten days. At time of registration the man should be told of the orientation programme available to him and his willingness assessed.

NON-REHAB.

- a) Old Age Pensioners directed to Old Age Homes or any other accommodation available.

- b) Mentally Disabled or Retarded to institutions specializing in mental health.
- c) Physically Disabled cared for through existing Agencies and/or Institutions.

REHAB.

- a) Physically or Mentally Impaired (sick) cared for by Hospitals, Clinics, Nursing Homes.
- b) Semi-Physically or Mentally Fit (those released from Hospitals and Institutions) directed to half-way houses specializing in the care of their respective problems.
- c) Native transients incorporated in the suggested programme and also directed to specialized counselling facilities for Native People.
- d) Physically and Mentally Fit placed in Community Houses or independent rooms if they prefer.

COMMUNITY HOUSE

FORMATION OF THE COMMUNITY

Membership in the Community will be opened to anyone who has demonstrated an honest willingness to participate in community life and to accept personal limited responsibilities; membership is not restricted to any sect, race, creed, profession, the only requirement is a sincere desire for rehabilitation and to help others towards rehabilitation.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE TO SELECT THE MEMBERS?

The process of selecting the members for admission into the

Community House will be as outlined in our general rule, specifically through a Committee comprising of existing members in the Community House along with the professional counsellors selected for such.

This committee will ensure that the applicant is desiring to remain in the Community House for a sufficiently reasonable length of time in order that rehabilitation be effected. The Committee may deem it advantageous that the applicant should be provided with the commodity of an outside house-keeping room while still participating in the various activities of the community.

THE REHABILITATION PROGRAMME

The basis of the rehabilitation programme will be centered on the theme of family atmosphere and family unity. In other words a closely knit circle of six to eight individuals who will dedicate themselves to self-development and self-rehabilitation through learning to co-operate freely and willingly with the other individuals of the group and society at large.

The programme as such is to be an all-encompassing one, embracing all facets of the rehabilitation, including: character reform, spiritual up-grading, mental stability, physical conditioning, economic management, social responsibilities.

a) Character Reform, Spiritual Up-Grading & Mental Stability

A broad character building programme is to be instituted through personal and group research of our character defeats: talk sessions, professional counselling, personal meditation and reading, participation in other programmes with the same aim, i. e. A. A. Meetings,

Alcoholic Foundation Meetings, Retreat & Church Attendance.

b) Physical Conditioning

"Mens sana in Corpore Sano" ... A sound body for a sane mind. The Community House will initiate its own curriculum of recreational activities and physical conditioning plus taking advantage of those offered by other agencies, i.e. Y.M.C.A., Sports Clubs, (Bowling, Swimming, Curling etc.)

c) Economic Management

The members of the Community learn to properly manage their financial affairs and acceptance of responsibilities through a programme of self-support for the entire community effected either by:

- having a job outside the Community
- participating in a financial project sponsored by the community as a whole.
- or both

Regardless of where they are working, the members will have individual responsibility as to the maintenance and the operation of the Community House proper.

d) Social Responsibilities

The community will foster ways and means to have its members carry the message of rehabilitation to others in need, to co-operate and participate in a democratic society that advocates "free and creative individuals".

As a pilot project, the first Community House was opened April 1st. It is a two-storey leased building.

The top floor consists of rooms accommodating 6-8 persons plus lounge and library. The main floor is divided into two parts: the first being space for offices and meeting room ... the second being a fully equipped restaurant staffed and operated as a self-supporting project by the members of the Society.

The profit from this restaurant after expenses and nominal salaries will be used to finance the opening of other Community Houses.

The initial financing was obtained through a loan by the Society. It does not seek nor wants any grants, donations or membership fees. The society is autonomous, our leaders are but trusted servants. We have however an advisory board of persons from all walks of life: government officials, civil servants, business leaders, clergymen, people involved in all phases of Community Development, health, etc. They are invited to participate in our regular meetings, advise us and follow our progress.

SOCIAL AGENCIES

The services tended by the existing Social Agencies are important and appreciated. Could they be, however, re-aligned to enhance the above programme? i.e. provide recreation facilities, job opportunities, job retraining, professional counselling, educational and spiritual up-grading, material needs such as clothing, glasses and teeth and dental care, transportation etc. ...

This is in essence our suggested plan of recovery for transients trapped in the human jungle of skid-row. It is our aim as members of Community Upgrading & Rehabilitation Edmonton Society to further the cause of rehabilitation.

Our only purpose is to rehabilitate ourselves and others.

Anonymity is the foundation of our rehabilitation ever reminding us to place principles before personalities; we need and seek always to maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, T.V., or any other media.

Our society welcomes any opportunity to continue to participate in all future discussion designed to create a meaningful approach to an effective rehabilitation programme.

Edmonton, April 10th, 1968.

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APPENDIX B

CLASSIFICATION CENTRE PROPOSAL

Fr. Mark Barrier

The rather large concentration of unemployed men in down-town Edmonton is a sociological fact which may be considered unavoidable in the face of predominant economic conditions. It is not, however, by any means, a normal situation which may be kept unattended, nor, can it be hoped, will resolve be itself, without carefully planned action.

A sociological fact is first of all a "human event", that is the end-result of the encountering of man, a free, self-determining agent with given historical conditions: economic, geographical, political, etc...

Changes to any given sociological situation cannot be brought about by simply changing the material conditions, nor can they be enforced upon a group of men by exterior influences or powerful pressures only - unless these influences and pressures discard complete respect for basic human rights and dignity. With proper recognition given to these two above mentioned means of fostering sociological changes, it must be stressed that the proper motivation of the human agent IS THE MOST IMPORTANT AND POSSIBLY THE ONLY DETERMINING FACTOR in bringing about changes in a given sociological situation.

With these considerations in mind it was suggested by C.U.R.E.S. that changes in the present condition of single unemployed men in down-town Skid-Row should start with the setting in a proper place of a classification Centre.

This suggestion was made on two assumptions:

- 1) The human situation of Skid-Row is very confused
- 2) Individuals found on Skid-Row are struggling with personal problems and need help in order to understand themselves and relate to others in a meaningful human manner.

1) The human situation of Skid-Row may well be described by this statement heard there recently: "There is no society on Skid-Row". There is no more society in Skid-Row than there is among passengers crowding a bus terminal or a railway station... The only difference is that Skid-Row is for many the end of the line after a long excruciating mental journey that was expected to lead somewhere and ended up in nowhere's land. Skid-Row is a typical Kafkaian setting.

Men from various origins, backgrounds, ages, suffering from all kinds of physical and mental disorders happen to find themselves on Skid-Row without having a clear idea of why or how they even got there. What are they? Human refuse of the established society thrown away on its dumping ground? What are they supposed to become? Who cares?

The industrial world has seemingly more concern about a wrecked automobile than it has over a wrecked human being - at least it endeavors to salvage part of it. Why should we endeavor to feed and shelter human wrecks if it is only to prolong their meaningless agony? Can we dare more? Should we dare more and restore them to their human privileges and dignity?

The first step towards this aim would seem to be to put some order in that situation by sorting out individuals and organizing them into groups according to age, abilities, disabilities, so that proper care may be given to each personally.

2) Men found on Skid-Row are by themselves unable to overcome their personal condition. They need help.

What brings men to Skid-Row is less perhaps their moral defects than a typical inherited mentality. They are less guilty than victims. They don't deserve judges. They need teachers and friends.

Skid-Row in Northern American history is a sociological phenomenon linked to the "depression years". It seems that actual Skid-Row is a lasting sequel to this past yet ever-haunting period. Skid-Row testifies that economic as well as cultural growth has not taken place at the same speed nor at the same rate throughout the Canadian land. Judging from the origin of men found on Edmonton Skid-Row it may be deduced that areas of "active" depression still exist in the Country, e.g. in the Maritime Provinces, in Northern Ontario, N.W.T., and on all Indian Reserves.

Men on Skid-Row seem to suffer from a very characteristic instability which might be termed the "depression mentality". With them "roaming for a living" is a normal attitude. The hope of "striking it rich" someday, somewhere, replaces the concept that human welfare and progress is a matter of proper education and training. Skid-Row is the place where arrive people who have either preferred or were forced to gamble rather than invest whatever they had, talent, skill, material possession.

One often hears among men on Skid-Row that "Skid-Row is not a geographical location, it is a mental attitude." Skid-Row is synonymous with alienation, frustration, fears. Skid-Row is a trap, a manner of concentration camp, in which freedom is limited not by physical, coercive means but by invisible forces both within and outside the individual - lack of self-confidence, fear of personal abnormal propensions, fear of competition, society systems and order, etc.... So tenuous and hard to identify are these compulsive fears that a man on Skid-Row feels absolutely powerless against them; wherefrom the fatalistic sneering attitudes and the commonly accepted notion that one does not overcome Skid-Row, one may merely try to run away from it, never far enough, however, so as to escape it permanently.

For these reasons it would seem important that a Classification Centre to do more than merely sorting out individuals and keeping statistics. have to promote re-education along with retraining in view of rehabilitation is a change of mentality through new motivations). It might have to come with bold suggestions and experiments to suit the needs and further the social re-adjustment of the men.

The setting of a Classification Centre to re-orientate and help men out of their present situation is by no means the all powerful remedy destined to wipe out the sociological problem of endemic poverty. It is merely an emergency measure, dealing with only one of the multiple causes responsible for this situation, namely: The inability of some individuals to adjust for personal reasons to the living pattern of the majority.

Along with this measure, changes to the basic structures of our present society would have to be considered, if we sincerely wish the disappearance of such disgrace and yawning threat as Skid-Row.