

PARCEL NO. 28-4

OCCUPANTS: Mrs. Alberta Phillips and Family

NEW ADDRESS: 3444 N. E. 17th

Mrs. Alberta Phillips grew up in Vanport, where she lived until the 1948 flood. Following her marriage, she lived elsewhere in Portland. In July, 1957 she and her six children purchased on contract and moved into the house on N. Commercial. She began her present job as a Licensed Practical Nurse at St. Vincent's Hospital in 1959.

Mrs. Phillips telephoned Mr. Lawrence Monk, Relocation Specialist for the Portland Development Commission, in mid-May, 1967.

Since the house was scheduled for acquisition and demolition, she knew a move was forthcoming. At the insistence of her former landlord, who told her that the Portland Development Commission would not help her find another place, she signed a quitclaim deed on her present home and a lease-option contract for a home on N. Michigan. Since that home was only three-bedroom, and she needed four-bedrooms for her family, Mr. Monk advised her about other possibilities. She contacted Legal Aid, found that she could not be held to the contract on the N. Michigan property, and began looking for other houses to purchase on contract. After consulting in early June with Ray Keefer, ANIP Financial Advisor, she decided to investigate Leased Housing under the Housing Authority of Portland.

Mrs. Phillips found that a house which she had liked for years was for sale, and asked Mr. Monk to contact the owner and inspect it. Mr. Southerlin, owner of the property, did not want to rent it, but agreed to examine the Housing Authority's leasing folder, and then agreed to lease it to the Housing Authority for \$130.00 per month. On June 14th, Mrs. Phillips applied for admission to leased housing with the Housing Authority, and was accepted. The Housing Authority completed leasing arrangements with Mr. Southerlin on June 28th, and Mrs. Phillips moved to her new home on July 5th. The Commission paid her moving costs the following week.

At the time of her move, Mrs. Phillips found several of the provisions of the Housing Authority's rental agreement objectionable: inspections without prior notice; 24-hour eviction notice; and the automatic termination of the occupancy if the parent dies. She was quite wary of the Housing Authority's handling of these provisions.

Mr. Monk contacted Mrs. Phillips again in mid-March, 1968. Her oldest son, Wayne, is attending Portland Community College on a Post Office work-study program, which he found through the efforts of Mrs. Hazel Hayes of the ANIC Community Services section.

The Housing Authority has not proven difficult: "they have not said a word to me about housekeeping or anything else." Mr. Southerlin has been pleased enough with the Phillips' that he bought paint for them to paint the basement, and make a TV room for the children: "He says that this house is kept up better than his own place." Mrs. Phillips is very pleased with her new home: "Getting to be in a place like this is a work of God."

Mrs. Phillips likes her new neighbors; most of them have grown families with no children the age of her children. Still she says that "We have the sweetest communication with them." Her children attend Jefferson and Benson High Schools, and one of the teachers from Jefferson stops by for them each day. Mrs. Phillips does not need to worry about her children being out on the streets, since they and their friends now gather in the TV room in the basement.

She continues in her position as Treasurer of her local church, Audio-Visual Secretary of her denomination in the area, President of the Boise School PTA; member of the Albina Citizens War on Poverty Committee; and has served as member of that group's committee to evaluate the Albina Child Day Care Center.