ording about the second of the

accord.

Each family member is teamed with a male and female therapist, who subsequently make an independent evaluation and assessment of the individuals.

individuals.

"At this time, the therapist works with the family to ascertain the specifics of the problem," and Ciliford Furgison, director of the speciment of substance abose. "Full attempts are then made to understand the family as a dynamic system integrally contributing to the substance problem.

FURGISON said this is a typical case his department sees. Alcoholics comprise a much larger portion of the family infervention program because in 99 per cent of the cases, the family unit remains intact.

In drug abuse ceses, on the other hand, the family unit has usually disintegrated before treatment can be initiated.

continuation.

The more complications involved in a family's substance abuse problem, he more difficult it will be to treat. Furgison says the optimal conditions for therapy to have a positive effect occur when there is early intervention. Some situations can be highly emotional ones and the timing for interpetational ones and the timing for interactional ones and the timing for interactional ones and the timing for interactional cones and time and tim

he is a part of and, further, can realize that he is a contributing cog in the wheel, he is considered to be an appropriate candidate for the program. The company of the contribution of

Other goals of the program are to dispel social myths about alcoholism and for develop the social skills necessarily one to relate to his or her family.

If the alcoholic will continue to come in for treatment on his own, following family intervention. Furgison said he feels the family unit less because the second of the family unit less than the dependent of the family in the program of the feels the family unit less because do objectively confront its situation in a positive manner.

Ex-commissioner still cares

By CAROL MAHONEY

While Maggie Kuhn works diligently on the national level for the rights of the elderly, blocal people are devoting blocal people are devoting time and attention to the needs of Birmingham area seniors.

Pat Watt, a former member of the Birming-bam crea seniors.

Pat Watt, a former member of the Birming-bam crea seniors.

Pat Watt, a former member of the Birming-bam creations, asid she has had a long standing interest in the problems of the aged. Through her work on the commission and as and the problems of the aged. The work of the commission and as and the problems of the aged the problems of the aged the problems when the problems they were having."

TRANSPORTATION is

Mrs. Watt said thet one difficulty for the elderly is their inability to keep up with ever-increasing utility bills, particularly the beautiful to the seep of these people never to the seep of these wood off off the seep of those who did drive, their when the government did not pay the sate worth to wards their bills as it had the previous year. She said she knows of three women, all over 70, who had to pay on last the three women, all over 70, who had to pay on last winter's fuel bills winter's tell bills through the summer of the word with the word with

get unert, sam manwatt, "It's embarrassing
to have to ask someone
get the stamps for
them."
Housing continues to
be a big concern for the
elderly whether it
involves maintaining
their own home or finding a suitable place to
remains.
"One lady in her 7th
has been looking for a
first floor rental unit
with no success." said
Mrs. Watt. "She lives on
an upper floor now."

RENT INCREASES

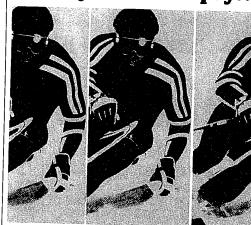
RENT INCREASES

according to Mrs. Watt, who said that at least seven people have told her about the problem. "One increase was a jump of \$115 per month," she said. "The lowest was \$50."

She said that the increases seem to be the result of landlords refusing to give leases.

Presently the council meets on the last Wednesday of the month at the Birminghem Center for Continuing Education. Massey said that the group hopes to establish a headquarters and obtain someone to staff it on a full-time basis.

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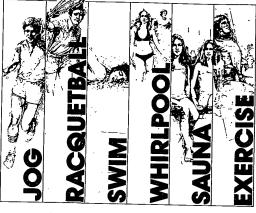
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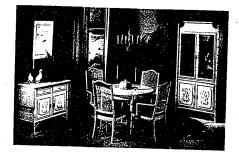
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