

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL



We further agreed that no political consideration of any kind was to be given any weight whatsoever -- and that, no matter what his legal conclusions might be, the principle of local operation and authority would be emphasized to the maximum degree consistent with his legal opinions.

Two or three court decisions of recent years have, as you know, tended to becloud the original decision of "equal but separate" facilities. One of these decisions, I am told, even held that a Negro in graduate school attending exactly the same classes as whites, but separated from them by some kind of railing, was held to be the victim of discrimination and could not be so separated from the white students. This and other decisions had all, of course, to be considered by the Attorney General and his staff. But I am sure that you have no doubt as to the complete integrity and broad capacity of the Attorney General -- even if in this case I suspect you may question his legal wisdom.

In any event, I appreciate your letter and the trouble you are taking to keep me informed as to your views. Whatever the outcome, I hope most fervently that all of us may work together so as to insure the steadiness of progress toward justice for all in the United States.

With warm personal regard,

Sincerely,

The Honorable James F. Byrnes
Governor of South Carolina
Columbia, South Carolina

cc: Attorney General
General Carroll

Handwritten notes:
J. F. Byrnes
E. T. ...
1954