

# ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION AMENDMENTS 1615

documentary. One reason: the white children and parents in his district have been the target of jibes from neighboring communities because of their progress in desegregation and he obviously would like to see the school districts that are making progress get some recognition for it.

It would be difficult to find a better example of rural South than the Guy Perkins district. The superintendent is confident that his white and Negro teachers could handle themselves on national television.

## *Okeechobee County, Florida*

White students, 2,100; Negro students, 300.

Superintendent Carl Durrance says Okeechobee County has 41 percent of its Negro children in school with white children. The school district plans to assign white and Negro children to all its five school buildings next year, but will not achieve 100 percent desegregation. A group of grades will be assigned to each of the schools, including what is now the Negro elementary school. The Negro high school was closed last year. However, Okeechobee is considering allowing Negro children in the neighborhood of the present Negro elementary school a free choice for grades one, two, and three. Consequently some children in these grades will still be in school with students only of their own race, although white children at another grade level will be attending the same school on a desegregated basis. This dual use of what is presently the Negro elementary school will prevent 100 percent desegregation by class, and is typical of the flaws in most of the plans examined as possible "success stories." Even so, Okeechobee is ahead of other school districts in Florida on a percentage basis, has exceeded guidelines minimum requirements, and has effected some desegregation with little or no difficulty.

Okeechobee is using a Title IV consultant on desegregation, from the Florida Atlantic University. It has met minimum standards on faculty desegregation, about one teacher per school.

Twenty years ago, Okeechobee was still arguing over whether to educate its Seminole children—and some from neighboring counties—but now the community has accepted the Negro students without a ruffle.

| State               | Total school districts having enrollment of 1,200 or more students | School districts responding to survey | School districts reporting summer programs serving prekindergarten children | School districts reporting summer programs serving kindergarten children |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Alabama.....        | 113                                                                | 91                                    | 7                                                                           | 14                                                                       |
| Arkansas.....       | 90                                                                 | 88                                    | 55                                                                          | 10                                                                       |
| Florida.....        | 62                                                                 | 49                                    | 4                                                                           | 8                                                                        |
| Georgia.....        | 175                                                                | 174                                   | 12                                                                          | 40                                                                       |
| Kentucky.....       | 150                                                                | 150                                   | 3                                                                           | 25                                                                       |
| Louisiana.....      | 67                                                                 | 67                                    | 4                                                                           | 9                                                                        |
| Mississippi.....    | 136                                                                | 126                                   | 4                                                                           | 10                                                                       |
| North Carolina..... | 165                                                                | 164                                   | 12                                                                          | 53                                                                       |
| South Carolina..... | 103                                                                | 101                                   | 8                                                                           | 21                                                                       |
| Tennessee.....      | 123                                                                | 97                                    | 8                                                                           | 15                                                                       |
| Texas.....          | 313                                                                | 307                                   | 38                                                                          | 130                                                                      |
| Virginia.....       | 122                                                                | 114                                   | 12                                                                          | 39                                                                       |
| West Virginia.....  | 54                                                                 | 54                                    | 3                                                                           | 7                                                                        |
| Total.....          | 1,673                                                              | 1,582                                 | 170                                                                         | 381                                                                      |