

Mr. CHELF. In my opinion, you are a good disciple of the representations of the Constitution, so you are a judge in my book.

Mr. BLOCH. Thank you, sir.

Mr. CHELF. Judge, in your fair State and mine, I think we are the only two in the Union that have a constitutional amendment that permits youngsters at the age of 18 to vote.

Now, something was said here awhile ago that there were a considerable number of colored youngsters, 18 or better, who had failed or refused to vote, or who had failed or refused to register, or who had not registered. Is that true or untrue?

Mr. BLOCH. I don't know, sir. You know, we have the 18-year provision, I don't know of any instance in my county.

Mr. CHELF. I thought something was said here awhile ago that there was a considerable number of young Negroes at the age of 18 who had not been permitted to register in the State of Georgia. Is that true?

Mr. BLOCH. I don't know. I cannot say it is true. I cannot say it is false. But I know of no such instance. The case that the chairman mentioned down there in Terrell County, those people, the people for whom—on whose behalf that suit was brought, were not 18-year-olds.

Mr. CHELF. Do you happen to know what percentage of the 18-year-olds, regardless of their race, have registered in the State of Georgia?

Mr. BLOCH. No, sir, but I would be glad to try to find out, and make it a part of my statement.

Mr. CHELF. Along that line, may I be permitted to say for the record, I am ashamed to admit it, but there are very few of the youngsters at the age of 18 who have taken the trouble and the time. My two children, I had to get them in the living room and preach them a sermon as to why they should go down and register. So let's get the record straight into a hat here, because I want to know what is going on. I mean if kids at the age of 18 are being denied the right to register that is one thing. But if they are not doing it, and couldn't care less, that is another.

Mr. BLOCH. Well, I don't think, if there is any denial or abridgment by the State, I don't know that it would be directed against the 18 to 21 any more than it would be above 21. In my own county, I find a very great interest among the youngsters, between the ages of 18 and 21, in politics, and in statecraft. And they are interested, and they register right along.

Now, what percentage of the registered voters in Bibb County, the colored registered voters, are between those ages, I don't know.

Mr. CHELF. I would be interested in finding that out, Judge.

Mr. BLOCH. Yes, I will find that out. (See app. A.)

The CHAIRMAN. I want to say to the gentleman from Kentucky, that no mention was made of teenagers at all. When I mentioned Terrell County, I didn't say anything about young Negroes.

Mr. CHELF. I am sorry. I thought you said there were a considerable number 18 years of age who had not been permitted or who had not. And I just wanted to get the thing straightened out.

Mr. BLOCH. I think, sir, what the chairman said was "schoolteachers," and you thought he said "teenagers." They were alleged to be, and they may be—I don't understand—schoolteachers.