

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you desire to offer Amendment BQ?

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: I was speaking of Delegate Kirkland. He has the amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Kirkland, do you desire to offer Amendment BQ?

DELEGATE KIRKLAND: Yes, sir, I do.

THE CHAIRMAN: The pages will distribute amendment BQ, Boy Queen.

This will be Amendment No. 2. Please revise line 1 to read, on page 1 of the section substituted by Amendment No. 1 in line 18 after the period add this new sentence. The Clerk will read the Amendment.

READING CLERK: Amendment No. 2 to Committee Recommendation GP-6 by Delegates Wheatley, Blair, Kirkland, Pullen, Ritter, K. L. Robie, Sosnowski, and Vecera.

On page 1 of the section substituted by Amendment No. 1 in line 18 after the period add this new sentence:

"The board shall appoint a state superintendent of schools who shall be its executive and professional officer."

THE CHAIRMAN: The amendment having been submitted by Delegate Wheatley and seconded by the other sponsors, the Chair recognizes Delegate Wheatley to speak to the amendment.

DELEGATE WHEATLEY: Mr. Chairman, the amendment should have been led by Delegate Kirkland. There was an error. He wished to speak first on this.

THE CHAIRMAN: Very well. The Chair recognizes Delegate Kirkland.

DELEGATE KIRKLAND: Mr. Chairman, I am not mad at anyone. I admire Mrs. Key. I did not really mean to upset her. However, I must say this: even though I will accept defeat graciously, I have been defeated in athletic programs before in my life, so I have learned to take defeat, but I would like to ask this assembly to support this amendment, "queen bee," because I think it is very vital to give educational leadership that is free from any political influence. I would hope that this body would support this amendment, and I am quite sure that if I can get this in, I can support what we have just passed.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any delegate desire to speak in opposition? Delegate Lord.

DELEGATE LORD: Mr. Chairman, fellow delegates, I think that this is a simple attempt to do by the back door that which was just undone by the front door.

It reintroduces in the same form the last sentence of section 4, and for the reasons that I am sure were in everyone's mind when they voted the last time. I would urge its defeat.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mentzer.

DELEGATE MENTZER: I have a question for Delegate Kirkland.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Blair, do you desire to speak in favor of the amendment?

DELEGATE BLAIR: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: You may speak.

DELEGATE BLAIR: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, we have had a State Board of Education, with a state superintendent of schools since 1916, and the duties of the state superintendent are completely spelled out in Article 77 of the Code. He has been a very effective and efficient person in connection with the operation of the State Board. I think it is very fundamental to the effective operation that this board be appointed by the governor and that the state superintendent be appointed by the board; it is an integral part of the whole system of the operation. If the state board has been at all successful, I think the instrumentality of its success has been the functioning, with the expert personnel of the board and the specific specialties, of he who is an ancillary part of that board and an important and integral part of that board, the state superintendent of schools.

I think it is important that this not be deleted in any way and that the time never come when the administration of government would decide to substitute some other method of operation, rather than have a state superintendent. I think we can guarantee this feature. If there is any success that the board has been responsible for, I think it is the fact that it has the composite structure which it is now composed of.

I think we should perpetuate this thing from the period of 1916 to the present time. I think it is an integral and essential part of the success. I think we should subject it in its entirety.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any delegate desire to speak in opposition to the amendment? Delegate Maurer.