

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Jett.

DELEGATE JETT: Mr. Chairman, fellow delegates, I first want to emphasize what was said before, and that is the difference that we had here in our Committee is a difference in approach and a difference in concept. I want to pay tribute to the very able, industrious and intelligent members of our Committee who worked hard on this matter and who believe in education with all their hearts and souls.

Our approach is different as would be the approach of two different parents in determining how they would raise a child.

It is our feeling that the greatest disservice we could do would be to put some confines on education as it has existed in this State.

We believe that education is too precious a thing to tamper with, to try to fetter or confine.

We believe that education is too precious a thing to leave solely to educators. We believe that it is a concern of every man, woman and child in this State, and for that reason we, believing that we love education not less but more, have suggested this simple language, which has served this State so well for one hundred years. We have changed it only to try to capture the thought of the future, that we would go on with every hope and expectation that education would expand and evolve as well as it has over the past century.

I would like to remind this Convention that the short-lived Constitution of 1864 went into some detail, as Delegate Pullen has said, and it was then all changed in 1867, and I would say to you that the changes that have occurred are a tremendous tribute to that legislature which some of us seem to hold in such little esteem.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have one-half minute, Delegate Jett.

DELEGATE JETT: In our opinion, it is absolutely essential that we do not freeze the framework within which education operates, that we do not set up any State Board with a control, that we do not set up any geographic situations, but that we leave education free to be the concern of every man, woman and child in this State.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Wheatley.

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: Mr. Chairman, before we begin, an opinion of parliamentary inquiry. Is this to be treated as an amendment rather than amendment to the amendment?

THE CHAIRMAN: I do not understand what you mean by amendment to the amendment. There is only one amendment of which the Chair has knowledge, Amendment No. 1.

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: As distinct from the original Minority Report. This is the only amendment before us.

THE CHAIRMAN: The only amendment is Amendment No. 1 which is before you. Delegate Wheatley.

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: Then our debate schedule will resolve into 1 to 4.

THE CHAIRMAN: That is correct.

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: At this time, Mr. Chairman, I would like to take one minute to comment, and I will yield additional time. Since this proposal —

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Wheatley, this will be your time.

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: Yes. Since this proposal is somewhat different from that which was originally advanced by the minority, I think I must comment on it prior to yielding the other time for debate.

The majority would certainly be remiss, I would think, in opposing an amendment which recognizes, though by different language, the concept which we have been talking about in that the state schools should also have the recognition of a governing board, as provided in the executive article and also in the proposed article 8.04 of the minority report; and therefore I would suggest to those who are debating in the time allocated, that they would address themselves to both the questions presented, which are substantially these: one, the State Board, which is provided for and which I would not oppose in this Minority Report, and the second question, which would be that of a state superintendent. As I yield time, I would hope the persons speaking would consider it in that respect. I yield at this time six minutes to—

THE CHAIRMAN: The minority spokesman will be next. Delegate Lord.

DELEGATE LORD: Mr. Chairman, I will yield five minutes to Delegate Henderson.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Henderson.

DELEGATE HENDERSON: Mr. Chairman and fellow delegates, it is very difficult in the time allotted to develop a logical argument. I shall content myself with trying to state what I think is the essential