

# UNITED WELFARE ASSOCIATION

Organized to Secure the Enactment of an Ordinance that Will Prevent Further Invasion of White Resident Neighborhoods by Negroes and Vice Versa

Mr. Wm. K. Bixby,  
 508 Century Bldg.,  
 City.

SAINT LOUIS

February  
 5th  
 1915.

Dear Neighbor :-

DO YOU REALIZE that at any time you are liable to suffer an irreparable loss, due to the coming of NEGROES into the block in which you live or in which you own property? The race question is one of vital interest to property owners. A colored resident in your immediate neighborhood destroys the value of your property immeasurably. Perhaps you do not think that your neighborhood will be invaded. Neither do you believe you are going to have a fire when you pay your fire insurance. While perhaps you have not yet been affected by this class of people coming into your neighborhood, you surely want protection against this growing danger which is more menacing than fire or the elements. At present you have no remedy in a matter of this kind.

The UNITED WELFARE ASSOCIATION, composed of representatives from the organizations appearing below, was organized to secure the enactment of the necessary laws that will effectively check the inroads of negroes into white resident districts. The Baltimore law, now in successful and satisfactory operation, was written in conformity with recommendations made by the Maryland Court Of Appeals, which court unanimously held that the segregation of the Negro for the preservation of the peace does not violate his Constitutional rights. By means of the Initiative, we propose submitting this question to a vote of the people, and we are confident that this law will be adopted by an overwhelming majority. This will relieve our lawmakers who for political reasons would not pass such a law.

The expenditure of a considerable sum of money will be necessary to conduct successfully a campaign of this kind, and we write to you because you are vitally interested in this proposed measure. We feel confident that you readily perceive the urgent necessity of immediate and concerted action, and that you are willing to bear your proportion of the expenses incurred. You can use your discretion as to the amount. Make checks or drafts payable to the St. Louis Real Estate Exchange, an organization composed of men of established business reputation, which will act as depository and guardian of this fund, and guarantee its proper expenditure.

When work on the Central Parkway is commenced, some 15000 negroes who now live in that district will be forced to find other quarters, and some of them may move next door to you. You as a taxpayer should be mindful of the great responsibility that rests upon you. By contributing and co-operating in this cause you will not only be protecting yourself but the entire City. The need of a remedy for this ever present danger is absolutely imperative, and to delay longer may bring financial disaster not only to yourself but to others. Contributors names will not be made public. It is of utmost importance that you read the enclosed pamphlet. Use the enclosed envelope for mailing in your contribution "DO IT NOW". Thanking you in advance for your co-operation, we beg to remain,

Very truly yours,

UNITED WELFARE ASSOCIATION

*Wayne E. Wheeling*, Secty.  
 ST. LOUIS REAL ESTATE EXCHANGE

**THIS MOVEMENT  
 IS INDORSED BY THE  
 FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS**

Bircher Heights Improvement Association  
 Central West Improvement Association  
 Chouteau-Lindell Improvement Association  
 Civic Realty Co.  
 Dakota Park Improvement Association  
 Forest Park Residents' Association

Forty Four Hundred Block,  
 West Belle Improvement Association  
 Harney Heights Improvement Association  
 Marcus Avenue Improvement Association  
 North St. Louis Business Men's Association

North St. Louis Improvement Association  
 North-West St. Louis Improvement Association  
 Shaw District Improvement Association  
 Tenth Ward Improvement Association  
 Tower Grove Heights Improvement Association

This movement is also supported by the Central Civic Council