

# — READ THE OMAHA GUIDE —

## Housing Group Says Civil Rights Goals Not Reached

The National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing Tuesday warned President Eisenhower that the Administration's announced civil rights goals "have not been realized nor even vigorously approached" in federal housing programs.

George L-P Weaver, acting chairman of the committee, in a letter to President Eisenhower at the summer White House in Denver, vigorously attacked the dismissal of Dr. Frank Horne, the racial minorities expert of the Housing and Home Finance Agency.

Mr. Weaver, who is also director of the CIO's Committee on Civil Rights, charged Dr. Horne's dismissal for "transparent reasons can only be interpreted as a blow against the principle of non-discrimination" in housing.

Recalling earlier presidential statements on the subject, dating back to January 25, 1954, Mr. Weaver noted that "Segregation still remains in the housing programs supported and sponsored by the federal government."

Mr. Weaver observed that elimination of residential segregation has always been a major object in the struggle for equality. "Today, he said, it has 'special immediacy' in view of the Supreme Court non-segregation school decision.

"The greatest danger of successful evasion of the Supreme Court's public school decisions is residential segregation," Mr. Weaver said.

Mr. Weaver charged that during the past two years the "tremendously important work of the Racial Relations Service of the Housing and Home Finance Agency has 'experienced gradual demoralization and disintegration.'"

The committee said: "The facts of the situation first manifested themselves in September 1953, when Dr. Frank S. Horne was notified that he was to be replaced as the director of the Racial Relations Service. On October 1, HHFA Administrator Albert M. Cole appointed Joseph R. Ray, a Louisville real estate man, director of the Service. But as a result of nationwide protest, Dr. Horne was re-assigned as Assistant to the Administrator to develop new approaches to the housing of minority families. Mr. Cole pledged at that time that the agency's policy of giving active and strong support to improved housing opportunity for minorities will continue, and the integrity and professional quality of these services will be fully maintained.

"However, during these two years, there has been steady retreat from sound racial policies. As these policies have been strengthened both the policies and responding deterioration in the effectiveness of the Racial Relations Service. This has happened despite repeated conferences with the Administrator resulting in commitments from him to strengthen both the policies and the Racial Relations Service. "All of the requirements that would insure racial equity have been quietly removed from the rules, regulations and contract requirements from the Public Housing Administration. The positions of the ten field FHA Racial Relations officers have been removed from the classified Civil Service. The success of the new urban renewal program, so dramatically conceived by your Administration, which would clear slums and rebuild cities, depends entirely upon the solution of the housing needs of the families affected - approximately 60% of whom are from racial minorities. "To this hour, no policies have been approved and no service has been established to deal with the racial problem in urban renewal. This can lead to two results, either the creation of new racial ghettos with the implied sanction of your administration or the complete failure of this entire program. "Through his own initiative, Dr. Horne has repeatedly pointed out these potential pitfalls. He has been rewarded by being excluded from high level policy conferences, his recommendations have been ignored, and he has been totally isolated from an opportunity to bring his experiences and skills to bear on any policies or procedures. "Finally, Mr. Weaver said, Dr. Horne was removed from his post on July 25, on the grounds of 'budgetary considerations.' Mr. Weaver charged these grounds were "admittedly an evasion" for the appropriation for the coming fiscal year was larger than ever and Dr. Horne was subsequently offered another newly created post. This, he said, "underscores the insincerity" of Administrator Cole's action. Mr. Weaver concluded: "For the past two years, we have urged Administrator Cole to take a firm stand to prohibit the use of federal housing aids to support patterns of residential segregation. Such a stand has not been taken. On the contrary, Mr. Cole in appearing before a Congressional committee, urged that we 'go slow' in eliminating segregation from the federal housing programs. The dismissal of Dr. Horne and his associates and the demoralization of the Racial Relations Service would thus seem to be part of a pattern to do nothing with regard to the real problems of racial discrimination and segregation which remain in the federal housing programs. "Dr. Horne, with his associates, career civil servants through close to two decades of experience, has been the national symbol of the progress which had been made in this field. His dismissal at this time for these transparent reasons can only be interpreted as a blow against the principle of non-discrimination. I urge you to look into this matter and to prevent this grave mistake from taking place."

## Omegas Meet In Los Angeles

Los Angeles-The Omega Psi Phi Fraternity holding its 42nd annual Grand Conclave here, August 18-23, voted to "dedicate all of its resources" during the coming year towards implementation of the U. S. Supreme Court decision regarding segregation in public schools.

The organization called upon its nearly 18,000 members throughout the nation to seek out and deplore, at every opportunity, the attitudes of those who would disregard the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man.

The Fraternity accorded the NAACP overwhelming support and commendation. Already holding life membership, the group voted a substantial contribution to be made during the next fiscal year and set in motion plans through which the nearly 150 graduate chapters would proceed to assume life memberships on a national basis.

The local Lambda Omicron Chapter, one of the host groups, led the drive by taking the life membership on the final day of the five-day meet.

Roy W. Wilkins, national Executive Secretary of the NAACP and a member of the fraternity, attended the sessions and participated in a workshop on the fraternity's theme for the current year.

Following the workshop, the group was brought up-to-date on recent developments in Mississippi following the court's decision by Dr. Theodore Howard, Mound Bayou, state president of the NAACP and a member of the Fraternity.

Principle addresses were delivered at the Conclave by Dr. Matthew J. Whitehead, Washington, D. C. Dean, Graduate School, District of Columbia Teachers College, and Thomas L. Griffith, Judge, Municipal Court of Los Angeles, both members of the Fraternity. Judge Griffith spoke at the annual Founders' Banquet honoring the living founders; The Right Reverend Edgar A. Love, Baltimore, Md., Bishop of the Methodist Church; Dr. Oscar J. Cooper, Philadelphia physician and Dr. Frank Coeman, Professor, Howard University, Washington, D. C.

A highlight of the meet was the second annual Talent Demonstration which featured young musicians who had won out in district Talent Hunts sponsored by the Fraternity throughout the country.

It was the first time in the 44 year history of the Fraternity that its annual meeting had been held on the West Coast, but nearly 1,000 visitors and delegates were on hand for the event.

New officers elected for the coming year included: Herbert E. Tucker, Boston, Mass., Grand Basileus; Earl E. Reeves, West Virginia State College, Institute, West Virginia, Second Vice Grand Basileus; Walter H. Riddick, Norfolk, Va., Grand Keeper of Records and Seal; E. F. Corbett, Greensboro, N. C., Editor of the Oracle, the Fraternity publication; J. B. Blayton, Atlanta, Ga., Grand Keeper of Finance, and Carl A. Earles, Los Angeles, Grand Counselor.

The Fraternity will hold its next annual meeting in December, 1956, at Baltimore, Md.

Mrs. Leroy Gule, chairman of the Committee on Administration, announces a meeting of that body on Thursday evening, September 8, at 7:30 P. M. All members are urged to be present. The Fall program will be reviewed, and plans made for the various committees and their work. A motion picture, "Roots of Happiness", will be used in the discussions. The picture shows those qualities needed for harmonious living and working together, whatever the group.

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## Northside Y Opens Sunday

Attention is centered at the Branch on the coming Fall Open House which will be held on Sunday afternoon, September 11, at 5 P. M. Some special features have been arranged. Demonstrations on activities that will be offered in the winter will be given by a group of instructors.

The following will be featured: Flower Arranging, by Mrs. Guy Wiley, of the Gardenia Garden Club, Mrs. Miller, Head designer, for Ederer Florists will demonstrate Floristry. This class will lead to a skill that will have commercial value. Fancy Cookery again will be shown by Mesdames Johns and Giles; Weaving by Mrs. Edith Grant, member of the Omaha Weavers Guild; Mrs.

Leroy Wright, Chairman of Ladies-Day-Out Activities will demonstrate Sewing and Needle crafts; Mrs. Christine Althouse will show some of her priceless Ceramic creations; Mrs. Robert Davis will demonstrate Cake Decorating, and Mrs. Kenneth Myers will be on hand for those who want to learn to play Bridge.

Then as a special feature, Miss Elsie Mallory, member of the Omaha YWCA, and well known nationally and internationally in YWCA circles, will talk and show pictures of some of her travels in the near and Far East. This will be an important feature, in the light of our present relations with the Orient. All members and friends of the YWCA, men and women, are welcome, and urged to attend. Remember the date --September 11 -5: P. M.

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## NOTICE

TO: All Employees of School Districts of the State of Nebraska, and County School Officials, Who Are or May be Members of the School Retirement System of the State of Nebraska.

Pursuant to the provisions of L. B. 330 of the Sixty-Seventh Session of the Legislature of Nebraska, notice is hereby given to each of you that you may vote at a referendum upon the following question:

"Shall service in positions covered by the Nebraska School Retirement System be covered by the Social Security Act?"

To be eligible to vote in such referendum, you must be employed in a position covered by the School Retirement System and be a member of it, and you must have been employed in such position on the date of this notice.

Ballots will be available to employees of Class I School Districts on December 17, 1955, at the offices of the county superintendents of the counties in which such districts are located. Ballots will be available to employees of Class II, Class III, Class IV, and Class VI School Districts on December 18, 1955, at the office of the superintendent of schools in such districts. An absent or disabled voter will, upon application in advance to his county superintendent or superintendent of the school in which he is employed, as the case may be, be sent an absent voter's ballot.

Voters will mark ballots according to specific instructions provided therewith and mail said ballots to the Supervisor of Social Security Referendum, Room 2311, State Capitol Building, Lincoln 9, Nebraska. Ballots to be counted must be post-marked prior to midnight December 17, 1955.

Dated this 6th day of September, 1955.

F. A. Herrington  
Supervisor of Referendum

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