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Principals Would Appoint All Teachers Under School Machinery Act Introduced

In the Si- Walter Hotel, Dally Dispatch Burean, BY J. C. BASKERVILL.

Raleigh. April 18-School teachers Griffin, of Chowan, chairman of the up to the local school committeemen, will be taken out from under the yoke Senate Education Committee, Repre- who are also usually local politicians of servitude to local school commit- sentative R. L. Harriss, of Person school committeemen, school board and local politicians and be made responsible only to the principals under whom they work, if the General Assembly passes the new Machinery Act introduced school Machinery and introduced made in the act as compared with the cipals who are immediately over them onesday and now before the joint edu- 1933 School Machinery Act, the most and who know them best. The prin-

county, chairman of the House Com- members and to their superintendents mittee on education, and the mem- in order to hold their jobs. bers of the sub-committee named many weeks ago to draw the new act, passed, it will mean that the teachers While a number of changes are will be responsible only to the prin-

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You have steered us thru depression You have pleased us as a man

You have gained our confidence

So you'll be our Mayor again.

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You are loved by your acquaintances You are loved by old and young You are known throughout the country For those kind deeds you have done.

You have looked out for our interest You are always at our command What in all creation could we expect Of any man-MAYOR AGAIN.



pals, instead of the superintendents or the local committeemen or local boards of education, shall select the teachers. Under the machinery act now in effect, the teachers are selected by the school committeemen for each school or by the local boards of cation committees. The bill as it now education, with the approval of the stands is generally conceded to have county or city superintendents. As a been very largely the work of Senator result of this plan, teachers must play

as that contained in Section 13 1-2, which changes the procedure in the

election of principals and teachers and which provides that the princi-

But if this new machinery act is cipals are to be selected by the county or city superintendents and must be approved by the board of education, while the superintendents are em ployed by the county or city boards of education.

Other important changes in the new machinery act as compared with the one now in effect are as follows: 1. Salaries of superintendents and

principals will be fixed by the State School Commission and the State Board of Education in a salary schedule to be adopted, instead of written into the law as at present. In other wordz, the School Commission and Board of Education will fix the salaries of superintendents and principals in the same manner in which they now fix teachers' salaries.

2. 'The State School Commission shall be composed of nine members appointed by the governor, one from each congressional district, as at present, with the lieutenant governor as chairman, the State superintendent of public instruction as vice-chairman and the State treasurer as an ex-officio member. At present, the governor is also an ex-officio member, but he is left off the commission in the present act.

3. No high school will be maintained with less than 80 pupils in average daily attendance and no elementary school with less than 25 pupils in average daily attendance, unless geographical conditions make it impossible to conform with these requirements. At present 60 pupils in average daily attendance are required for a high school and 25 for an elementary school. This new provision, increasing the high school requirements from 60 to 80 pupils, will mean the discontinuation of about 100 small high schools and their consolidation with larger schools.

4. A county superintendent may also act as the principal of a high school and receive not to exceed \$300 a year additional salary for so doing; he may also act as county welfare officer at whatever compensation the county may pay him.

5. If the income from fines, forfeitures, penalties, dog taxes, poll taxes and so forth are not sufficient for the cost of maintaining school plants in counties or other administrative units, then the governing bodies of these units must levy an additional tax for maintainence of these plants. If there is an excess of revenue from these sources, it may be used for other objects.

6. Teachers will not be required to attend summer school the summer of 1935, but will be required to attend summer school in 1936 and 1937. It is understood that this provision was written in at the insistence of State Superintendent Clyde A. Erwin, who

believes teachers should be required

to attend summer school after this

supplement any or all of the objects

paid for by the State, provided such

supplement is voted by the people of

7. Any county, city or town may



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the unit in a special election and that the amount of the tax approved shall remain the maximum until increased or decreased in another election. 8. All teachers, principals and superintendents will come under the terms of the State workmen's compensation act and each teacher will be allowed three days' sick leave with pay each school year of 160 days. 9. Counties must levy taxes, if necessary, to supply whatever addition-

summer.

al school buses are needed to transport pupils to and from school, to provide necessary equipment for the buses and to house them properly when not in use. The State will continue, as in the past, to pay the cost of operating the buses. 10. School bus drivers shall continue

to be selected by the principals or superintendents of the schools at the terminus of the bus routes and shall live as near the other end of the routes as possible. They may be student drivers and no age limit is fixed. Their pay shall be determined by the State School Commission.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Clyde A. Erwin declined to comment on the bill or to say whether or not he would support it. He did say, however, that Section 13 1-2, which changes the method of selecting teachers and gives this function to the principals, "is not my section," It is also known that there are other things in the bill which he does not approve. It is known that he wanted Machinery Act which would make him rather than the Lieutenant gov ernor the chairman of the school commission, and, which would give the county and city superintendents the power to select all of the teachers, rather than have the principals select them. This would have given the county and city superintendents complete control of the hiring and fixing of teachers.



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