

To me, that was one of the most inhuman and cruelest statements that I have ever heard uttered by any person in an official capacity with the U.S. Government.

I think that that particular statement, among many unbelievable statements, which were made during this 4-hour conference between the compliance team and the Griffin-Spaulding County School Board, has certainly caused me to take a more than casual interest in this overall subject, for the purpose of helping develop a record upon which the Congress can base a mature and intelligent judgment when we consider this legislation again next year, or the year after.

Because what we want to see done—and I think the members of the subcommittee agree with me on this—is that we are interested in seeing this legislation administered to improve education in the respective States, and throughout the United States.

We are not interested in seeing this entire Federal participation in education jeopardized by imprudent and irresponsible actions of officials in the Office of the Commissioner of Education, from Mr. Harold Howe on down to and including this man, Mr. Pearlman, who suggested the use of inhuman and cruel methods to obtain his objectives.

Mrs. GREEN. Thank you, Mr. Flynt.

My thanks to all of you gentlemen, who have come from various States. I am well aware of the demands that are made upon your time. It has been very helpful to me, and I think I speak for Mr. Erlenborn, to have you come to the committee this morning.

Other members of our subcommittee are listening to school board members in Minneapolis today. When we get back to Washington we will compare notes. We will tell them of the testimony which you gave, and they in turn will tell us of the testimony which they heard in Minneapolis.

My thanks.

We now have a panel of the persons who have to be on the firing line day after day, and to whom society has turned to cure all of the ills of society.

We welcome to the hearing Dr. Paul West, Mr. W. L. Robinson, Mrs. Nell Hallford, Mr. Samuel Wood, Mr. Jasper Griffin, and Dr. A. D. Clifton.

We also have with us representatives from Kentucky, and North Carolina, and Florida.

We are also glad to have Mr. Paddock from Houston in the audience today.

I think we will start out by calling upon Dr. Paul West, the superintendent of the Fulton County schools.

STATEMENT OF DR. PAUL WEST, SUPERINTENDENT, FULTON COUNTY SCHOOLS, STATE OF GEORGIA

Dr. WEST. Madam Chairman and members of the subcommittee, we understand we are under slight pressure of time. In view of the fact that the first part of this deals with the programs in which the Fulton County Board of Education is involved, and since there are other statements which have been made in this regard by other school systems, I think we may omit this.