

8 P. M.
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ADDRESS BY SUMNER L. LOWRY

To

DUVAL COUNTY DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
DUVAL COUNTY ARMORY
JACKSONVILLE FLORIDA

This is an election year. This spring, we the Democrats of Florida, will select candidates for County, State and National offices. In November of this year comes the general election, in which the people will chose between our candidates and those of the Republican Party.

This election year is a critical one for the people of Florida and of America. It presents an issue of more gravity and seriousness than we have faced in generations; and I can say in absolute sincerity, that if we are to survive as a party or as a people, it is going to take a maximum of energy, courage and strength of character on the part of the Democratic voters and Democratic leaders.

There is one great political issue before us this year. I refer to the Segregation of the races provided by the laws of our State as opposed to the Integration of the races now demanded by the National Administration. There is the issue - thrust upon us by the Republican Party. Historically, the Republican Party is the party of Integration, and while there are some fanatical integrators in the northern wing of our party, the Republicans and the Republican Supreme Court must bear the direct responsibility for the integration attack which threatens the way of life of the South.

As Southern Democrats, we can win any contest in Florida if we meet this "race issue" head-on, and place the blame where it belongs, because our position on this question is the right and the just and the honorable one.

I would now like to discuss briefly the question of Segregation versus Integration as it concerns the people of Florida.

First - We must understand that the conflict over Integration of the white and negro races is not a question of "civil rights," nor of "helping the negro;" nor of "religion," as our enemies would make us believe; but it is a political, social and international question.

The present movement to integrate the races in the United States and in the South was thought up and organized years ago by the International Communist Conspiracy. It is part and parcel of their three-pronged attack, to destroy our national independence through World Government; to destroy our christian church through infiltration; and to destroy our race by mixing it with the blood of the negro race. This program continues to be the principal objective of the Communist Party in the United States today.

The communists well know that the real results of the "Integration" movement will be to stir up discord; to divide and confuse our people; to weaken morale in the armed forces; and to finally cause such a lowering of standards, political stability, and moral values that our country will no longer be capable of resistance to communism at home, nor of a strong foreign policy abroad.

The communists also know their integration plans will be just as harmful to the negro people of the South as to the white. They know that the ill-will, the conflict, the weakness and the loss of self-respect which result from race-mixing will be just as tragic for one race as the other.

Look at Nations which have practiced Integration. Look at France! Once a great power, now so confused and irresolute that she bobbles like cork upon the tide of world affairs. Look at India! An unrecognizable blend of peoples, ripe for communism. Moscow knows this.

The white men of the South are proud of their race. It is their right to preserve it. This right is just as fundamental and important as any property right or political right. We of the South consider our race as a heritage passed on to us by our forefathers. It is our sacred duty to preserve it and keep it pure. We cannot and will not permit the struggles and sacrifices of those who have gone before to be wiped out for the sake of the communists, the misguided liberals, or the NAACP.

Our great nation was created by white men. It was shaped out of the customs and the culture of the white race by many generations of our people. It will continue to live as a white race, or it will perish as a mongrel race!

Now the negro should also take pride in his race. Any man, white or colored, who is not proud of his race, is not worthy to belong to it. I do have respect for the negro race. I admire the good qualities they possess. They are certainly entitled to good schools, churches, housing and other facilities - of their own. The whites of the South have and are making tremendous expenditures to provide these things for the negro, without regard for who provides the tax funds with which to do it.

Many intelligent negroes realize all of this. On the other hand, many more have chosen to follow the communists, the radicals, and the NAACP down the path of forced Integration.

What is this "National Association for the Advancement of Colored People?" Who gave this alien organization the authority to come into the South and disrupt our way of life, and to interfere in our schools and churches? Why do they have the right to dictate to the people of Florida on social, cultural and political matters? Who appointed them the guardian of the colored people in the South? Nobody - They come self-appointed, uninvited and unwanted. The sooner they leave, the better off our State will be!

This loud and arrogant organization is a nation-wide propaganda machine. It specializes in political pressure and social agitation. Its main objective is to mix and mongrelize the peoples of the South, and this is the one great aim of communism! It is a clever and powerful organization. So powerful that it seeks to sway and influence the courts, and many federal and state officials.

The NAACP has arisen in the South and the nation talking about "equal opportunities," "human rights", "education" and "religion". But they fail to tell you that their real interest is to fuse the white and negro blood; to create a mongrel race without courage, morals or principles, which in the end will mean the disintegration of our nation and the complete victory of the communist movement. They would create "equal rights"; but it would be equal rights as slaves in one vast communist dictatorship!

A few years ago many advocates of Integration (both black and white) claimed that Integration did not mean social contact; just "political equality". A little later they started demanding unrestrained social contact, but claimed they did not want intermarriage. Now, with an arrogance fanned by the Supreme Court decision, negro publications, the NAACP and other race minglers state frankly that intermarriage is their goal. They display pictures of negro men drinking with, dancing with and even marrying white women, often celebrities. They make legal attacks on the laws of the Southern States. Daily they

are introducing large doses of propoganda into our press, our literature, radio TV and movies.

But even without this evidence, any white person with a grain of common sense knows that to mingle little white and colored children together in schools or playgrounds or pools means intermarriage, and soon! The mixing of the races in churches or movies or dance halls means mongrelization! The communists know this! Abolish Segregation and nature will do the rest! Social contacts bring on familiarity, intimacy and finally, intermarriage; which means the death of our race!

God created the separate races. Giving to each the right to devlop and better itself. True, it is possible for a great people to destroy itself by intermarriage - just as it is possible for people to destroy themselves by suicide, alcoholism, or the use of narcotics. However, God also gave us the power to preserve and protect our racial heritage! And like all great moral accomplishments, the preservation of our racial heritage takes effort; it requires sound judgment, strength of character, and above all, courage when under attack! I am confident that the people of the South possess these qualities in full measure!

I believe in the Segregation of the races, both in social contact and in education. I am openly and entirely opposed to the mixing of the races. For the good of all concerned, I shall do all within my power to preserve, by every legal means, the Segregation of the races in this State!

The Constitution of the United States is a contract between the States and the Federal Government. It specifically reserves to the States the right to maintain and control matters such as public education within each State. In spite of this fact, the Segregation decision handed down on Black Monday, May 17, 1954, ordered race-mixing in our public schools, which is the beginning of the transformation of the white and negro people of the South into one formless, mongrel race!

Our great national heroes who wrote the Constitution would turn over in their graves to think that the meaning of that Document would be so interpreted as to take away from the States the very rights it was intended to preserve! I am not a lawyer, but even a laymen can see there is something strange about a decision which says that what was right and valid for eighty years is now - suddenly wrong!

It is no wonder the Southern people do not speak in admiration of such a decision. No strong and virile people with pride and self-respect are going to accept a ruling which will, in effect, cause the destruction of their race. Unjust and impractical laws do not long remain among free men. Our national history is proof of this!

Of course, most of the wealthy people are not interested in this fight. They are too busy to be bothered. They have plenty of money to send their children to private schools. It is the common people of our State, the working man, the fellow with a big family and not much money, who will suffer the most devastating effects from "Integration"! Furthermore, the Integration influence is so strongly entrenched in the Washington administration that we can expect no help there!

However, the people and the elected officials of the Southern States, including our own, can do something!

The Integration movement is a clear invasion of our domestic affairs and should not be tolerated for a minute! Integration is a direct attack on the Democrats of the South and should be fought by every loyal Democrat in this State. Each Democratic office holder and candidate for office must be

required to take an open and positive stand on this, the most important public question which has ever come before the people of Florida. No official should be allowed to hedge and pussy foot! The people are entitled to know whose side he is on - and whether he will stand up and fight, or lay down and quit!

The "wait and see" policy adopted by some of our present State officials is not enough! To "wait and see" means to surrender by degrees! These high State officials have adopted the propaganda of the enemy, which says: "Integration is inevitable! We might as well accept it now as later on."

Fellow Democrats, I say to you positively and absolutely, that Integration is NOT INEVITABLE! If our State officials, starting with the Governor, will meet this attack with courage and fight against it with all their powers, Segregation of the races will continue and "God's Will be done."

In closing let me say this: The Republican Party is the Integration Party. If the Democratic Party of Florida allows itself to become a mere imitation of the opposition party, then it is through! So our Party has this decision to make - fight Integration or surrender control of this State to the Republicans = = Which will it be?