

1 of children, you would be requiring the State to maintain  
2 a system of free public schools for all persons of what-  
3 ever age the courts might ultimately determine would be  
4 within the meaning of the term, school age. I point out to  
5 you the second clause which is not mandatory but permis-  
6 sive, and a little more than permissive, gives ample power  
7 to the Legislature to provide for adult education or free  
8 professional school education, but does not compel it.

9 Dr. Bard?

10 DR. BARD: We have talked a good deal about  
11 the fact that this particular Section should have the  
12 elasticity so that there would be the possibility of pro-  
13 viding for very young children, perhaps even those of  
14 two or three years of age, and I think by deleting the  
15 word, children, and putting the emphasis on, school age,  
16 so this might be interpreted as the Legislature so finds  
17 necessary in the terms of the times, and my own feeling  
18 as an educator is that this whole phrase, school age, is  
19 being reinterpreted almost daily, certainly yearly, that  
20 giving it that elasticity is highly important.

21 THE CHAIRMAN: Dr. Burdette?