

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Certain rights were reserved to the states when the Federal Constitution was adopted, and I intend to demand the observance of each of those rights. As governor, I will throw the full force of the State and the full dignity of the office I shall hold behind my purpose to maintain the integrity of the law in every legal way open to me. I will not countenance violation of our rights, and I will not condone any involuntary knuckling under to an invalid Federal encroachment.

The proposed creation of a Federal dictator to oversee our elections is a violation of the sovereign rights of the State of Florida.

The Federal Government's attempt to enforce integration in our schools is an invasion of the rights of the State. As governor of Florida it will be my duty to provide the leadership to maintain segregation, without violence, anarchy, or the closing of schools, and that I pledge to do to the fullest extent of my constitutional powers.

Basically, this battle for constitutional government and states' rights is a battle for men's minds, being fought on a worldwide scale. I shall take pride in expressing to the rest of the nation, with dignity and determination, the conviction of the people of Florida on this subject.

Such a determination provides justice for everyone. We must not be turned aside from our goal of making the facilities for

Negroes equal as well as separate, so that within their sphere they too may enjoy life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, to the extent ~~of~~ of their own abilities.