

# THERE ARE MANY OCCASIONS FOR GIVING THANKS



HOW SWEET IT IS--to be five and to be the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. J. L. Simmons. This happy little gathering was occasioned by the 5th birthday of little Sharon Simmons...Flanking the birthday honoree, from left, are a number of darlings beginning with Val Lucas, Rose Lee Levi, James Nickols, Jr., Jacquelyn Thomas, Christopher Thomas, Janice Thomas, and Vernon Thomas...Thomases are in there, aren't they? But eagle-eyed Dad, the Rev. Simmons is keeping a sharp eye on the happenings.

\*\*\*\*\*

NOW -- We grow older and our busy lives curtail us to the traditional 'mores' of testifying "How Sweet It Is"...Such an occasion was the Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner Tuesday, Nov. 21, at Herbert Gerson Park sponsored by the Senior Citizens "Golden Key Club".

In photo left, Mrs. Lubertha Johnson, Operation Independence Director is shown as she addressed the assemblage--from left, facing camera--K. O. Knudson, V. O'Connor, Agnes O'Connor, Rev. M. A. Bennett, Artfur Sartini, and H. H. Bud Weeks. Guests with backs turned to camera are Louise Smith, Ann Keener, T. Coleman, and Cleo Swoneiger.

Lower photo left pictures (from left) VISTA VOLUNTEER Clara Bailey, responsible for the occasion; Edna Carter, Exie Thompson, Jessie Hutchins, and Pearline York--Rear, from left, are Alma Williams, Ceola Johnson, Catherine Nevels, Alvanda Harris, and Georgia Lightfoot --All these ladies are members of the Golden Key Club or community volunteers who worked arduously to make the affair the success it proved to be.

## Fair Housing Covenance Believed To Be Answer

WASHINGTON - (NPI)--What, another organization in support of fair housing?

This one just might get results, for it is using personal commitment to promote open occupancy, rather than usually ineffective housing laws and programs.

Named the National Committee on Tithing in Investment, the group calls on Americans for more than money.

It can use that. But even more, it's looking for pledges of agreement to live in integrated neighborhoods.

The organization's "Fair Housing Pledge," for which it is seeking millions of signatures, has this statement:

"When I change my residence" (I agree):  
"If white, to try to find housing on a block where Negroes already live.

"If Negro, to try to find housing on a block where Negroes do not live, far from areas of Negro concentration."

IN THE pledges, signers also agree "to try to invest a reasonable portion of any capital I influence in the development of open housing."

This project is called "tithing in investment," based on the "idea that one's investment's can be an eloquent voice for integration."

The committee, whose chairman is Rep. Donald M. Fraser of Minnesota, asks individuals and civic groups to solicit signatures.

And it's working at top speed, for it believes that both Negroes and whites "must take new steps or integrated areas will become segregated and our cities will more and more become ghettos surrounded by the white noose of suburbia."

NCTI's 11th-hour actions are being taken in the face of mounting housing segregation across the nation--especially in areas where open occupancy is required by law.

FEDERAL AND state programs have produced some token results, but, in general, housing integration occurs where local residents decide that it will work.

The personal desire to live in an integrated neighborhood is a key element in maintaining mixed neighborhoods. And this desire can be neither legislated nor programmed.

Rather than meeting bureaucratic needs, fair housing should meet ethical as well as physical needs, according to the organization's spokesmen.

And by personally involving Americans as individuals in the struggle for fair housing, NCTI just might succeed where other efforts have failed.

