Discrimination against whites

The Chicago Board of Education ran into a state roadblock recently after it assigned two white teachers to predominantly black schools. The school board, responding to pressure from the U.S. Department of Justice to integrate faculties, was taken before the Illinois Fair Employment Practices Commission by the objecting teachers.

The FEPC ruled that the teachers were sent to the black schools solely because of their race, a practice that, regardless of the race involved, is prohibited by state law. "We approve of what the Board of Education is trying to do," said William C. Ives, FEPC chairman, "but we are trying to enforce our [state] law." The commission said it would try to set up private conciliation meetings between the parties involved.

David Gilbert, who covers the FEPC for the Chicago Tribune, told RRIC that if conciliation fails, the dispute may go to federal court. If that happens, he said, the court would probably rule that federal law takes precedence over state law. The Chicago Teachers Union--like many other teacher organizations throughout the country--opposes mandatory transfers. Gilbert said, however, that the union was not involved in this dispute.

Southerners' strategy for change

Thomas Naylor, the executive director of the L.Q.C. Lamar Society, suggests in the inaugural issue of the society's Southern Journal that Southerners should (1) spend more time discussing the mutual problems of the region and less time arguing political ideology and (2) learn to ask the right questions about their region and its problems. Armed with a $55,000 grant from the Twentieth Century Fund, the society is devising a Southern "strategy for change." (Southern Journal, Box 119, Loyola University, New Orleans, La., 70118; James H. Chubbuck, editor.)

Nashville's unbound partnership

Nashville's Model Cities program has failed to develop into the partnership between government and citizens envisioned by the framers of the Model Cities law, says a report prepared by Jack E. White Jr. for the