

Charlotte Man Low Bidder On Low Rent Housing Work

After opening bids at noon yesterday on the construction of Gonzales Gardens, the city's second low rent housing project, the Columbia Housing Authority yesterday recommended to Washington that the contract be awarded to V. F. Loftis of Charlotte, who was low-bidder at \$689,455. When approval has been received from the United States Housing Authority, work should start within about ten days. It is expected that Washington will lose no time in examining the bids and reaching a decision.

Gonzales Gardens, located on Forest drive, opposite Providence hospital, will have 236 living units, built in row houses as shown in the architect's drawing reproduced on this page. There will also be an administration building. The contract will call for completion in 250 working days after work is started.

W. S. Hendley, chairman of the authority, presided at the bid opening held at University Terrace. The letting was largely attended.

The next to low bidder was a Columbia contractor, M. B. Kahn Construction company, with \$695,780.

Other bidders were:

Hardaway Constructing company of Rock Hill, \$697,000; Virginia Engineering company of Newport News, Va., \$706,000; F. N. Thompson of Raleigh, N. C., \$706,239; Charles W. Angle, Inc., Greensboro, N. C., \$714,441; J. O. Jones Construction company of Charlotte, \$720,000; T. A. Loving company of Goldsboro, N. C., \$737,800; Southeastern Construction company of Charlotte, \$762,142; J. J. McDevitt company of Charlotte, \$768,800, and Northeastern Construction

company of Winston-Salem, N. C., \$797,740.

Bids on the construction of a project for Negroes will be asked by the Housing Authority soon, Mr. Hendley announced today.

Before opening the bids Mr. Hendley, explained to the contractors that the authority had expressed the desire that the successful contractor use local material and labor where possible.