

Jews, Negroes Banned In U.S.-Financed Homes

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By Carl Harris

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"Every American family should own a home" . . . except Jews and Negroes.

So runs the slogan of one of Chicago's largest real estate outfits, the Robert Bartlett Co., 111 W. Washington St.

These Jim-Crow, "Verboten-to-Jews" homes are being financed by the Federal government, the Record learned yesterday.

Harlem Heights, where such discrimination is the rule, is a Bartlett subdivision just outside the city limits, and described in an attractive 32-page booklet.

One of the strongest selling points for lots in Harlem Heights is the fact that this subdivision is "approved" by the Federal Housing Administration.

**EVERY AMERICAN FAMILY
SHOULD OWN A HOME . . .**

op
planning
TECTION. No
big as four city lots,
spacious lawns, vegetable
than one dwelling house may be
sized parcel, thus avoiding congestion.
cost of a principal building can not be less than
is a safeguard against shacks and jerry-building.
goats, or horses may not be kept on the premises . . . Sewage
disposal septic device must be completely installed before
real estate can be occupied. This prevents outhouses and
other undesirable features from marring the community . . .
OWNERSHIP, USE, AND OCCUPANCY in HARLEM
HEIGHTS is strictly restricted to Caucasians . . . All these
restrictions and conditions run with the land until January
1, 1965.

FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION APPROVAL

HARLEM HEIGHTS having all the other requirements of
and ideal community and being developed by the leading
firm of its kind in metropolitan Chicago, is a community
approved by the FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION
for insured loans to qualified homebuilders.

EXERPTS from 32-page booklet put out by the Robert Bartlett Co. shows restrictions at the Harlem Heights subdivision and approval by the Federal Housing Administration. Top part shows cover of booklet with slogan, "Every American Family Should Own A Home."

On Page 15 of this same booklet, you may also read that this property "is restricted to Caucasians."

The Record learned that this restriction includes Jews.

Morris Hauser, 302 S. Market St., applied for a job as a salesman for Bartlett's. Mr. Hauser is Jewish. But after Bartlett sales manager W. F. Brown, had shown him around the mile square Harlem Heights subdivision at 123 St., and Harlem Ave., Hauser was told that property was not to be sold to Jews.

"If you think I'd help to build a Hitler state near Chicago, you're crazy!"

Morris Hauser told Mr. Brown, indignantly.

From the same Mr. Brown, the Record learned that out of 102 homes erected on Bartlett's property in Palos Heights, 90 were financed by the Federal Housing Administration.

Mr. Brown's secretary, Miss Simon, declared: "The Bartlett Company doesn't make a habit of selling property to Jews."

Miss Simon also told the reporter that she was Jewish, but was the only Jew in the vast Bartlett organization.

When presented with these facts, Federal Housing Administration spokesmen took the attitude of, "You can't pin this on us. This matter is outside of our jurisdiction."

After telling the Record the old one about, "Some of my best friends are Jews," State Director of the FHA John O'Connor attempted to laugh the whole thing off.

"They haven't ruled out the Irish yet, have they?" joked Mr. O'Connor.

He also declared that the FHA intends to do nothing about discrimination against Jews and Negroes on property advertised as being "approved by the Federal Housing Administration."

The Robert Bartlett Realty Company is one of Chicago's foremost rent-gougers. Through raising city rents sky high, they are forcing families to move out to the country.

"Already," says their booklet, "rent increases of 5 to 15 per cent are city wide . . . By owning your own home, you can 'peg-down' expenses for shelter and have more to spend for other things."

Further they list reasons for not living in the city: "Impure air, seldom fit to breathe; impure water, congestion, a constant health menace; noises, wreck your nervous system; lack of vegetation; dangers to children, traffic, social, moral . . ."

Then the answer is given as to how a family is supposed to buy one of these attractive homes:

"Harlem Heights . . . is a community approved by the Federal Housing Administration for insured loans to qualified homebuilders.

"New, easily-understood and easily-managed financial arrangements now possible in Federal Housing Administration approved districts, place the ownership of a modern home within the reach of the family of moderate means."