

Mr. SMITH. I have just one more minute and then I will be through.

Since we live as close to Kentucky and Barkeley Lake as we do, it is a serious matter if your lawnmower or your cultivator won't start, but if your motorboat won't start, it is a calamity.

Thank you, sir. I have appreciated the opportunity of appearing before you.

Chairman PERKINS. We appreciate your coming.

Mr. DODSON. Mr. Sam Watkins, whom I introduced a while ago, is a representative from Kentucky. He is on the education committee and several other committees which I won't take the time to mention, but he wants about 2 minutes.

Chairman PERKINS. Please come around.

STATEMENT OF HON. SAM WATKINS, MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE, STATE OF KENTUCKY

Mr. WATKINS. Honorable Chairman, honorable members of the committee, I want to thank you for giving me just a minute to make just a brief statement regarding some of the hearings that have been brought out today, especially in regard to the Kentucky Department of Education taking over the school system at Fort Knox.

The attorney general of Kentucky has ruled that it would be unlawful for the department to take over these schools under the present statutes and it is necessary to charge them. Of course I can't speak for the Kentucky House of Representatives or the Kentucky Legislature as to what they will do but being a battle-scarred member of that honorable body, I think I can point out that it would be impossible to get such a law changed inasmuch as there are only about five members of the house that would be affected in this area around Fort Knox and Fort Campbell.

Chairman PERKINS. Let me ask you at that point: Assuming that the law was changed, you had favorable ruling from the attorney general, how much money would Hardin County then lose to the area as a result of the change, if any?

Mr. WATKINS. In the two forts there are approximately 10,000 children involved. It is estimated about \$2 million would have to be brought from some other source or would have to be deducted from our general fund.

Chairman PERKINS. Here is the point: I think you have missed the point. Public Laws 815 and 874 cited by Mr. Burkhead was added in order to encourage the education of federally connected children in local community schools rather than in federally operated home base schools. This, as you recall, was the basic philosophy behind Public Laws 815 and 874 originally, get the Army in particularly and the Government in general out of the business of running schools. That is what we were trying to do last year, trying to get the Government and the Army out of the business of running schools. Now if Frankfort agreed to participate in financing of education of these youngsters on the theory that there is economic benefit to the State by virtue of Fort Knox, I am of the opinion that the problem would be resolved. However, none of us is infallible and I have already directed the staff to check with the Office of Education and if Frankfort did participate,