

## All Created Equal?

Editor of the Daily News:

I get sick and tired of reading and hearing people say that Southerners are prejudiced against Negroes "because of their color." It is a false and misleading interpretation of our attitude toward them.

Many "white" people are as darkly colored as some who are classed as Negroes. And their color has no effect on their status among us. The Negro's color is merely an instantly apparent label that proclaims him a member of an alien race. It is not color, but racial incompatibility which separates the races.

The very principle that is being invoked, the precept that all men shall be given equal protection under the law, is being flouted when Negroes, or any group of malcontents, try to compel others, by any means whatsoever, to mingle with them as social equals. Social preferment must be earned. It is not to be grasped by force.

The farfetched concept of democracy that sees it as a way of life that makes all men equal in every respect is for the birds. When Jefferson wrote, "We hold these truths to be self-evident: That all men are created equal," he was speaking rhetorically.

Anyone with a thimbleful of brains knows that all men are not born with equal endowments of potential mental ability and physical vigor. It is plain to be seen that all men are not literally "created equal."

The proper function of democratic governments is not to force all citizens to assume a status of social equality, Communist doctrine to the contrary notwithstanding, but to assure to every one the opportunity to climb as high in the social scale as his abilities may permit.

If there is a fragment of our basic law that can be interpreted as meaning that a particular segment of our population shall be granted the privilege of monitoring the mores of the people in any community, it is a contradiction in terms of the democratic ideal.

When the federal government assumes the role of arbiter in matters of local concern, it is trespassing on the fundamental rights of the whole people, as conceived in the minds of the men who founded this country and formulated its basic law.

GEO. D. HERRING

Asheboro.