The Committee for Boston drew up the original charter reform plan, which White changed into the plan that he submitted.

ANTI-NEGRO POLITICIANS

White agitated for his charter reform proposal by saying that the city needed reform to deal with both its fiscal and "racial" problems. But his principal supporters in the City Council were Louise Day Hicks and John Kerrigan, the city's most public and notorious anti-Negro politicians and leaders of ROAR, the group responsible for the city's troubles with busing.

After getting City Council approval for the plan, White rushed it to the Legislature for quick approval.

When opponents began to attack the plan, White threatened that if it were not passed the "process of racial healing" would be slowed in Boston. As if to prove his point, the very next day there was fighting between Negro and Anglo-American students at Hyde Park High -- even though the schools have otherwise been quiet all year. At the time, no one offered an explanation for this curious coincidence.

But a month later, the Globe buried a story in the back pages about a Negro girl injured in the fighting. She said that it had started when she came out of the bathroom and was grabbed by a male transitional aide (an employee of the School Committee) who told a group of Anglo-American students to "get her!" When Negro students came to her aid, the fight was on.

CHARTER REFORM DEFEATED

We can't prove that White got Hicks and Kerrigan to use the ROAR apparatus at Hyde Park to cause the fight, but it appears that it was provoked to help get the charter reform passed.

But charter reform was soundly defeated. It was defeated because people saw it for the anti-democratic plan that it was. White's only chance was to slip it through the Legislature before people realized what was going on.

This is how fascism always comes to power. It is never voted into power, because it is a government most clearly against the people, not for them. Neither Hitler nor Mussolini were elected to power. They were appointed to power by the bourgeoisie, the capitalists.

Mayor White failed because the people of Boston do not want a fascist government, and because the crisis is not yet so severe that the bourgeoisie will step out in front of its bought-and-paid-for politicians and use the military to install a fascist regime.

For the meantime, they are content to prepare the way for fascism, by hook or by crook.