

The argument that Negroes receive services out of all proportion to their tax contribution has been a useful argument for years for those property owners of means who have wanted to see no money, or hardly any money, spent for public school improvement.

Now the argument is being used by sudden friends of "equal facilities" against integration.

Any community leader charged with the great responsibility of school administration should examine carefully the social and economic background of the community which he serves. If he does that, he will be forced to agree that with less than a century of freedom from chattel slavery, the Negro--since he has been forced to remain in ~~menial~~ menial occupations with incomes far less than that commanded by the white population--has not had an equal opportunity to acquire property, taxable property.

The school administrator's attention should be directed to broadening the opportunity for learning of the Negro and to helping the community in which the Negro lives find work opportunities which will improve the Negro's economic condition and so enable him to stand shoulder to shoulder with his white associates in tax responsibility.

To keep the Negro from opportunities of economic gain, and then charge him with not bearing his share of the tax burden, is the tactic of the demagogue.