

How is a \$4 million plan to depressed cities spelled?

NEW YORK (AP) — Pres. Carter's urban policy is designed to send fresh federal aid to the have-nots in the central cities.

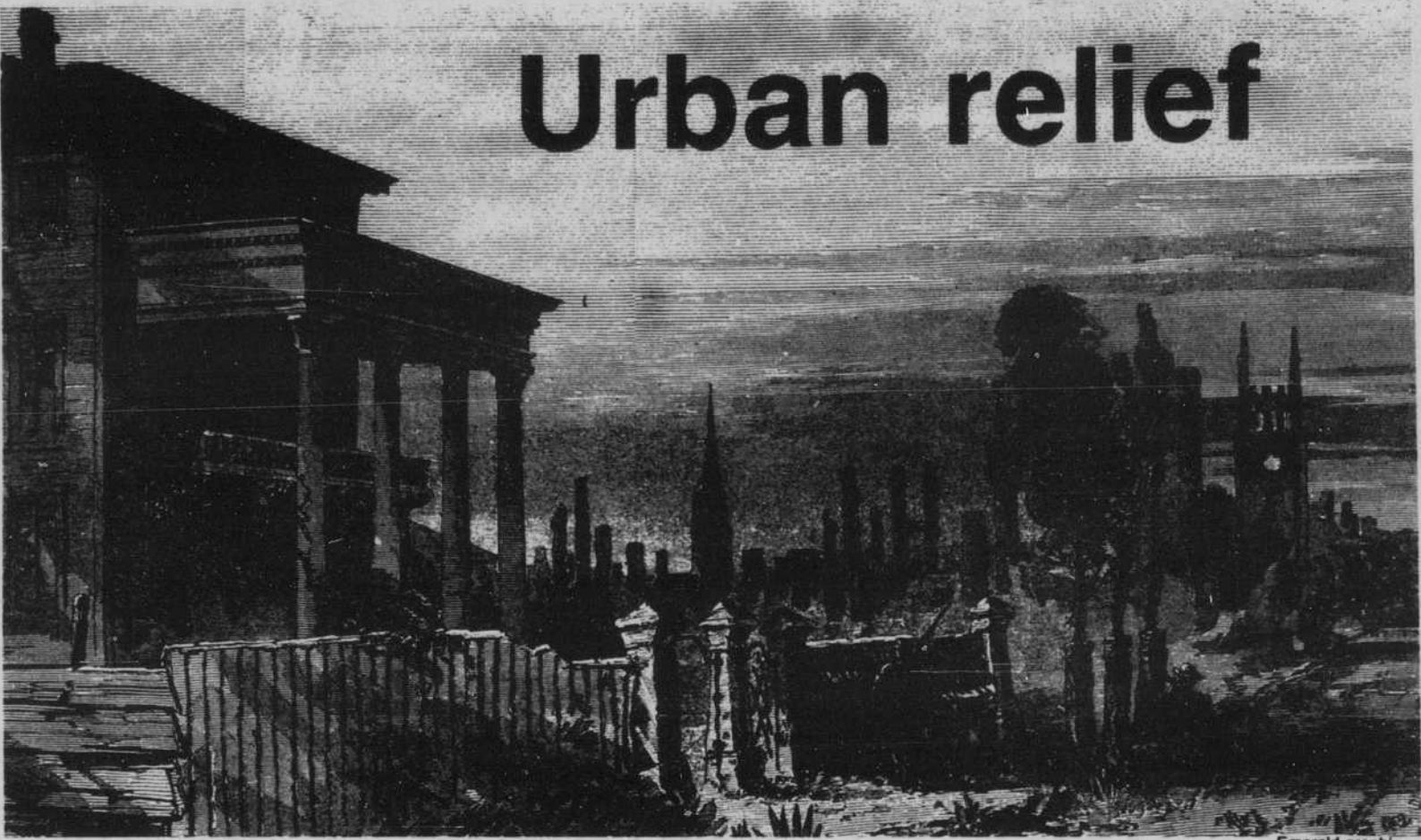
But in at least a dozen metropolitan areas, some officials are concerned that the poor who are sprawling into surrounding communities have been overlooked.

City, state and county officials around the country were busy Tuesday analyzing the long-awaited and complex \$4.4 billion urban aid package unveiled on Monday.

One of the biggest question marks appeared to be whether or not references in the plan to "distressed urban areas" and "distressed cities" included counties or towns lying just outside big cities that have suffered urban ills.

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) officials said the plan is meant to include all urban areas in distress, whether inside central cities or not.

A HUD spokesman emphasized that parts of the plan, such as a \$200-million incentive program aimed at enticing states to form and implement urban policies, as well as existing urban aid programs, would



Emerald graphic

ultimately help all distressed urban areas.

But some local officials said the language of the plan was unclear.

The poor communities of Willowbrook and East Los Angeles, both of which border Watts, illustrate the concern. Both Willowbrook and East Los Angeles have large minority populations and unemployment rates of around 10 percent, like neighboring Watts.

But, unlike Watts, they lie just outside the central city of Los Angeles, and officials of the County of Los

Angeles who have jurisdiction over the two communities are worried that the wording of the Carter plan may help Watts more than its two poor neighbors.

"We hope this is a semantic problem, rather than hard-nosed policy. But the way the policy is worded, it looks like we may be cut out," said Burdette Wright, a representative of Los Angeles County.

The problem may be duplicated in other areas. An ongoing study by the Brookings Institution shows that in at least 10 metropolitan areas, the sur-

rounding suburbs and unincorporated towns have more poverty, worse education and poorer housing than their neighboring central cities.

They include Omaha, Neb.; Dallas and Houston; Phoenix Ariz.; Norfolk, Va.; Salt Lake City; San Diego; Seattle; Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and Greensboro, N.C.

The National Association of Counties reacted angrily to the Carter plan on similar grounds, stating that it "ignores 60 percent of the nation's urban dwellers who live outside the central cities."

ROTC heads senate meeting

ROTC will once again be a topic for discussion at today's University Senate meeting.

The senate will hear a proposal to reorganize the faculty committee on the Reserve Officers Training Corps. According to Andy Thompson, of the University Counseling Center, the proposed amendment would update the existing committee.

The senate meets today at 3:30 in Room 229 of the Law School.

Gym, game room hours extended

Westmoreland Community Center, in response to community requests, will expand their open gym and game room hours through May 18. The center will now also be open Mondays from 5-10 p.m. Regular drop-in hours for gym use are Fridays 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Adults can drop-in to use the game room any time that the center is open: Monday through Thursday 9 a.m.-10 p.m. and Fridays 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

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