

dents can be eliminated.

In health and medicine, cooperation is urged of all major health and hospital associations and organizations to develop a comprehensive program for Detroit's medically indigent. Construction of a new Detroit General Hospital is strongly recommended. Support for the Mayor's Medical-Dental Program should be provided until it can be replaced by programs more responsive to neighborhood needs.

In law, the entire area of criminal justice in the state should come under review. Alternatives should be found to the money bail system. Rehabilitation homes for juvenile delinquents should be developed. Additional judges and probation officers are needed. Efforts to improve police-community relations are of the highest priority and are keyed to police performance and basic understanding of inner-city problems. Governmental agencies should be made more responsive to citizens' complaints through the establishment of an effective grievance system to improve communications and to end the mutual isolation of government and the poor.

In the area of public assistance, existing public welfare policies and practices should be carefully examined and revised, with particular attention to nonpunitive treatment of ADC mothers.

In communications, the Committee urges that channels between all segments of the Detroit area be kept open. In pursuit of this goal, and, most importantly, to provide a basis for massive attitudinal changes, the New Detroit Committee's communication subcommittee, working through Metropolitan Fund's Citizen Information Division, plans to put increasing emphasis on the new Comprehensive Suburban Communications Project, which is designed to

serve as a generator and stimulator of action in promoting understanding and in bringing together diverse groups in meeting the urban crisis. The program is designed to operate through state and local government, church and volunteer groups, the communications media, schools and individuals—employing film showings, group discussions, exchange programs, a newsletter, and other methods. Although the program is new, it has already through its Speakers Bureau alone made presentations before more than 12,000 people. The figure is of particular significance since the New Detroit Committee's Speakers Bureau has not yet actively sought speaking engagements. New Detroit Committee members and task force members have been appearing at the request of interested groups.

In youth and recreation activities, the New Detroit Committee hopes to involve all Detroit public and private agencies in the New Detroit Summer Program, a specially developed and massive program of employment, education, recreation and culture for the city's young people, with special emphasis on the inner city. The Committee plans to press for the acquisition of federal funds for recreation leader training, the establishment of inner-city workshops in the fine and performing arts, the utilization of school buildings for recreation activities in the summer months, and for the establishment of small parks in the inner city.

The New Detroit Committee is pledged to the continuation of its current programs.

In addition, examinations are planned in the near future in such matters as the use of city firemen as detection squads to identify and expose substandard housing conditions; public transportation from the inner city to outlying employment centers; changes in the system of electing school



Filming Documentary on Inner City Life.



board and common council members to assure more acceptable representation for inner-city and minority residents; on-the-job training programs; job simulation as a training technique; organizational changes in the Detroit Public School system; establishment, on a demonstration basis, of an all-Negro house building corporation with building trade union cooperation; housing financing; job upgrading for members of minority groups; long-range summer recreation and basic welfare programs.

CONCLUSIONS

The New Detroit Committee is not a "super agency."

It cannot mandate programs into being, much as it might like on occasion to be able to do so.

It can only attempt to motivate and to persuade.

Whether or not any or all of the programs outlined here are accomplished rests inevitably with the people and their determination and influence on the various components of organized society—government, civic, labor, business, church and home.

The New Detroit Committee is an experiment in attempting to solve the con-

flicts of a society by democratic, constructive means.

As such, it has determined to stay in existence to serve as a focal point for those who believe in overcoming the problems facing our city.

This does not mean that the Committee intends to duplicate or supersede any private or public agency now in operation. It simply means the Committee will continue to serve as a coordinating agent to help spread the solution of social problems facing the City of Detroit.

The New Detroit Committee is committed to changing what has seemed until now to be the unchangeable.

We call upon the people of Southeastern Michigan to join us in that commitment. The problem is not Theirs, but Ours.

Our region, as does our nation, faces a period of years of severe trial.

New Detroit has not effected permanent change.

We hope that this report, however, will help move us toward a fairer and more just society. To this end we hope that every citizen will read the full report, and be moved to act upon it to the full extent of individual conscience and responsibility.

EPILOGUE

Although overall progress in the urban crisis often may seem frustratingly slow and hesitant, advances in specific areas provide encouraging evidence that constructive action is being taken in Detroit.

Since the original publication of its Progress Report in mid-April, in addition to those accomplishments listed in the report, the New Detroit Committee has assisted in bringing a number of efforts into being that provide the basis of hope and encouragement for those involved in working for the progress of this urban area.

For example, in the field of youth activities alone, two major developments involving activities of the New Detroit Committee have recently been announced.

These include the announcement by Mayor Jerome Cavanagh of a city-wide summer program of recreational projects, cultural events, classroom activities, special projects and summer jobs, all with a heavy emphasis on the needs of the inner city. The United Foundation, the United Community Services and the New Detroit Committee have joined in pledging a special \$600,000 grant to help finance the program, designed, also, at providing 12,000 jobs for inner city youth during the summer. The city's plans include the construction of new park areas and playgrounds, the promotion of neighborhood cleanup drives and neighborhood art festivals and other activities, and plans for concerts, talent shows, art workshops, drama groups, camp projects and special trips.

The New Detroit Committee has also extended a \$100,000 grant to the Volunteer Placement Corps to continue its valuable work of placing graduating seniors from Detroit inner city high schools in universities, apprenticeship training programs and jobs. The New Detroit grant will allow the Corps to expand activities and provide placement services for 5,000 graduating students in 10 inner city schools in the 1968-69 school year.

In the crucial field of communications, the New Detroit Committee has co-sponsored a major Suburban Media Seminar at Oakland University. The seminar, attended by representatives of suburban radio and television stations and newspapers, was designed to illustrate the critical role understanding plays in relating the suburbs to the urban experience. A similar role has been undertaken by the Suburban Action Centers of the Interfaith Action Council, which are supported in part by a grant from New Detroit. The centers have begun to disseminate information aimed at fostering understanding between the suburbs and the inner city, tailoring their activities to individual community needs and attitudes.

In another area of communications, the New Detroit Committee is now beginning to distribute for showings before concerned groups a specially produced film, "The Black Eye," which is aimed at providing an inside view of inner city life and attitudes.

The Committee has also participated in the financing of the Interfaith Action Council's South-

eastern Michigan Community TV Forum, a series of five locally produced television programs on urban problems and racial understanding so structured as to not only provide informative viewing but to provoke discussions by small, informal groups.

Another promising program, "Focus: Summer Hope," has received New Detroit financial backing. The multiphase "Focus: Summer Hope" is designed to achieve attitudinal changes through relevant programs that range from mass urban crisis training sessions to retail shopping surveys.

In education, the New Detroit Committee has provided immediate financial support for a \$400,000 public school program designed to serve 20,000 children in summer school. The three-stage program will provide scholarships for 8,000 students, provide special remedial and tutorial instruction and provide support for a Junior High Work Training Program.

The Committee also has approved immediate funding for the establishment of a six-month demonstration "Education for Life" school aimed at the re-assimilation of 100 students, who had either been suspended or dropped out of school, into the Highland Park High School System.

Action-oriented programs such as these lead the New Detroit Committee to believe that progress is possible for those who seek it, and that although we live in an age of crisis, we also live in an age of vital change.

**THE NEW DETROIT
COMMITTEE**

John W. Armstrong
Mrs. Lena Bivens
Paul Borman
Mrs. Gerald Bright
The Honorable Edward Carey
The Very Rev. Malcolm Carron S. J.
Walker L. Cisler
William M. Day
Norman Drachler
Max M. Fisher
Henry Ford II
Hans Gehrke, Jr.
William T. Gossett
Delos Hamlin
Norvel Harrington
Norman Hill
Robert Holmes, Sr.
Joseph L. Hudson, Jr.
Richard F. Huegli
Arthur Johnson
Dr. William R. Keast
Damon Keith
Senator Emil Lockwood
William G. McClintock
Ralph T. McElvenny
John S. Pingel
The Honorable Curtis Potter
Rev. Father Robert Potts
Mel Ravitz
Walter P. Reuther
James M. Roche
Representative William A. Ryan
Robert R. Tindal
Lynn A. Townsend
Mrs. Jean Washington
Stanley J. Winkelman
Jack Wood
Joseph L. Hudson, Jr.—Chairman
Kent Mathewson—Coordinator
William T. Patrick, Jr.—Director