

different states, is frequently over eighteen. Certain professions, among them law and medicine, all have age qualifications above eighteen."²⁸

"... Under the law, a person under 21 cannot legally enter into a valid contract. Yet, by reducing the voting age to 18, he who cannot legally act for himself can contract to bind the country..."²⁹

"... Down there [in Georgia, which has lowered the voting age minimum to 18] you have many inconsistencies. They let them vote, but they can't make a contract. They can't have inheritances without guardians. They cannot sell a cow or a mule or a horse; they cannot exchange their car because they can't make a contract. They cannot serve on juries. They cannot do things that we ordinarily have people over 21 do..."³⁰

- E. *The voting booth should not be considered a training ground for citizenship. The suffrage should be restricted to those who are mature enough to assume the full responsibility of citizenship.*

One argument frequently advanced for the 18 year old vote is that the only way to learn about American politics is through participation; that is, if the 18 year old begins to participate in politics at that age, he learns much more readily than if he waits until later on. If that argument is valid, young men would be put into the first line of the football team right

at the very beginning, instead of being given a long training and practice beforehand. Football and voting are very different matters, but the more schooling a man has—the more experience a person has—before he exercises this privilege, rather than a right of voting, the better he will perform..."³¹

- F. *Lowering the voting age to 18 would have a harmful effect on higher education.*

"I am not convinced that the age requirement for voting should be lowered to 18. One thing in particular that makes me move slowly is the thought of the political organizations moving into our college campuses, which they would do with a vengeance if the students were voters. I

would much prefer to leave the first four years of higher education free from these mundane tangles. There is time enough to get into the struggle."³²

²⁸ Statement of Representative Thomas B. Curtis, *supra* note 1.

²⁹ Statement by W. C. B. Lambert, *supra* note 1.

³⁰ Statement of Representative Emanuel Celler, D. of New York, *supra* note 1.

³¹ Dr. Kenneth W. Colegrove, Professor of Political Science, Northwestern Univ., Congressional Digest, March, 1954.

³² Statement of Representative Thomas B. Curtis.