Two Digest Features .... Forceful Purpose - and Printing Mag

SOUTHERN DIGEST

DEC. 1954

Southern Digest makes its debut in the current digest, with a column on the political situation of the nation. The digest will continue in this vein, since the principle of policy-making in the United States of America is today in a state of crisis.

Federated for Constitutional Government

Prominent Citizens of Ten States Organized--To Cooperate With and Assist Existing Patriotic Groups

John R. Hart, of New Orleans, was named chairman of the Federated Committee for Constitutional Government, at the first meeting of the organization in Washington, D.C., on Dec. 5. The committee includes all the prominent groups that have been active in the fight for constitutional government.

The committee has three objectives: (1) to cooperate with existing patriotic groups; (2) to organize new patriotic groups; and (3) to develop a national convention of patriotic organizations.

John R. Hart outlined the plans of the committee at the meeting. The committee has already sent out invitations to state and local patriotic organizations to join in the federation. The committee also plans to send out a report to the states on the current situation and the work of the committee.

The committee is also planning to hold a national convention of patriotic organizations in the near future.

Send Troops to Miss., Chicago NAACP Urges

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Racial Integration by Court Decision

Address by Judge L. H. Price

Young Men's Christian Club in New Orleans, La., Dec. 29, 1954

"In dissenting the subject of racial integration in this country and particularly in the South, the sensibly and practical approach must be objective and not merely critical from a standpoint of one's personal opinion.

We consider what the admitted ability of segregation, or integration of the races by court order actually means.

Segregation of the races is bound with deep-rooted tradition and social customs and with basic liberties and freedoms. It is the result of many decades, perhaps, of a flagrant usurpation of power, which is contrary to our constitutional system of government.

A proper approach to the subject necessarily requires consideration of the legal background which bears upon the court's ultimate decision.

The United States Supreme Court had occasion to pass on the objects and purposes of the FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT with regard to the separation of the races under state laws in several cases prior to the decision of May 19, 1954.

On May 19, 1954, the court, in considering the segregation statutes of the State of Louisiana, with only Justice Harlan dissenting, held:

"The object of the amendment was not to destroy the absolute authority of the State but to place in the State the duty of maintaining a certain standard of justice, which it is not in the power of the State to do. The Fourteenth Amendment does not require the States to be perfect, but it does require them to be fraudless.

The court held that the segregation laws were in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment and struck them down.

The court further held that the use of state funds for the support of segregated schools is a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment.

It was in this case that Justice Harlan dissented and made the following statement: "Our society is not yet ready for the full implementation of the laws guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment, and until that time shall come we must continue to protect the rights of colored people, and it may be that there will be a time when it will be necessary for us to do more than simply say, 'The law requires us to do this and that.'"

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