

04.28.22 Indianapolis Times p. 7 Mrs. Otto J. (Daisy) Deeds held a meeting of women at her home (248 W. Maple Rd [now 38th St.]) urging the separation of white and Negro races of Indianapolis, in every way, social, residential, political and educational: "The Negro is not the equal of the white man, and he never will be..."

Daisy asserted that mothers are afraid to send their daughters out alone due to Blacks moving into white residential areas and white politicians appointing Blacks "...to official positions of authority over white people, thereby forcing the mothers, wives and daughters of other white men to associate with [them]." This situation she blamed, "...largely on the politicians who has pampered and petted [Blacks] to a point where the age old rule of white supremacy, on which she says our civilization is based, is being set aside." She concluded, "It is squarely up to women of the city to solve the problem."

APRIL 28, 1922. T.M.

SEPARATION OF RACES IN ALL MANNERS URGED

Mrs. Deeds Speaks at First of Twelve Conferences Proposed.

'SITUATION IS SERIOUS'

Separation of the white and negro races of Indianapolis in every way, residential, social, political and educational, is being advocated by a number of Indianapolis women who are members of various clubs and civic welfare organizations and they have arranged a series of twelve conferences at which the matter will be discussed with women throughout the city.

The first of these conferences was held Thursday at the home of Mrs. O. J. Deeds, 248 West Maple road, and was addressed by Mrs. Deeds.

So serious has the situation become in Indianapolis that mothers are afraid to permit their daughters to run errands or visit friends unless guarded by an older person, Mrs. Deeds said. This situation she blames largely on the politician who has pampered and petted the negro to a point where the age-old rule of white supremacy, on which she says our civilization is based, is being set aside. She takes particular exception to the practice of negroes moving into white residential districts as destructive of property values in the neighborhood and a source of endless strife and antagonism.

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So careless or blind have the men of Indianapolis been to this rising negro tide, in the past, Mrs. Deeds said, that it is now squarely up to the women of the city to solve the problem. If a solution is not found in the near future, especially here in Indianapolis, we are going to be driven to the same salutary recourse as our Southern neighbor, she declared.

In part Mrs. Deeds said:

"Conditions that never should be tolerated in the body politic now exist, and the men in whom the franchise has been vested appear powerless to right them, and on you is rapidly devolving the duty of making Indianapolis a safe place for your daughters to leave their homes unescorted.

"There was a time in Indianapolis when even the most careful of mothers permitted their little girls to run to the grocery, or visit their neighbors without a single fear that the great State of Indiana was unable to protect them from the hands of fiends who recognize no virtue.

POLITICIANS FORCE ASSOCIATION.

"And now we white folk of Indianapolis are having another battle to fight due to attempts of the white politician to foist an evil upon a thoughtless public by their practice of appointing negroes to official positions of authority over white people, thereby forcing the mothers, wives and daughters of other white men to associate with him; a most despicable practice resented by we white women of the North who propose to no longer suffer the indignities as a result of such misguided policy.

"The negro is not the equal of the white man, and he never will be, and we are not going to permit him to be thrust upon us as our equal, but pro-

...of such misguided policy.

"The negro is not the equal of the white man, and he never will be, and we are not going to permit him to be thrust upon us as our equal, but propose on the other hand, to educate our white politicians up to a point of propriety where within five years from today you will not find a man in public life who is willing to acknowledge that he favors negro equality of any kind—social, political, economic or what not.

NEGRO TAKING UNFAIR ADVANTAGE.

"Under the present civil rights law, the negro is taking unfair advantage of the privileges accorded him and is making himself obnoxious.

"A negro may have the legal right to buy property and live in your neighborhood, but he has not the moral right to do so, when by so doing he knowingly takes away half of your property value.

"Such actions as those of the negro moving in among the whites in white residential communities not only incite race prejudices more than anything else, but it damages the community as a whole, and the best interests of both whites and blacks demand that such action cease.

"The truth about the political situation of today, with reference to the negro, is that neither the Republican nor the Democratic party cares for anything except the negroes' ballot on election day.

"So you see—it is an issue as old as man himself—this one phase, the eternal race question—it is the greatest issue that ever confronted the American people.

"It certainly is one of the greatest menaces with which Indianapolis is going to have to deal, and the longer she postpones the day of reckoning the more violent will be the readjustment. There ought to be a law in every State in the Union prohibiting intermarriage between the two races; and the whites and negroes ought to be separated in all governmental activities, in the Army, in the Navy, in schools, and on street cars, railroad trains, and other common carriers.

"There ought to be, and there must be before this question is settled, a segregation law in every State separating whites and negroes in the residential sections of cities, towns and municipalities—especially here in Indianapolis, for we are going to be driven to the same salutary recourse within the very near future as our Southern neighbor, and the sooner we make up and adopt it, the better it will be for all concerned."

ROAD LIGHTHOUSES.