

HUMAN RELATIONS NEWS

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Commission to Honor Seven at Award Luncheon Dec. 7; Nissen Gross to Receive Wright Trophy

Winners of the Seventeenth Annual Awards of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations have been selected, and their names will be given below after a brief word from the sponsor.

The Awards luncheon, which promises to be the most successful in Commission history, will be at noon Friday, December 7, in the Grand Ballroom of the Palmer House.

Reservations can be made by sending check or money order to the Commission on Human Relations, Room 1310, 211 West Wacker Drive, Chicago 6, Illinois. Cost per person is \$4.00. Tables of eight or ten can be reserved. An invitation and reservation card will be mailed to you if you telephone 236-4912.

Each year, the luncheon honors six individuals and organizations for outstanding contributions in human relations. A seventh award, named in memory of the late Thomas and Eleanor Wright, is presented to a professional in the field of human relations for outstanding performance and personal devotion. This year, the Wright award will be given to *Nissen N. Gross*, Midwest Director, Civil Rights Division, Anti-Defamation League.

Recipients of the general human relations awards will be:

Mrs. Earl B. Dickerson, 5027 South Drexel Boulevard, Civic Leader, "For outstanding achievement in behalf of improved race relations in housing and education by working with diligence and devotion with Negroes and Whites in the mainstream of the City's life."

Maurice "Ritz" Fischer, City Editor, Chicago Daily News, "For creative direction of his reporting staff in

identifying and developing those stories which best illuminate the human relations problems and progress of the city."

Hyde Park Federal Savings and Loan Association, 1508 East 55th Street, "For making loans to all qualified applicants, thus breaking away from certain industry-wide mortgaging practices which tend to make home-buying by Negroes difficult." Charles A. Benson, President, will accept the award.

Ferd Kramer, President, Draper and Kramer, Inc., "For pioneering to make fair housing practices a reality by demonstrating its workability, locally at Prairie Shores, and nationally."

Science Research Associates, Inc., 259 East Erie Street, "For uncompromising personnel policies that set no limit to professional and supervisory advancement for white-collar workers for reasons of race or religion."

Lyle M. Spencer, President, will accept the award.

Orlando W. Wilson, Superintendent of Police, City of Chicago, "For making Chicago's Police Department foremost in the nation in human relations by firmly establishing merit as the basis of employment and promotion and by confronting potentially serious racial difficulties with dispatch, fairness and civic responsibility."

The Thomas and Eleanor Wright Memorial Award

(Continued on Page 4)



Gross



Mrs. Dickerson



Fischer



Kramer



Benson



Spencer



Wilson

Welfare Council Urges No Bias in Aid Field

The Welfare Council of Metropolitan Chicago has urged its 275 agency members to end bias in the health and welfare fields. In a policy statement adopted October 17th, the Council served notice that all applicants for membership from now on will be expected to adhere to its statement of principles. The major portion of the statement follows:

"Only if welfare services, whether voluntary or public, are provided for all in need, will they have lasting impact for good on the human relations problems of our society. Of equal importance—welfare services available to all would provide an atmosphere which will reduce discriminatory practices in other fields, such as education, employment, and housing. The final result would then be a vast lessening of the community's entire welfare needs.

"It is the firm belief and the policy of the Welfare Council of Metropolitan Chicago that the Council and its member agencies should practice non-discrimination. Individual acts of welfare, practiced under discriminatory policies—though charitable in intent, do not face up to the problems or the social needs of our times. Self-interest, if nothing more, demands an end to discrimination in the health and welfare field. Economic reasoning, as well as moral standards, make this self-evident. Racial discrimination, affecting the Negro particularly, has no place in welfare work, but all forms of discrimination demand immediate attention.

"The Board of Directors of the Welfare Council of Metropolitan Chicago urges its member agencies to adopt the following principles, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination, that:

- 1) "Every agency in the welfare system of Chicago provide care, treatment, or other services for all people in need without regard to race, color, or other minority status;
- 2) "Agency staffs, in all classification of positions, should be employed on the basis of their qualifications and ability; and promotions should be made upon performance regardless of race, color, or other minority status. As a general policy, staffs of agencies serving a considerable number from a minority group should include qualified members of this group;
- 3) "While board members should always be selected on the basis of their ability and interest, each board should seek qualified representation from racial or cultural groups forming a part of the community or clientele;
- 4) "Everything possible should be done by the agencies to promote interracial and intercultural understanding. To this end, both board and staff members of agencies, as well as the agencies themselves, should become community leaders in this respect. Active participation in interracial and intercultural committees and activities is desirable;

Launch Pilot Credit Union In Public Housing Project

A unique pilot project to strengthen the economic position of tenants of public housing was launched Monday, November 12th, when tenants of the Rockwell Gardens - Maplewood Court development nominated a board of directors for its credit union.

The credit union is the only such in operation in a Chicago Housing Authority project and one of the first of its kind in the nation.

The idea for a credit union among housing project residents was conceived and carried forth by the Mayor's Committee on New Residents as part of its consumer education program. The Illinois Credit Union League cooperated in setting up the pilot project.

Jesse Escalante, staff member of the Mayor's Committee, said the project brings the benefits of a credit union to the people most in need of them—those on the lower rungs of the economic ladder.

One of the more important advantages of the project is that it will provide an opportunity for counseling tenants on installment contract buying and other credit issues. Approval of the charter was given October 25th by the Illinois Department of Financial Institutions.



Chicago Police Superintendent Orlando W. Wilson, left, looks at new charter of the Latin American Police Association of Illinois with newly installed officers, from left, Detective Joseph De Lopez, president; Detective Fred Montejano, vice president; Officer Andrew Rodriguez, secretary; and Detective Aurelio Garcia, treasurer. The Association held its first installation ceremonies Sunday, October 21, in the Knickerbocker Hotel. The Association's aims are to assist municipal, county and state governments in programs beneficial to Latin American and Spanish-speaking peoples in Illinois, and to encourage qualified Latin Americans to join law enforcement agencies.

- 5) "Professional schools training workers in community service fields should be urged to develop sympathetic and sound interracial and intercultural perspectives in their students; and
- 6) "All agencies which may, at some future date, make application for membership in the Welfare Council, are hereby expected to give assurance that they comply with standards of non-discrimination as set forth in this revised Policy Statement."

Lists Ten Milestones In U.S. Negro History

During the 100 years since the Emancipation Proclamation was issued, Negroes have passed a number of milestones in their march toward first class citizenship. Edward Marciniak, executive director of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, lists the ten most important milestones as:

1. The 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments to the United States Constitution which were ratified during the Reconstruction Period following the Civil War.

2. Growth of the Negro college movement in the South, with the establishment of institutions such as Fisk University in 1866, Howard University in 1867, Hampton Institute in 1868, Southern University in 1880, and Tuskegee Institute in 1881.

3. Formation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in 1909, and the National Urban League two years later.

4. Founding of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) in 1935, which brought large masses of Negroes into the labor movement for the first time.

5. The issuance of Executive Order 8802 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on June 25, 1941, to insure merit employment in industries with government contracts, and which paved the way for postwar fair employment practices legislation.

6. The establishment in Chicago in 1943 of the first human relations agency supported by public funds (the forerunner of the current Chicago Commission on Human Relations) which started a nation-wide trend for municipal responsibility to remove racial and religious tensions. Currently, there are more than 100 such agencies in the country, including 21 official local public human relations agencies in Illinois alone.

7. The breakthrough symbolized by the signing in 1947 of Jackie Robinson to a Brooklyn Dodger baseball contract, and, thus, opening up major league baseball to Negroes.

8. Executive Order 9981 issued by President Harry S. Truman on July 26, 1948, which called for the racial desegregation of the Armed Forces.

9. Ruling by the United States Supreme Court on May 17, 1954, that segregation in public schools is unconstitutional. This ruling followed similar declarations by the high court in the areas of interstate transportation and restrictive covenants in housing.

10. Refusal of Mrs. Rosa Parks to move to the rear of a bus in Montgomery, Alabama, which started the 1955-56 movement for desegregation of buses and paved the way for the sit-in, stand-in movement in the South.

(Throughout 1963, various events will be sponsored in Chicago by the American Negro Emancipation Centennial Authority, highlighted by "A Century of Negro Progress" at McCormick Place in August. The Authority is conducting its campaign from the Lakeview Building, Suite 706-708, 116 S. Michigan Avenue.)

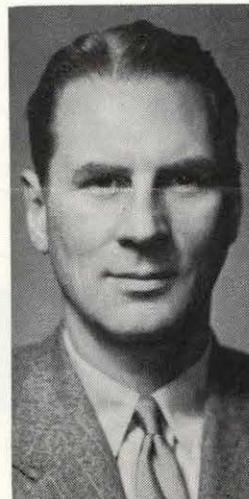


Marguerite Dawson, editor of the Hirsch High School publication, asks a question on human relations in Chicago at a press conference for high school editors and student council presidents. Sponsored for the second consecutive year by the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, the conference attracted some 152 pupils. The pupils represented a cross section of city and county public, parochial and private high schools. Hale Nelson, a Commissioner and vice-president of Illinois Bell Telephone Company, presided over the Columbus Day meeting held in the Bell Forum, 311 W. Washington Street. Ely M. Aaron, Commission Chairman, was principal speaker.

Mayor Names Daggett Harvey To Serve on Commission

Daggett Harvey, vice chairman of Fred Harvey, has been appointed to the Chicago Commission on Human Relations by Mayor Richard J. Daley.

He fills a vacancy created by the resignation of Ray L. Walker, vice president of United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company.



Daggett Harvey

Mr. Harvey, an outstanding civic leader and philanthropist, is president and director of Chicago Maternity Center, president of Chicago Community Music Foundation, vice president and director of the Alliance Francaise, vice president and director of Lincoln Park Zoological Society, former president and member of the advisory council of the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations, and director and vice president of the Chicago Crime Commission.

Mr. Walker was a member of the Commission for the past six years, and was vice chairman when he resigned. He was a member of the Mayor's Committee on New Residents since its inception in 1956, and served as its chairman for the past year. He and his wife now are residing in Nogales, Ariz. He plans to go on extended leave from United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company the first of next year.

Five Major Events Spur Fair Housing Support

Support for fair housing practices legislation picked up momentum in the Chicago Metropolitan area through five important events.

1. More than 475 suburban North Shore women at a recent Inter-Community Human Relations Conference in Highland Park have called for support of fair housing practices legislation on local, state and national levels. Represented were 26 organizations from Glenview, Glencoe, Winnetka, Kenilworth, Wilmette, Highland Park, Lake Bluff, Lake Forest, Long Grove, Deerfield, Skokie, and Northbrook, among others.

2. The Illinois State AFL-CIO convention in Springfield went on record in favor of and urging passage of a Fair Housing Act in Illinois to prohibit discrimination in the sale or rental of housing because of creed, color or national origin.

3. The Chicago League of Women Voters, which has given top priority this year to promotion of fair housing practices, has begun its campaign by briefing members at special sessions and at an all-member meeting in League Headquarters, 67 East Madison Street. Among speakers at the latter event were Richard D. Jaffe, chairman of the Community Organization committee of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, and Mrs. Susan Campos of the Commission staff.

4. United Citizens' Committee for Freedom of Residence opened a Chicago office in Room 1523 at 28 East Jackson Boulevard. This is in addition to its Evanston office at 1514 Elmwood Avenue.

5. The Rev. Martin Luther King rallied support for fair housing practices legislation at a meeting sponsored by Freedom of Residence and attended by more than 1,000 persons, mostly suburbanites.

Doug Turner Joins Parole Board

Douglass R. Turner has resigned as director of housing and community services for the Chicago Commission on Human Relations. Turner, who had been with the Commission since June 1952, was recently appointed to the Illinois Parole and Pardon Board by Governor Otto Kerner.

FHA Bans Racial Bias Prop In Sale of Foreclosed Homes

The Federal Housing Administration has abandoned its exclusive listing policy on the sale of foreclosed homes, removing the prop for racial and religious discrimination in the sale of FHA held properties.

Under a new ruling by FHA Commissioner Neal J. Hardy, the agency is doing away with the practice of giving real estate brokers exclusive listings for properties it had acquired after a mortgage it had insured was foreclosed. This practice resulted in brokers preventing members of minority groups from buying houses in certain neighborhoods.

The new ruling directs FHA field offices to make their lists of property for sale available to all qualified brokers. General listing permits any person meeting FHA's down-payment and credit requirements to buy FHA-acquired property.

Two other on-going programs in this field are conducted by the Veterans Administration, which provides quarterly listings of acquired properties to VA approved brokers, and the Voluntary Home Mortgage Credit Program. The latter is a referral agency for residents of rural communities that may have no lending institutions nearby and for minority group members who have difficulty obtaining home financing through normal lending channels.

AWARDS LUNCHEON (Continued from Page 1) will be given to Mr. Gross, "For unremitting work in exposing the evils of racial and religious discrimination and prejudice, for wise counsel and leadership in the search for means to eliminate them."

Lee Schooler, president of The Public Relations Board, Inc., and chairman of the Awards Committee, reported that selection of the honorees was more difficult this year because nominations greatly exceeded those of past years.

Mayor Richard J. Daley will present the awards. Ely M. Aaron, Commission chairman, and Edward Marciniak, executive director, will report on human relations in Chicago during 1962.

James C. Downs, Jr., chairman of the board of Real Estate Research Corp., and a former member of the Awards Committee, will serve again as luncheon chairman and master of ceremonies.



Richard J. Daley, Mayor
Ely M. Aaron, Chairman
Ralph D. Robinson, Secretary
Morris Bialis
Augustine J. Bowe
Dr. Preston Bradley
Clifford J. Campbell
William G. Caples
Lester Crown
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Daggett Harvey
Maurice McElligott
Hale Nelson
Peter R. Scalise
Edward Marciniak, Executive Director

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