

Be Not Confused By Reported "New Negro Voting" Philosophy

A news story in the white daily press Thursday suggesting that there has come upon the surface some such styled "new Negro voting philosophy" which would make the impression that certain leaders among us have decided upon an "if you can't lick 'em, join 'em" attitude. In that, support would be given under this "new" order to those candidates who heretofore had shown racial intolerance in their pronouncements.

In order that our people be not confused or misled, let it be stated here and now that no such "new philosophy" is taking shape officially in the Negro Voters League. Some individual person may have expressed such a view. But in our opinion such a view is unsound. Of course we are always willing to recognize a change but it must be based on reason and logic.

All along during our political life, we have had but one philosophy, which is by no means new. It is as old as the freedom of our fathers who at the early stages of their citizenship had many occasions in which the only option left in voting was against their enemies. Down this line we have come, supporting those who espoused the cause of democracy and justice for all and opposing those who have expressed racial prejudice.

Surely there is nothing new about this philosophy.

A battle of words and ideas has been raging ever since the Supreme Court decision of May 17th., 1954; around this bulwark men have fanned political fumes and flames from the ward level on through a national campaign for the nomination of candidates for the United States Senate.

For the record's sake, to our certain knowledge, the Atlanta Voters League has made no preference as yet relating to candidates for office in the current election. We believe it has friendliness toward all candidates whose records would conform with honest principles and purposes, free of the taint of race-bait and those issues stirring up hatred and division.

We stand for an honest vote and fair count; these must obtain if a democracy of representative government would obtain; there is no such animal as a "new voting philosophy."

There is only one sound voting policy and that is to support those candidates who are qualified and not prejudiced against the votes because of any reason.