

10-1-1965

Headquarters Community News

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Recommended Citation

Loomis, Mildred (1965) "Headquarters Community News," *Green Revolution*: Vol. 3 : Iss. 10 , Article 4.
Available at: <https://research.library.kutztown.edu/greenrevolution/vol3/iss10/4>

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THE GREEN

FOR HOMESTEADERS, ON-TO-THE-LANDERS,
AND DO-IT-YOURSELFERS



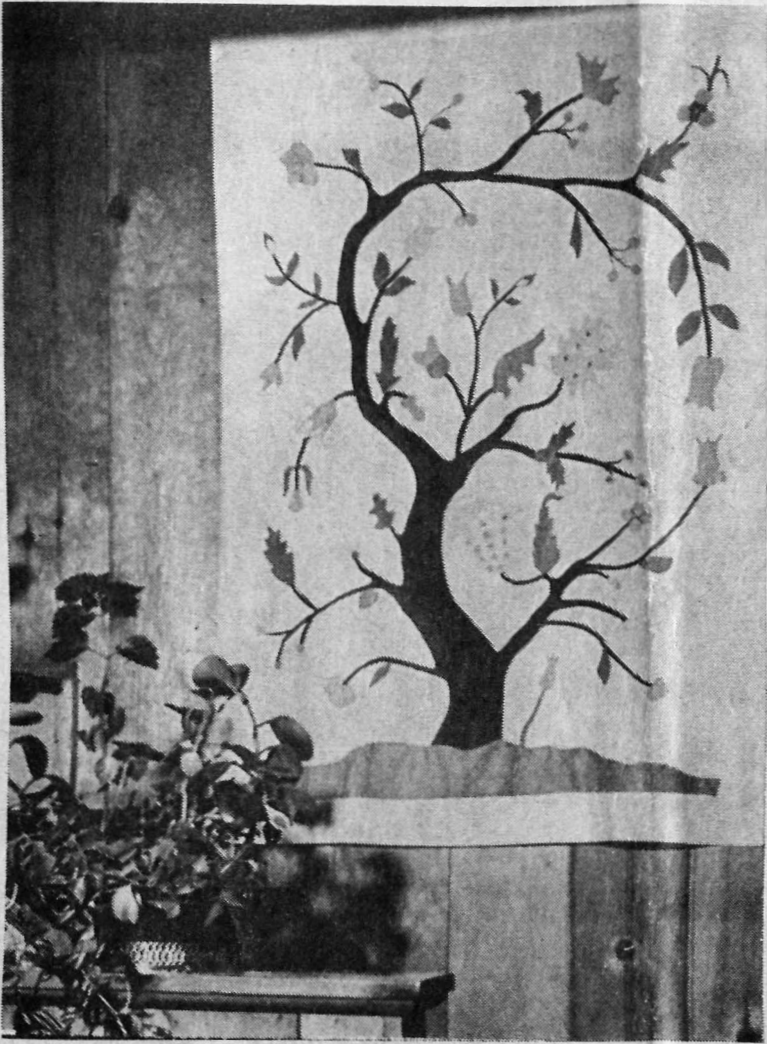
REVOLUTION

SCHOOL OF LIVING, BROOKVILLE, OHIO 45309
PUBLISHED MONTHLY

Volume 3, Number 10

October, 1965

25c per copy, \$3 per year



TREE OF LIFE—Symbol of whole living, this wall hanging is now at Lane's End Homestead.

A Challenge to the Green Revolution—

The Revolt In Our Cities

By Ralph Borsodi

The dictionary distinguishes sharply between a revolt and a revolution. A revolt is "a renunciation of allegiance and an uprising against legitimate authority"; a revolution is "the overthrow of one government, or one ruler or ruling class, and the substitution by the governed of another." What is taking place in our cities at present is not a revolution; it is a revolt. But it is symptomatic of the conditions out of which actual revolutions develop.

Forty years ago conditions of this kind erupted into Fascist revolutions in Portugal under Salazar, in Italy under Mussolini, in Germany under Hitler, in Spain under Franco. Since the Second World War they have been erupting into Communist revolutions. The question which the readers of *The Green Revolution* and the friends of The School of Living should ask themselves is this: Will these conditions in America's big cities lead to a Red Revolution (it has already erupted into bloody and destructive revolts in a dozen cities of which the Los Angeles riot was the most terrible), or will we come out with an action program which will turn into a *Green Revolution*?

Misery and Frustration

Revolts and revolutions have their source in misery and frustration. Men do not renounce their allegiance, they do not follow agitators and demagogues, they do not take to murder, pillage and fire unless they are so desperate that they shed all vestige of their inheritance as civilized human beings. Then they do things more terrible than the most ferocious of animals.

Most of the world's desperation has been caused by hunger and poverty. But what is happening today has developed in a nation in which nobody is hungry. There are plenty in poverty, but often the rioters are not. Incendiary writers like James Baldwin and conspirators like Alger Hiss are not poor; on the contrary, they are not only wealthy but successful. And the poor who are on relief in America actually live much better than the vast majority of the four hundred millions of people in India, for instance.

But if we have no hunger, even in the Negro ghettos, we do have frustration and desperation in an ever increasing measure. Frustration explains the fact that middle class and wealthy people—thousands of teachers and students in our universities who are nearly all middle class—are members of Communist parties and are agitating for a Socialist revolution of some kind.

But there is just as much frustration, and planning for direct action, on the Right. And it is much better financed and much more widespread. The extremists on the Right are conspiring just as are those on the Left. There

are even para-military organizations (which we now consider funny) which are accumulating arms and ammunition, not merely to prepare for "C" Day when they will feel free to take potshots at Communists, and when they can vent their bitterness on men like President Johnson and Chief Justice Earl Warren, for their determined Statism and for "turning America into a Communist satellite."

Urbanism and Industrialism

What is the root cause of this frustration? There are two: Industrialism and Urbanism. Both are doing such violence to human nature, both are reducing men and women and children to such a state of alienation, that they welcome an eruption of violence as an escape from intolerable tensions. Industrialism reduces them to cogs in a huge machine; Urbanism plunges them into rabbit warrens into which they pack themselves in densities as high as 400,000 people per square mile.

And to those of us who are aware of this, it is downright comical (or tragic) that nobody in an official position in "the establishment" which both rules us and leads us (in State School and Church) has the slightest realization that this is at bottom the source of the revolts in affluent America, the reports of which erupt from time to time on the front pages of our daily papers.

Los Angeles

Take Los Angeles. Everybody agrees that the Negro ghetto in (continued on page 6)

Decline and Imminent Fall of Cities

By Lewis Herber

Note: The damage and destruction to life and living in modern cities, brought together by Mr. Herber, supports everything that School of Living journals and books have been publishing for years. For instance, see Borsodi's chapters on Disease, Degeneration and Delinquency in *Education and Living*, 1948. Our quotes and summaries here are from Mr. Herber's 7-page, 8x11, article in the July-August, 1965, issue of

Fact magazine, 100 W. 40th St., New York City.—Editor)

"Anyone who knows the heart-disease and cancer rates among people living in large metropolitan areas, and who still chooses to live in one, must be crazy (or, very likely, soon will be)." Thus, Mr. Herber introduces his smashing article that appraises the effect on the human body, nervous system and psyche when people pack themselves into cities in

densities reaching 400,000 per square mile.

Rats and the Rat Race

He follows it with a record of a laboratory study of rats. (See the Sept. 1963 *A Way Out* for discussion by Dr. Rene Spitz of similar experiments, before the 119th annual meeting of the American Psychiatric Association.) Dr. J. B. Calhoun of the National Institute of Mental Health confined 30 Norway rats in a 10x14' room partitioned into four interconnected pens. They had neat nests, boarding-house style; wire ramps from one pen to another; ample food in structures that fostered a maximum degree of collective feeding. When the 30 became 80 rats, bizarre behavior began. As they became a congested rodent metropolis, nearly all instinctive rat behavior collapsed.

Mothers neglected their nests, abandoned their young. Many wandered around dazed and utterly disoriented. Some turned to homosexuality and curious sexual aberrations. Still others, despite available food, devoured the carcasses of starved young abandoned by their mothers. After several months, death rate soared to over 90% of all births in the more congested pens. In 16 months the rats had regressed to a state that insured their extinction.

Of course rats aren't human, but Dr. Calhoun points out that both animals are mammals and (continued on page 3)

HOW MANY CAN YOU USE?

We have printed more copies than usual of this special issue. We will mail you 10 copies for \$1 for you to distribute (larger quantities at further reduced cost.) We hope our readers will distribute many of them to individuals, groups and receptive organizations in their own communities. Order from School of Living, Brookville, Ohio.

Action for a New Frontier Begins—

Fall Festival Planned Oct. 30-31 At Pembroke Center, N. H.

A New Frontier is opening up. It is starting in New Hampshire and hopefully may quickly spread far and wide. New Frontiersmen have been called to their first gathering, a Fall Festival of music, art, discussion and fellowship at Pembroke Center, N. H., on October 30 and 31, 1965. (See program, page 4.)

This is a new frontier. It is a frontier because its goal is new—a change, a revolution, a turning in cultural patterns. Men, women and children active in this movement will develop no new geographical frontiers—on earth or in outer space; they will not be piling up more material goods and wealth. They will be pioneering in new values, better human relationships, new solutions to age-old problems, new social institutions, and new ways of living!

The New Frontier is new in method! It doesn't use government nor turn to politics and political parties. It uses a new, local and regional adult education! It isn't purely intellectual; it appeals to feelings and emotions; uses art, music, and dancing! It is new in not looking to the city as the be-all and end-all; it looks to a life of health, culture and fulfillment on Shangri-Las (family homesteads) and in small towns and communities.

Ralph Borsodi at Center of New Frontier

At the center of the movement for a New Frontier is Ralph Borsodi, author of a dozen books and founder of The School of Living. He and Mrs. Borsodi reside in Exeter, New Hampshire, where he continues research on basic living problems. His *Introduction to Problems of Man and of Society* has recently been accepted by Beacon Press.

As Mr. Borsodi has shared ideas and plans with friends and neighbors in New England in recent years, several educational adventures have developed. The first was a Federation of Liberal Religious Groups in New England. Another was the drafting of legislation on birth control and eugenics. A third was a movement for re- (continued on page 4)

Headquarters Community News

Some 30 persons joined the Labor Day Workbee at the Old Mill on Heathcote Rd., Freeland, Md., to help prepare it for a School of Living headquarters. They found the W. B. Anacker family settled in the main farm house, and Mrs. Dee Hamilton and children moved to the renovated second-floor rooms of the mill. The main accomplishment of this workbee was putting a new roof on the south wing of the mill. Materials for this very nearly wiped out what remained in our \$1000 building fund, after payment for the septic tank was made in July.

Trustees of the School of Living held a business session during this weekend.

Everyone agreed it was a very successful workbee. Herbert Rauch, of New York City, wrote, "It was an overwhelming success from the view of work accomplished and camaraderie." A group of young persons, seriously considering forming an intentional community, returned for further discussion and work at the mill on Sept. 18 and 19.

Replenish the Building Fund

With so much achieved in so short a time with so little financial resources, everyone involved is encouraged and pleased. A new School of Living Headquarters is assured. Coupled with the new efforts at a nationwide education for living beginning in New Hampshire, and motivated by the rising ferment for change in the cities, many School of Living members are renewed in their determination to effectively take part.

One of our members has offered \$200 in cash for the Building Fund, to be paid when an equal amount is contributed by others subsequent to this announcement. Contribute now and find other contributors (all contributions are tax exempt).

Recent contributions to the Building Fund: David Stry \$25, Russell Buehl \$25, Samuel Eisman \$10, L. Danzeisen \$4, Charles Isaacs \$20, V. Tauffner \$15, Robert Argott \$25, Howard Morris \$25, Wesley Smith \$5. Total \$154.

In the past few years School of Living members have contributed generously to "extra" projects, as follows:

In 1963—Borsodi-Chawla Fund, \$1500

In 1964—Headquarters Building Fund, \$850

To date in 1965—Headquarters Building Fund, \$346

To end of 1965—Headquarters Building Fund, \$???

1966—Into Headquarters Building Fund let's say, \$1000