



NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN
Greater New Orleans Section

MRS. SAMUEL B. KATZ, *President*
3101 Octavia Street
New Orleans, La. 70125

MRS. HERBERT GARON, *Corresp. Sec'y.*
314 Audubon Blvd.
New Orleans, La. 70125

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

July 2, 1965

Mayor Victor Schiro
City Hall
New Orleans, La.

Dear Mayor Schiro,

For several years, the Greater New Orleans Section, National Council of Jewish Women has been concerned over the closing of swimming pools in public parks and in NORD playgrounds.

New Orleans is a city surrounded by water and yet most children have no place to swim during the long summer vacation. The increasing number of drownings in our city points up the need for expert instruction in supervised pools.

We sincerely hope that some method will be found to open swimming pools to the general public during this summer.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Samuel B. Katz, President

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POOL REOPENING INTENT--SCHIRO

'We'll Work Out Plan'
in 1966, Says Mayor

Mayor Victor H. Schiro said Monday that he expects to reopen the city's swimming pools next summer if he is reelected and that Negroes are nearly 40 per cent of New Orleans' population and are entitled to be represented in government.

When the New Orleans Recreation Department began its summer program in 1963 the swimming pools were not opened. At that time the matter of segregation of the city's recreation facilities was in litigation and on Aug. 1, 1963, a three-judge federal court ordered them desegregated. The pools were never reopened.

"Next year we'll work out a plan to use these pools," Schiro said at his Monday press conference.

The mayor declined to say whether if he is reelected he will appoint a Negro to the city attorney's staff, but he asserted that Negroes comprise nearly 40 per cent of the city's population and "they should have somebody to represent them."

Already Negroes are employed in jobs above "menial" level in city government, Schiro said. There are Negro clerks in the Housing Authority of New Orleans office and there are about 50 Negroes on the police force, one of whom recently was promoted to lieutenant, he said.

Reopening City Pools Is Studied

Interest is being shown in the reopening of city swimming pools, Mayor Victor Schiro revealed Monday in his press conference.

The mayor said it is a problem that will have to be worked out, and an answer will be forthcoming "after we have analyzed it properly."

The pools have been closed since desegregation of public facilities was ordered, and representatives of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People have met with the mayor on the subject for several weeks.