

January 14, 1974

(Start Belt#6)

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Carpenter, and I know some of the answers to some of these questions. But I want the body to be reminded of what Senator Carpenter really is and you see how out of character for him this resolution is. Do you think that education in America should be a privilege based on being white and having wealth?

SENATOR CARPENTER: Of course not.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Of course not, he said. Now there is a constitution of this country which grants the right of education to all children. Should it be denied to a child because of his race?

SENATOR CARPENTER: Of course not.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Of course not. If racial segregation can be shown to produce a double discriminatory system should the state correct the injustices created under that double system?

SENATOR CARPENTER: Why sure, and I would do everything I could to correct it.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Right. Now would you favor assigning children to school if it can be shown that there is a double standard and allowing them to go to the decent school and using any means necessary to get to that decent school.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Of course you ask me a question now I can't give you a correct answer. As a matter of principle, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: All right, and we're dealing on principle, this morning. If poor children lack the financial means to obtain transportation to go to a decent school should the state since its set up a public school system find some means to help overcome the poverty and give that child a chance to go to a decent school.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well that again is another complicated question, as a matter of principle, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: All right, you have mentioned on many occasions the mockery and hypocrisy of the legislature authorizing program and then not funding it to operate. If we concede that the Constitution grants the right to have an education, and the one means that might be available to making that Constitutional right a reality. Isn't it a greater mockery to take away the one thing which in some circumstances might make it possible for that right to become a reality for children-

SENATOR CARPENTER: Of course, the Senator tried to back me in to a corner.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No, I'm trying to walk you into it front wards because I'm being above aboard with everything I'm doing.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Senator, it's not that brilliant.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: It's not a case of being brilliant.

SENATOR CARPENTER: That's not what we are talking about. The Senator is injecting a lot of things that..obviously the Constitution in this state says that every child in this state is entitled to an education.