

## "Inalienable Rights"

Editor of the Daily News:

Concerning the Public Pulse letter of Feb. 17, "A Christian Movement", I would like to express my ideas.

In my over-all opinion of the letter I surmised that the author feels that the movement made by the students was not a Christian movement, whereas I vouch for its being so.

It seems as though the essence of the movement has not been understood by everyone. First of all, we Negroes are not trying to take over the white man's position. We are only asking for our equal rights to which we are entitled as being citizens of the United States.

I would like to beg the author's pardon, if I may, on the statement that the author made regarding the wanting and demanding something of which the Negro has not earned. We have earned our citizenship, we have worked for it; we were slaves for many years, we tilled the soil of which the crops grew, we harvested the crops, and we are cooking the food of which the

white man eats so graciously. We earned it, all the way; not just half of the way; 99½ won't do.

To sit next to the white man in the five-and-dime stores at the lunch counters is not taking over the white man's establishment, as it states in the letter.

Second, this movement is by no means selfish. For we are moving for the good of all people; all minority groups, not just the Negro alone. In the North the Puerto Ricans have difficulty, the Jews have trouble; they all have their problems with the white man. It is the white man who is the selfish character. If he wasn't so selfish, he wouldn't mind a Negro sitting next to him enjoying a snack.

The white man wants to feel and be superior to all other races, is that it? However, if all men are created equal, as it states in the Declaration of Independence, we are entitled to our inalienable rights.

Does the white man know why the Negro cannot build swimming pools, golf courses and other such luxurious places of enjoyment and leisure? With what is he going to buy? Is it because the white man fears that, given opportunities equal to theirs, many well-trained Negroes may be better qualified to hold many white collar jobs which the white man now holds? Why is it that the white man is afraid, and of what is he afraid? These are the questions that need much contemplation.

Yes, the Negro ministers are supporting these movements for the honoring of Christ, and we are not trying in any way to push anyone down. We are just trying to ask someone to please move over and give his neighbor room. Christ says, "Love thy neighbor as thyself," and believe it or not, the Negro is the white man's neighbor and vice versa. Christ also said, "For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted." (Luke 14:11.) The author should have read the chapter more thoroughly. Who has exalted himself in America, and who has been humble? The white man has put himself on a pedestal, and the Negro has been humble throughout his existence.

The Lord hears His children's prayers, and He answers them in due time and in the way He sees fit. He also is still answering prayers, ours and the white man's, and He is seeing fit to answer ours seemingly. As one can already see, if He felt that our prayers should not be answered or should not have been answered, He would have never let the Negro out of slavery, and we still would be slaves, working at the feet of the white man.

"The Lord has been mindful of us, He will bless us."

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