

~~Some Proposals for a Housing Campaign~~

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1. I think we should confine are actual organizational efforts and any rent strike, for the next three-four weeks in the Markham area and ~~Vine~~ Vine City area.

2. Begin on Monday ~~at~~ through Julian or perhaps SNCC, or perhaps waiting until the first edition of the newspaper ~~and~~ a city-wide Tenants' Rights Movement. This would be the political arm of the Markham Area rent strike and would have a city-wide scope, just as the Julian Bond issue had a scope far beyond his own district. ~~It~~ My feeling is that the Bond issue is beginning to cool while the housing issue is something which could be fermented ~~and~~ until a decisive victory is won.

3. Some suggested steps on a ~~the~~ City-Wide Tenants Rights Movement

a. Begin all out attack on section 14 of the housing code (this is the section on enforcement and in effect because it is so weak wipes out ~~of~~ all the tenants' right laid down in the previous ~~in~~ 13 sections.

b. We can begin a demand for a public hearings of the Building Code Advisory Board. This Board is on call and either the Board of Alderman or Mayor can call for a meeting and public hearings at any time. This demand is ~~one~~ we can not lose. The Mayor can not give us any bullshit. The ~~Board~~ Board exists, ~~and~~ its supposed to hold hearings, and the mayor has the powers to call for such hearings. I think a little pressure city-wide and the Mayor would have to give in to our demand. Meaning a victory for us.

c. At the hearing we can line up impressive series of witnesses and demand and propose changes in section 14 of the Code which would have the effect of cracking down on law-breaking landlords. We could also demand that the code ~~permit~~ permit ~~us~~ under emergency conditions for the city to move in and ~~to~~ make repairs and be able to bill the landlord.

d. This could become a hot campaign issue. And reform section 14 could be a cry recognized throughout the city (as section 14B is known throughout the country). ~~It~~ It could be one of the key planks of candidates.

e. We need to begin putting heat on the Board of Alderman which includes a Q.V. Williamson, a ~~notorious~~ notorious landlord himself. The Aldermanic Board is elected city-wide which means that in effect Negroes are almost totally ^{not} represented. We must take out cry of reform section 14 to the B oard and if, as we can expect they do not act on it, then we should raise the issue of one man-one vote and the establishment of ward elections instead of city-wide elections.