

August 22nd, 1946.

"The Sanitarian's Role in Housing".

(M. Wheeler--Federal Housing Authority, Seattle.)

Your group is interested in housing as Consumers, as Sanitarians, and interested in both Quantity and Quality.

The problem today:

- (1)-Not enough housing.
- (2)-Cost too high.
- (3)-Housing not good enough.

(1)-U.S. is 3,000,000 Units short now, and 12,600,000 will be needed in the next ten years. The reason is that in the 20's, 30's and 40's, there were not enough new houses built to meet the need for new houses, and for replacement of those that were worn out. From the 20's on, the U.S. Birth-rate has increased.

(2)-There has been no price control of old houses. In Seattle, a \$6000 house in 1940 now demands a price of \$12,000. As a result, fewer Rental Units are to be had. When a house is vacant, it is placed on the market. Generally speaking, the old handicraft method of building is still largely used, increasing building costs of new Units.

(3)-According to the 1945 U.S. Census, ⁵²~~52~~/₁₀ million houses required repair. What is being done to correct this?

The hope of the Federal Government is that 2,700,000 new housing Units will be provided by January, 1948. A ceiling is to be placed on new buildings as an incentive for more home building.

The F.P.H.A. is assisting Veterans in a number of ways, in providing new homes. Rents or monthly payments are \$50.00 per month and up now, which is beyond their means.

The best ideals of the Sanitarians are difficult to apply in Slum areas. Poor housing adds to disease, Poverty, bad housing and Delinquency always go together. Army figures have given proof of this.

(Cont'd)

The housing Authority and the Sanitarian look to physical structure, equipment, safety, and ^{his} place in the neighborhood and the Community. City and Community planners must take part in providing Parks, Parking areas, and prohibiting arterial highways.

Present building codes only deal with structure and not necessarily with healthy and convenient planning.

The Federal Housing Authority, under the 1937 Act, provides:

- (1)-Low-rent housing.
- (2)-Wartime housing.
- (3)-Removing temporary housing to areas where they are required.

They work with the State and Local Health Departments in providing healthy housing.