

## The C.Y.C.

# Young volunteers for building a better Canada

Would you be willing to give up a year or two of your life for Canada at \$180 a month? Last year 225 volunteers worked in communities across the provinces with an organization called The Company of Young Canadians.

There was a great deal of criticism of the Company during last year, some of it justified, some of it not. Many people read about David Depoe and his activities in Yorkville, and wrote the whole group of volunteers off as publicly-supported hippies.

Without question, the Company has been bogged down. The organization was indefinite and according to some volunteers who resigned, nobody really knew what was going on. Funds were poorly allocated and volunteers were often left too much on their own. However, the CYC has survived and appears to be expanding into a permanent Canadian fixture.

It was established by an Act of Parliament two years ago. More than just a piece of legislation, the formation of the Company was an act of faith in the ability and the willingness of young Canadians to build a better Canada. Activities are financed by a federal grant.

The volunteers are generally around 23 years old. The majority are high school or university graduates from middle-class homes. To be a good one, they must be idealistic but at the same time practical, and above all open-minded.

More than 90 per cent of the volunteers are now working on team projects in four areas: housing and related urban



problems: rural and isolated communities; youth and education; and projects involving Indians and Metis.

They do not attempt to replace urban experts, sociologists, or other professionals, and they do not go into a community with any defined policies or plans. Rather they offer their time and abilities to the community leaders to complement existing resources.

In Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto, Kingston,

Ottawa, Montreal, Fredericton and Saint John, N.B., volunteers work on public housing projects. Others help local people fight expropriation and present briefs to urban renewal authorities.

In the urban areas, volunteers have set up centres to help bridge the gap between existing social institutions and the ever-increasing number of alienated teenagers. In the more isolated towns and villages they have established social and recreational centres for young people.

Perhaps their greatest service is in isolated communities, in the Northwest Territories, northern Alberta, southern Saskatchewan, and northwest Ontario. Here they have helped to establish a community paper, organized meetings with government officials for local demands,

encouraged the formation of community groups, and began adult education classes.

Working with Indians and Metis is a much needed project. Volunteers do not go in with the idea of turning Indians into white men; neither do they attempt to restrict them to their reservations. The prime aim is to show them opportunities, give them a sense of pride in their identity and help them to choose what they want to do with their lives.

The CYC doesn't expect to change things overnight and they do expect controversy and criticism. In the two years since their formation they have experienced setbacks, but they have had their successes as well.

In the future, they have the potential to perform a valuable and necessary role.



fresh tracks

by Barbara McIntosh

TO BE HIP

Sombody ought to invent a dictionary especially for adults, because today's generation has a whole new language that can't be found in any of the standard-type volumes. Words just don't mean what they used to.

There was a time when "hippie" meant someone slightly overweight in the posterior. A "trip" was a visit to another city or a foreign country, not a mind excursion with the aid of drugs.

"Grass" used to be something that you walked on, not smoked, and "acid" was a chemical that could rot your shirt in chemistry class.

Remember when "high" was the opposite of low and usually applied to mountains. "Rock" was a stone in a field, and "roll" was eaten with dinner.

Way back, "beetles" were bugs and "rolling stones" gathered no moss instead of making money—and the "Mamas and Papas" were married.

"Homo" was kind of milk and "fairy" was a respectable name for a lake. People got "sloshed" only on rainy days, and soup got "canned". One used to "turn on" the radio or the television, not people, and "cool" described the weather, not a mental condition.

In the old days, a "dog" was man's best friend and a "hunk" was a piece of cheese, a "pad" was a soft, thick filler, not a home, and a "dish" was a plate, not a girl.

In addition to the complete change in meaning of words there is an entirely new collection created to meet the special needs of our times, such as spas, crud, creep, crap, and fink.

It is not surprising that many adults find they don't have a clue what is being said around them. Some are still taking trips to Niagara falls with a hunk of cheese, not to mention turning on the fan to keep their cool.

To be with it, they could endure CHUM, wade through Seventeen, or attempt to fake it. It would be fairer to create a hip dictionary supplement.

## Zip Zip Hooray!



MADE ENTIRELY of blue, orange, and yellow zippers, this zany little number has elastic sides, and un-zips at the waist to make a two-piece, or anywhere else for that matter,

Too much zip zest could leave you with zero. Zounds! The dress was designed by Parisian Painter Poucelte, and appeared in the British magazine Queen.

**Brownies register Thursday**

Prospective Brownies can register with the Acton pack Thursday September 12 at the Scout Hall. All girls 7-10 years are eligible to join.

Leaders urge that girls be accompanied by a parent who can supply the information needed. The fee is \$2.75.

For the benefit of children on the shift system at M. Z. Bennett school, leaders will be on hand at the Scout Hall from 5:45 to 7.

**Guides register Wednesday**

Registration for Girl Guides will be in the Scout Hall on Wednesday, September 11 beginning at 6:30.

A parent is asked to accompany the girls for registration and the fee is \$2.75.

All girls between 10-14 years are welcome in the troop and leaders stress that Brownie experience is not necessary to join.

These days, they say, when a girl turns eighteen, she doesn't know whether to get married or go out and see an adult movie!

Jimmy: "Your sister is spoiled, isn't she?"  
Johnny: "No, that's the perfume she's wearing."

"My dear," she purred, "what a perfectly stunning dress. Didn't they have it in your size?"

Teacher: "Now, Jonny, if I lay two eggs here and three over there, how many will there be altogether?"  
Jonny: "Personally, I don't think you can do it."

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