Architect's concept of the Clayton, the first city-aided middle-income co-operative project to be developed in Harlem under the Mitchell-Lama Act.

'Reform' Dem Has Realty Office At Tammany Club

By WOODY KLEIN,
World-Telegram Staff Writer.

A “new concept of Democratic reform politics” has one of Mayor Robert F. Wagner’s top aides peddling scarce middle-income apartments in a Tammany clubhouse, the World-Telegram learned today.

J. Raymond Jones, the Harlem Democratic district leader currently vying for Carmine De Sapio’s seat as Tammany boss, uses his own office as a clearing center for applicants to the first city-aided middle-income project in the area.

Probe Pledged.

James W. Gaynor, commissioner of the State Housing Division, immediately pledged to “investigate to find out if any state laws have been breached.”

“It’s unprecedented,” he told the World-Telegram. “It’s unheard of to peddle politics with middle-income housing programs—especially in the spirit of the middle-income housing law.”

The circumstances under which apartments are being sold for the Clayton project.

“I hope and anticipate that the city’s Housing and Rdevelopment Board, which by state law is the supervising agency for Mitchell-Lama projects financed under city funds, will move promptly to take whatever corrective action is in order.”

An attorney for the real estate firm, Robert W. Seavey, defended his clients’ right to do business in the Tammany meeting place.

“This is the new concept of reform politics,” Mr. Seavey told the World-Telegram. “The club goes into the community and does a real job.”

“They needed a central place,” Mr. Seavey added. “Mr. Jones was fulfilling a campaign promise by making sure the project goes through.”

J. RAYMOND JONES.

is paying the Carver Democratic Club rent believed to be $50 a month for the use of Mr. Jones’ office, Mr. Burrows admitted.