

# Roosevelt Aide Blasts Inequality Of Education In Separate Schools

**Dr. Floyd Reeves Tells American Federation of Teachers "Intimate Economic Relations Make Low Level of Education Among Negroes a Severe Burden——."**

SANDUSKY, O., Aug. 25—(ANP)—Inequalities of education for Negroes in separate schools and reasons why whites for their own benefit should give the colored race equal scholastic opportunities were told by Dr. Floyd Reeves,

white, chairman of President Roosevelt's Advisory Committee on Education, in an address Monday night before the national convention of the American Federation of Teachers.

After describing how farm children in general had fewer opportunities than those in urban areas, Dr. Reeves declared: "From the standpoint of inequality of educational opportunity, the most unfortunate situation that exists today is in connection with the education of Negroes. In all of those states maintaining separate school systems for Negroes, racial discrimination exists. The Negro schools as a group are only about half as well supported as the white schools. All the statistics for such items as length of school term, average attendance, educational qualifications of teachers, and type of school buildings demonstrate clearly that a wasteful neglect is characteristic of the treatment of Negro school children in most of the areas where they are required to attend separate schools.

"White taxpayers may ask, 'Why should we be taxed to supply Negro children with an educational opportunity equal to that of our own children?' The answer is simple. Democracy requires equality of opportunity without racial discrimination. But there is a second reason that should not be overlooked. From a purely selfish standpoint, the whites cannot afford to be uninterested in the education of the Negro.

"Because of the intimate economic relations that necessarily exist between the two races, the low level of education among Negroes is a severe burden not only on themselves but on all who must employ them or have dealings with them. Even Northern states should be interested in the education of Southern Negroes, because the large influx of Negroes from the South makes the quality of their previous education a matter of vital importance to the communities where they reside and work."