

Stanley Segregation Plan Faces New Opposition

Continued From First Page is not likely to go over big with a majority of the voters.

that the Arlington School Board would use the assignment plan to begin integration.

Both said that "if the matter was left to both races, without interference from groups such as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, it would largely adjust itself." They propose to introduce legislation to require the registration of such organizations in order to operate in Virginia and thus "prevent such an organization from inciting parents to bring suits."

Gov. Stanley will ask the General Assembly to pass legislation withholding State school funds from communities that integrate, and to provide tuition grants for private education of students where schools are closed.

Favors Gray Program

Earlier, Senator Fenwick had said he was "not willing to abolish our public school system throughout Virginia or, in all sections of Virginia, to prevent some limited integration."

Senator Fenwick said that he opposed the Governor's plan in the commission "because I believe the original recommendations of the Gray Commission will preserve our schools and more nearly carry out the Governor's objectives. . . . The Governor's bill would not accomplish its purpose of preventing any integration. Under its terms, localities could operate public schools out of local tax funds and these schools, under court order, would be integrated."

Senator Fenwick said he would support "any lawful means to prevent enforced integration of the races in our public schools, which includes the original recommendations of the Gray Commission."

Two Arguments

Gov. Stanley's followers are using two principal arguments to rally additional support from arriving legislators:

1. This may not be the final answer, but they should try it before resorting to the pupil assignment plan which could result in some integration.

2. The Supreme Court has not ruled on what constitutes an "efficient" school system, and the Governor's position is that Virginia can operate "efficient" schools only if they are segregated.

The first argument was calculated to appease those who had supported the original Gray plan, which included a combination pupil assignment and tuition grant program. A majority of the Gray Commission now has agreed to go along with the Governor and by-pass the pupil assignment plan in favor of his fund-withholding idea.

Byrd Influence Strong

"They really are turning on the heat," confided one usually-loyal Byrd organization man from a schoolminded urban area where the idea of closing schools

The Byrd influence for a no-integration stand first was felt at the last General Assembly session. At about the time the State was amending its constitution to pave the way for tuition grants, it was reported that Senator Byrd, Democrat of Virginia, favored a slow-down on the Gray plan.

Senator Byrd's neighbor and friend, Speaker E. Blackburn Moore, sponsored a resolution calling for continued school segregation, but the measure finally died in committee.

State leaders are making no bones about the current no-integration campaign being an organization fight. Some observers are calling it a test of organization strength. But it is more likely that the real test won't come until the next election after the people have had a chance to see how the governor's plan works—provided it passes.

Boothe Explains Plan

Senator Boothe issued a statement explaining how his pupil assignment plan would work. Senator Boothe declared:

"The Dalton-Boothe bills represent a conservative, as opposed to a radical, approach to a solution of the public school problem in Virginia. They are within the law, not outside the law. They offer a solution within the limits of the law, as opposed to defiance or massive resistance to the law.

"These bills will enable Virginia to preserve its public school system and indeed, constantly to improve the system. They will enable Virginia, in keeping with Southern traditions, to guide and control each individual change in the schools in that area where any transition meets with the approval of the people.

"These bills will enable Virginia to conquer the school problem, rather than allow the school problem to conquer Virginia. Actually they will lead to elevation of our educational system and to better, finer instruction for every boy and girl in the Commonwealth. They will prevent the destruction of our public school system and will stave off educational bankruptcy for our white as well as our Negro citizens."

Sees Solution

Senator Boothe said pupil assignment legislation offered the "only true legal protection against enforced integration—they offer the type of solution which two Virginia Federal courts have suggested to us.

He said the bills would condemn "by implication any radical course whose ultimate end can only be insurrection. They uphold local government. They affirm the State Constitution itself with its guarantee of public free schools. They contest the right of the State to take taxes from its people, and then permit any man or men in Richmond to refuse to expend them for the citizens who paid them."