

# HUMAN RELATIONS NEWS

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## Hold First Public Hearing Under Fair Housing Ordinance

The first public hearing under Chicago's new fair housing ordinance was held June 3 in City Hall.

Complainant in the case was Anderson Young, 4040 W. Maypole Avenue, a produce company worker. Respondents were Thomas J. Connery and M. J. Connery & Sons, Inc., a realty firm at 4236 W. Madison Street.

Young accused Connery of refusing on February 8 to rent him an apartment in either of two West side buildings managed by the Connery firm. Young charged he was discriminated against because he is a Negro.

Connery did not appear to testify. Previously, he denied he violated the housing ordinance.

Attorney Jerome J. Friedman, a member of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, served as hearing examiner.

This complaint was one of fifteen charging unfair housing practices that were received by the Commission in the first three months of 1964. Two other cases were received in the closing months of 1963, bringing the total to 17 as of March 31.

In an analysis of the complaints, Edward Marciniak, executive director of the Commission, said:

"Racial discrimination by brokers was charged in 11 complaints, all filed by Negroes. Eight of these involved rental property; three, the sale of homes.

"In three cases filed by whites, eviction from rental apartments was the complaint. One of these charged nationality discrimination—the complainant's husband being Mexican. In the three remaining cases, panic peddling was charged—two filed by whites and one by a Negro.

"Nine of the 17 complaints received have been dismissed," Marciniak said. "Five because no probable cause for an unfair housing practice was found, and four were successfully adjusted.

"In four other cases probable cause for an unfair housing practice was found and are in conciliation. Three others were still being investigated, and one went to public hearing."

Marciniak continued:

"The geographical areas where complaints were made

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## Seek Volunteer Tutors For Summer at 23 Sites

Volunteers are being sought to tutor children and adults this summer at 23 different locations throughout Chicago, Edward Marciniak, director of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, announced.

Marciniak, speaking on behalf of the Mayor's Committee on New Residents, said college students and adults are needed to tutor at various day and evening hours during the week and on Saturday.

The institutions at which there will be tutoring programs during the summer include:

Henry Booth House, Mary McDowell Settlement House, Bethlehem Church, Salvation Army, Gads Hill Center, Wentworth Gardens, Fellowship House, Chicago Commons, Henry Horner House, Rendu House, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Trumbull Park, Marillac Social Center, First Immanuel Lutheran Church, Youth Opportunities Project House, North Park Study Center, and St. Andrews' Episcopal Church.

Organizations that will sponsor tutoring programs at

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Winners of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations contest for the best news story or editorial on human relations written by high school students were, left to right, Margaret Williamson, 16 years old, Farragut High School; Mary Lou Lifka, 17, Nazareth Academy in LaGrange Park; Diane Lynch, 18, Parker High School, and Theodore Terpstra, 17, Harper High School. They were awarded plaques by the Chicago Headline Club, which judged the contest, at the organization's April 24 dinner meeting in the Morrison Hotel. The Club is the local chapter of Sigma Delta Chi, national professional journalism society.





*Teenage fans of Mayor Richard J. Daley surround him for autographs at the Contemporary Affairs Forum sponsored by the Chicago Sun-Times and the Chicago Daily News in March at Illinois Institute of Technology. The Mayor spoke on "The Changing City" at the Forum. Approximately 850 copies of "Your Civil Rights," published by the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, were distributed to the students and teachers who attended the Forum. Copies of the booklet, which is an up-to-date listing of civil rights measures in Illinois and Chicago, are available in limited quantities to groups sponsoring similar programs. Telephone requests to the Commission, 236-4912.*

*—Chicago Sun-Times Photo*

## Rogers Park Clergy

The Rogers Park-North Town Inter-Faith Fellowship on Chicago's far north side has publicly pledged "to build a community in which every faith, cultural and racial strand shall cooperate and live together for the values of a free and peaceful society."

To implement its pledge, the Fellowship plans to hold an area-wide conference, publish its statement in church and synagogue periodicals and ask their social action committees to discuss the appeal.

## League of Women Voters

Chicago League of Women Voters adopted support of fair housing practices legislation as the number one item in its list of continuing responsibilities. At its annual meeting in April, the League also agreed to continue to work for improved real estate practices and "education of the public to create an atmosphere of support of open housing policies." Mrs. Ely M. Aaron is the League's newly elected president.

## City Club of Chicago

The City Club of Chicago has endorsed the Chicago Fair Housing Ordinance and called for enactment of a statewide law to end racial discrimination in housing.

In a statement issued in March, the Club, a nonpartisan organization composed of many of the area's leading citizens, stated, "Any fair housing practices legislation which is not statewide is only a first step toward an effective program to end housing discrimination."

# Chamber Asks Aid for Employment Programs

Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry's Committee for Full Employment has called upon Chicago metropolitan area employers to give their support this Spring to any of nine programs aimed at reducing unemployment.

Frank H. Cassell, chairman, urged employers to select the program best suited to their firm's recruitment needs. He said the nine programs were examined by the committee and found to be "realistic, professional and serious."

The nine are:

Job Opportunities Through Better Skills, a joint project of the Chicago Boys Clubs, Chicago Youth Centers and Chicago YMCA;

Employment Opportunities Fair, which was held by the Central South Side Community Workers on May 21, 22 and 23 in the South Parkway YWCA, 436 E. 39th Street;

Employment Development Fair, which will be held by the Neighborhood Institutional Advisory Council on September 10, 11 and 12 in the Lower North Center, 1000 N. Sedgwick Avenue;

Commission on Youth Welfare, which is seeking to place graduates from four Chicago high schools in jobs;

Illinois State Employment Service Cooperative High School Program;

Manpower Development and Training Program;

Welfare Rehabilitation Service of the Cook County Department of Public Aid;

Apprentice Information Center, and

On The Job Training.

The committee released its new "Merit Employment Handbook," a guide for eliminating discriminatory practices within firms and for initiating a program to recruit minority skills. It costs 25 cents and is available from the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, 30 W. Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois 60603.



*Edmund Brooks, right, director of civil rights services of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, addresses the Chicago Police Department's Fourth Annual Commanding Officers Seminar on Human Relations on April 30 at the Police Academy. Brooks briefed the police command on tension areas in the city. Each of the city's police district commanders, captains and lieutenants attended one of the five day-long sessions.*



## CRP Sees Reversal Of Neighborhood Change

Proposals to reverse the past pattern of massive neighborhood change from all-white to all-Negro, and establish, instead, a trend to stable, integrated neighborhoods are part of the Community Renewal Program's comprehensive plan for the future development of Chicago.

The CRP, a city agency, issued the report as a proposal for community-wide discussion. The report will be presented to the Mayor and the City Council on June 30.

In a summary of its findings and recommendations, CRP said:

"It is apparent that the accommodation of the growing non-white population in the Chicago Metropolitan Area will mean that many dwellings now occupied by white families and many dwellings yet to be built in areas of predominantly white occupancy will be occupied in the future by non-white families.

"It has been projected that, under current trends, much of this accommodation will take place through massive transition of neighborhoods from white to non-white occupancy, primarily in areas peripheral to sections now occupied predominantly by non-whites.

"It is the objective of the city to change these trends and achieve harmonious, stabilized neighborhoods attractive to families of all races, nationalities and creeds."

The proposed community renewal program is designed to help achieve this objective in the following ways:

- By increasing both the quality and quantity of housing in the city.
- By expanding renewal resources in neighborhoods in which possible transition from white to non-white occupancy may occur that would slow down out-migration of families and attract new families while pursuing the policy of equal opportunity and fair housing practices.
- By continuing the non-discrimination policies in urban renewal projects which have helped neighborhoods to achieve stable racial relations.

## First Public Hearing

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occurred in Hyde Park, with four complaints; South Shore, with six; and Englewood, with one. Two of the panic peddling cases were in the South Shore area. The third was in Burnside.

"Other community areas where violations were charged were the Near North Side, Douglas, West Garfield Park, Washington Heights and Calumet Heights."

The Commission on Human Relations is the government agency administering Chicago's fair housing ordinance.



Edward Marciniak, right, director of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, welcomes Herbert Bilsky, 16, to the offices of the Commission. Bilsky served as the Commission's junior executive director in connection with the city-wide Junior Officials Day May 12. He represented the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, in which he is president of the Chicago Region AZA and was coordinator of the Annual Judaism Leadership Institute held May 22 through 24 in Waukegan. Bilsky is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joel Bilsky, 6325 N. Artesian Avenue, and is a junior at Mather High School.

## Two Other Illinois Cities Adopt Fair Housing Laws

Following Chicago's action, two other Illinois cities adopted fair housing ordinances regulating practices of real estate brokers, and a third adopted a resolution calling for non-discrimination in housing.

The two with ordinances are East St. Louis and Peoria. Freeport passed the resolution.

East St. Louis' ordinance was passed by the City Council on February 6, 1964. Similar to the Chicago Fair Housing Ordinance, it bans practices of racial and religious discrimination by real estate brokers in the sale, rental, lease or occupancy of any residential real estate. It also outlaws "panic peddling." Violators are subject to a fine up to \$200. (Violators of the Chicago ordinance face suspension or revocation of their broker's license.)

Peoria's ordinance was passed by the City Council on December 30, 1963. It prohibits real estate brokers from being a party to a number of practices which have been used to restrict Negroes to particular neighborhoods. It also bans "panic peddling."

Peoria's ordinance creates a Fair Housing Board to administer the law. It consists of five members appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council. Penalty for violation of the ordinance is suspension or revocation of the broker's license.

Freeport's resolution states that "it is the policy of the City of Freeport that all persons financially able to buy or rent housing or residential property, in any area within the jurisdiction of the city, shall not be denied on the basis of their race, creed, color or national origin."



## OSC Indexes Prices to Stabilize Home Sales

Organization for the Southwest Community is seeking support of real estate brokers, home owners and home buyers to end exploitation in the housing market in racially changing neighborhoods. OSC is one of Chicago's most effective racially-integrated community associations, with 137 affiliated organizations.

In a new move to combat speculators' activities, OSC is preparing a street index of the southwest community from 67th and State Streets, south and west to the city limits, showing the prices paid for every property sold under mortgage since January, 1962.

The list is available to the public and is posted in the OSC office at 747 W. 79th Street. The street-by-street index shows the sales price of every real estate transfer in the area since 1962, up to and including those of last week.

In a letter to 110 real estate men in the area, Max Sonderby, chairman of OSC real estate practices, said:

"The OSC believes that the local legitimate real estate men could perform an important public service to both buyers and sellers by letting them know that they don't have to deal with a speculator and that they can 'get the facts' about the neighborhood in question."

OSC asked the real estate brokers to:

- Make it possible for the seller and buyer to meet before the deal is closed.
- Provide full disclosure of purchase and sale price.
- Make available the price paid by the seller at the time of original purchase.

Sonderby said the street index combined with the help of real estate people "can end the disparate price system in the community, eliminate exploitation, and provide a stabilizing force in the community."

At first, about four buyers and sellers were stopping daily in the OSC office to look at the list, and now it has increased to about six a day. "Your support could increase this number," Sonderby told the real estate men. "We would like to make available, as a public service, a list of real estate brokers who are willing to cooperate in these efforts," he said.

"As you know, the familiar pattern is for white home-



*Dr. Leonidas H. Berry, left, chairman of the Council on Medical Education of the National Medical Association, discusses the recent national conference on "Recruitment in Medical Careers" with Mrs. Exie Watson Jones, director, Woodlawn Center YWCA; Dr. Alfred Klinger, past president, South Side Branch of the Chicago Medical Society, and Mrs. Maude Giles, of the Cook County Physicians Association Women's Auxiliary. More than 700 high school students interested in hearing about opportunities in the field of medicine attended the conference, which was held at the University of Chicago.*

## Seek Summer Tutors

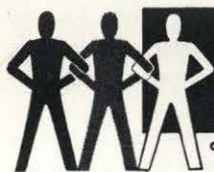
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various sites are the NAACP, Cardinal's Committee for the Spanish Speaking, Pilsen Neighbors, Tutoring Project for Mothers in Woodlawn, and Ralph Metcalfe Youth Foundation.

Marciniak said additional tutoring sites are expected to be added to the list by the end of June.

Persons who want to volunteer to tutor are being asked to contact Mrs. May Peterson, of the Welfare Council of Metropolitan Chicago Volunteer Bureau, 123 West Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois, telephone AN 3-0640.

owners to sell their homes at a loss while the Negro home buyer pays an inflated price for the same property," he explained. "Both parties lose while the speculator makes a profit from both. The consequences of this system are fear and panic by the whites and financial hardship for the Negro, leaving no money for home maintenance."



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