

MEETING OF
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON SCHOOLS

Courtroom,
Bartow County Courthouse,
Cartersville, Georgia,
Thursday, March 10, 1960.

PRESIDING:

JOHN A. SIBLEY, Chairman.

PRESENT:

JOHN P. DUNCAN, Vice-Chairman,
SEN. JOHN W. GREER, Secretary.

MEMBERS:

HON. SAMUEL J. BOYKIN	SEN. WALLACE L. JERNIGAN
REP. GEORGE BROOKS	CHANC. HARMON W. CALDWELL
ROBERT O. ARNOLD	ZADE KENIMER
SEN. H. EULOND CLARY	J. W. KEYTON
CHARLES A. COWAN	REP. H. W. PARKER
JOHN W. DENT	DR. CLAUDE PURCELL
	REP. J. BATTLE HALL
	HOMER RANKIN
	REP. RENDER HILL

is here from Douglas County, we will take that next, because we haven't heard from you yet.

MRS. LAURA SCHULZ

Q (Chmn. Sibley) Give us your name.

A I am Mrs. Laura Schulz, Route 3, Papermill Road, Marietta.

Q Mrs. Schulz, are you here representing yourself, or do you represent an organization?

A I represent myself and my 18 year old son. I didn't ask him, but he better not dispute my word.

Q I am sure he won't. You have heard the questions that have been presented today, when we asked for a show of hands. Did you raise your hand?

A Yes; I did.

Q Which side did you hold your hand up for?

A I held up my hand for segregated schools.

Q At any cost.

A At any cost--and throw the key away, if necessary.

CHMN. SIBLEY: Thank you very much.

(Witness excused.)

SEC. GREER: Jule Levin, from Floyd County.

JULE LEVIN

Q (Chmn. Sibley) You are from Floyd County?

A Yes, sir.

Q Will you identify yourself?

A Rome, Georgia. I am Jule Levin. I represent myself, my wife,

my sister, my brother-in-law, and a host of friends with whom I have spoken.

Q What is your business?

A I am a merchant half the time, and a civic worker the other half. But I am here primarily because I am a parent.

Q Now you heard the choices given this morning, did you not?

A Yes, sir. I would say first, and unequivocally, I am for local option, but uninterrupted schools, at any cost. I say this, and I say this in the deepest sincerity: As a child I was the son of immigrant parents, who might be compared to the lot of the Negroes today. The public schools gave me a wonderful opportunity to grow into what I would like myself to be. Inside I like myself for the way I think, for the way I work for the community, for the way I work for society. I think this is the greatest function of public schools, is to prepare well-adjusted people. To close public schools to me is an act of suicide on the part of society.

May I say one other thing, sir? I have felt that the decision that must be made by the public is a choice between the tradition of segregation or the institution of public schools. I have talked to a number of my friends whose opinions I respect--

Q Well, we get to that--

A May I say this, sir; thirty seconds, Mr. Sibley? No more.

Q All right; go ahead.

A These gentlemen, who are native southerners, and who are honest-to-goodness traditional segregationists, feel that the pupil place-

ment law in no wise compromises a man's loyalty to the traditions to the South, but when he gives up the schools of Georgia, he is giving up the greatest institution in our society.

CHMN. SIBLEY: All right.

(Witness excused.)

SEC. GREER: The next one is Rev. Pooley from Floyd County.

REV. R. C. POOLEY

(Chmn. Sibley) Will you give your identity?

Q This is R. C. Pooley, Executive Secretary Cherokee Presbytery, which is the office in this section of the state for the Presbyterian Churches. I would like to say I do not have an approved statement by presbytery. However, in January of 1957, our Presbytery did pass a statement which was then labelled or called a Declaration of Christian Principles, and I believe that in that statement there is grounds to support the second position that you indicated today.

Q You haven't made any effort from '57 to bring it up to date on these particular choices?

A No, sir. I am just mentioning that, since that is the agency which employs me. However, I do represent the Georgia Council of Churches, as Chairman of the Division of Life and Work. At our annual meeting, which was held in Macon in December 1st, which, as you remember, sir, was the fateful day that the matter was brought to a head, and I believe a decision was rendered by Judge Hooper.

Q What is your present opinion, as between the two choices?