

Pearsall Committee Answers Questions On Amendment

Here, in the words of the Pearsall committee, is the best way to "preserve public schools and help preserve the public peace".

Governor Luther H. Hodges gives his full support to this plan. The General Assembly approved it overwhelmingly; the Senate by 49 to 0 and the House of Representatives by 116 to 2.

The State Board of Education overwhelmingly endorsed this plan. So did other school groups, including the Executive Committee of the North Carolina Education Association, representing nearly 30,000 white teachers.

A majority vote by You, the people, on September 8 will: (1) Permit the granting of education expense grants at State and local levels to any child for whom no public school is available, or who is assigned against his parents' wishes to a mixed public school; and (2) Permit by a later vote of the people the closing of a school or schools in a community where conditions become intolerable.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What is the purpose of this Amendment?

A. It is an effort to preserve North Carolina's Public School system.

2. Why should we amend our State Constitution?

A. It is necessary to amend the N. C. Constitution in order that the State legislature can pass the necessary laws to protect the people against unacceptable mixing of the races and thereby assure public support of schools.

3. What are we voting on?

A. The people will decide whether they want to authorize the General Assembly to provide education expense grants for private education. They also will decide whether they want the closing of any school to be decided by the people on the local level. In other words, the smallest school unit could make the decision.

4. Why should we vote for the amendment?

A. To give ourselves as much freedom of choice as is possible under the U. S. Supreme Court decision.

5. If the people approve this program will my child be forced to attend school with a member of another race?

A. Emphatically No.

6. Is this an effort to defy the U. S. Supreme Court?

A. It is not defiance. It is an attempt to stay within that decision, even though a great majority of our citizens disapprove the Supreme Court's ruling.

7. Are we sure that approval of the amendment will preserve our traditional system of segregated schools?

A. We cannot be sure of anything the U. S. Supreme Court may do, or say. But this is the best plan that has been advanced that would prevent forced mixing of races in

our schools.

8. Did the U. S. Supreme Court say that my child had to go to school with a member of another race?

A. No.

9. What did it say, in effect?

A. Only that we cannot deny admission of a child to a public school solely on the basis of race.

10. If conditions in my child's public school become intolerable, what happens?

A. Your school board can order an election; or 15% of the people in your school unit can ask for an election on suspending it. If the school is closed, it can later be reopened by vote of the people in the same manner.

11. Suppose children of another race are assigned to the school attended by my child and I object? What remedy will I have?

A. Your child can be reassigned to another public school provided one is reasonably available, or, if one is not available, you can withdraw your child from school. Then you may send your child to private school.

12. How can I afford that?

A. The State will provide the proportionate part of its school fund for your child's private education. Figured on the present basis, that would amount to about \$135,000 per school year. Your local school board could add any amount to that that it sees fit. But, the total amount of money given by the State and your local school board could not exceed the actual cost of your child's private education.

13. Could I send my child to any private school of my choice?

A. Yes. You would qualify for State and local grants if the school is not operated by a sectarian (church) group and the school is approved by the State Board of Education. Of course, there are fine parochial schools in North Carolina but a child attending one of them would not qualify for grants.

14. What is a local option unit?

A. Your administrative School Board may create what would be known as "local option units". A local option unit would be any county or city school administrative unit or any sub-division thereof.

15. Give me an illustration.

A. If your City School Board wanted to, it could make a local option unit out of the immediate area that your child's school serves.

16. If the people in my area decide to close my child's school, could I send my child to a school in another unit?

A. You may not. However, you may move your home into another unit and your child could go to a public school there, or you can take a grant.

17. What about the compulsory



PRINCESS MARGARET of Britain is shown here in a photograph made for her 26th birthday in the drawing room of Clarence House, her London residence. She is wearing a one-strap evening dress of pink tulle embroidered with flowers and sequins. Elaborate diamond earrings are worn with necklace and bracelet. (International)

More Endorsements Made Of School Amendment Plan

Public School organizations and at least two statewide civic clubs have endorsed the Public School Amendment which comes to a public vote September 8.

The amendment is being sponsored by a large number of leaders of both the Democratic and Republican parties.

Latest to give it enthusiastic backing were directors of the North Carolina Jaycees in convention at Guilford College. They promised to work through their various clubs in getting out a big vote for the amendment.

Directors of the North Carolina Exchange clubs have likewise joined in the movement which Governor Hodges says is the best plan thus devised to preserve North Carolina's public schools.

Directors of the North Carolina School Boards Association endorsed the amendment a few days ago. In a resolution they said the amendment is "a feasible proposal and will be a major step in the final preservation of public school education in North Carolina." The Association represents every school board in North Carolina.

A number of Parent-Teacher leaders in North Carolina have sent word to the Governor's Committee For the Public School Amendment, saying they are in favor of the plan. State officers of that group have left the decision to local associations.

Lions Hear State Auditor On Taxes

Waynesville Lions heard Henry L. Bridges, state auditor, Thursday night, explain the revenue and appropriations of this state.

Bridges used a 10-page pamphlet which gave a break-down of the state revenue picture. One chart of the general fund showed that about 62 cents of each dollar went to schools; 2.69 cents to debt service; 6.92 to executive; 8.87 to charitable and correctional institutions; 8.46 to state aid and obligations; with about one cent designated for pension and a contingency and emergency fund, and the remaining 9.55 cents to educational institutions.

Smokies Pictured In Travel Book

Doubleday's 1956 edition of "Around The U. S. A. in 1,000 Pictures" includes 19 North Carolina scenes.

Full-page color shots of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park are featured in the new chapter on National Parks.

Closed Course

SEAGOVILLE, Tex. (AP)—The federal correctional institution (prison) here has a golf course, but there's little chance of a prisoner escaping while hunting an off-the-fairway ball. It's a miniature golf course built by the prisoners themselves. Besides, they're all on good behavior and could walk away from the unguarded prison at any time.

Cody Scheduled For European Tour

Pvt. Robert B. Cody, whose wife, Joyce, lives on Route 2, Waynesville, is scheduled to leave the United States Thursday for Europe as part of Operation Gyroscope, the Army's unit rotation plan.

Cody is a member of the 8th Infantry Division, which has been stationed at Fort Carson, Colo., and is replacing the 9th Infantry Division in Germany.

A rocket launcher gunner in Company K of the division's 13th Regiment, Cody entered the Army in February of this year.

He is a 1954 graduate of Waynesville Township High School, and

school law?

A. It remains in the books with one change. Under this change you would not be forced to send your child to school if (1) the only public school available to you is integrated and (2) no approved private school is available.

18. Who determines when a condition is "intolerable" and a vote on closing the school is requested?

A. The word "intolerable" is not included in these bills. However, it is up to the people in a local option unit to determine whether their school's operation has become intolerable. The vote of the people in the unit will determine this question. If the vote is to close the schools, then the condition is intolerable. If the vote is to keep open the schools, then the condition is evidently not intolerable.

19. What will become of school buildings no longer used for public school purposes?

A. Public school buildings belong to local administrative units and therefore to the people who live in that unit. Laws that have been on the books for many years provide that local school boards may lease or sell school property no longer necessary for public school purposes.

20. Why should I vote?

A. It is the duty of every citizen to express himself at the polls on this highly important matter. This program is non-partisan and was formulated by earnest people in both major parties, representing every section of North Carolina.

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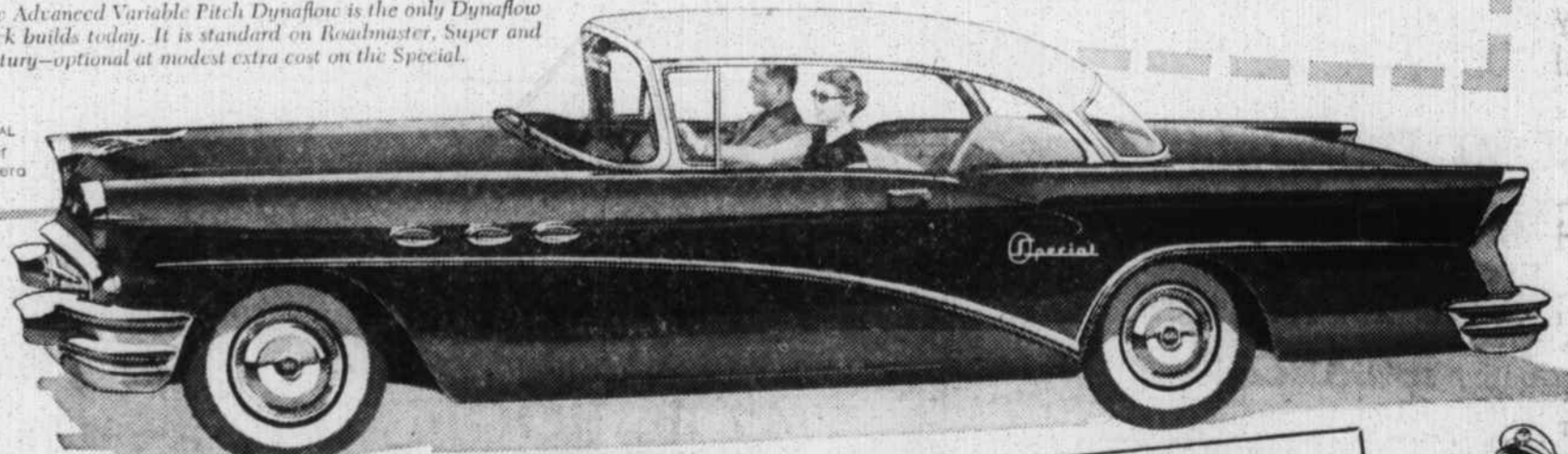
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