

ROWEN HITS DELAY ON SCHOOL HEAD

Protest Becomes Widespread Against Delay in Filling Garber's Post

BEEBER DOES NOT CARE

William Rowen, member of the committee on superintendence of the Board of Education, believes "it is time something was done" in the matter of getting a successor for Dr. John P. Garber as superintendent of schools.

"No meeting of the committee has been held since the spring," said Mr. Rowen. "I have been waiting for Dr. Garber to call the committee together."

Mr. Rowen voiced a protest that has become widespread at the failure of the special committee on superintendence to move in the important matter of naming Dr. Garber's successor.

Although Dr. Garber's term expires October 31, it was pointed out on committee to select a new man. No report has been made to the board itself of any progress made, although several members both publicly and privately have asked for information.

The board holds its next meeting October 12 and to elect a new man for November, when Dr. Garber retires, it will be necessary to act quickly.

Mr. Beeber was asked if a meeting of the committee had been called or would be called in a week or so. He replied that he did not know. He was also questioned as to whether the superintendent would take place at the next meeting of the board.

"It might be possible," said Mr. Beeber.

Many Names Considered

"Are many names being considered?" was questioned.

"Yes, a large number, but some have been eliminated. I understand more are being added every day."

"Do you know, Mr. Beeber, that educators all over the city are making unfavorable comments on the secretiveness and failure of the committee to show action?"

"I don't care what they think," said Mr. Beeber.

Mr. Beeber also declared emphatically that the meeting to consider recommendations for a final choice for the post would not be a public one. Some members of the board have stood out for public sessions on this matter and all the information that could be secured in this way, to aid them in a selection.

When publicly questioned by Mrs. William Lingsch, a member of the board at the September meeting, Mr. Beeber said that much had been done by the committee and a great deal more would be done. He also stated that a meeting of the committee would be held in a few weeks and that it was possible that the name of the man selected would come before the board for approval at the October meeting.

Joseph W. Catharine, another member of the committee, again reiterated his stand that the widest and most open search should be instituted for the proper man for the post of head of the school system and that he should have the highest possible qualifications, also that an increased salary be paid and the tenure of office be lengthened. He made a number of recommendations to the committee concerning educators considered eligible for the post. He

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also asked that all possible help be secured from outside educators in filling the vacancy.

John Wasmaker stated that he had been entirely out of touch with the matter during the summer owing to illness and bereavement in his family.

Harry T. Stoddard, another member of the committee, said that he did not know when there would be another meeting of the committee. "We shall have something to say in due time and plenty that may when that time comes. I do not know whether the committee will hold a public meeting or not, but for one would not be in favor of it."

"I am in favor of a big man for the post along the lines suggested by Mr. Catharine. It does not matter to me whether he comes from the city, state or some other part of the country. The question of salary, the present one being \$5000, is somewhat of a business proposition. I am in favor of getting a man for that figure if I can, but if not we may have to pay more."

"The question of tenure of office is a matter that has something to be said on both sides. The present term is one year. If we increase it we might be in the position of the man who took a lease on his house for several years. If he rents it up he could call it a good business move. If they went down he would be stung. Much would depend on the type of man we could get."

"Inquiries have been made and meetings have been held. After all there are only a few men in the country who are fitted to hold the post. Certainly we are going to do nothing without due consideration."

Mr. Rowen, the fifth member of the committee, said:

"I believe that we have men right in our own school system who are fine men, able in every way to fill the duties of the post. We want a superintendent who will be a superintendent and who will be active and will visit the schools and keep in touch with them and at all times know their needs."

More Money Needed

"It is a question whether we can pay more money than at present for several reasons, one of course being the fact that we are so seriously embarrassed financially now that we don't know which way to turn to raise the money. As for the increased tenure of office, it is a question, for we may be committing ourselves for a term of years and later find ourselves embarrassed."

"If we had money we could do lots of things. Complaints are made of the condition of our school buildings, of the medical conditions in the schools, which we are ordered to correct, our teachers are clamoring for more money, coal has advanced 40 per cent, we can't buy enough text books to enable the pupils to study their lessons properly. But if we can't get considerably more money from the State Legislature we won't be able to help any of these conditions."

A letter was received by the committee today from Dr. G. R. Beighlin, president of George Washington University, D. C., recommending Dr. W. C. Copeland, of Washington, for the post. He stated that he was inspired by published statements that the board was seeking a big man for the post and wanted to help them.

Dr. Copeland, he said was an Englishman and a graduate of Oxford University, who had been naturalized six years ago. He said that Doctor Copeland, who had attained the degrees of master of arts and L.L.D., had considerable experience as an educator, a lecturer, administrator and was a writer on educational subjects and that he believed he would bring distinguished literary gifts to the public schools of this city.

PHILADELPHIA WOMAN MADE STATE ELECTOR

Mrs. Ellen Duane Davis Is Nominated for Post as Democratic Candidate

A Philadelphia woman has been nominated by Governor Cox and Franklin D. Roosevelt as a Democratic elector-at-large in Pennsylvania.

She is Mrs. Ellen Duane Davis, and she has been nominated to fill a vacancy, it was announced at Democratic national headquarters, in New York.


Mrs. Davis is the first woman to be chosen as a presidential elector by either the Republican or Democratic party.

She is a direct descendant of Benjamin Franklin, and is well known in Philadelphia through her social activities and her work among women's political organizations.

Mrs. Davis's nomination, it was announced at Harrisburg, has been certified by the Democratic state committee to the secretary of state of Pennsylvania. The vacancy to which Mrs. Davis is appointed was caused by the resignation of J. W. McKimney, of Crawford county.

Mrs. Davis is at present motoring with her husband, Dr. Edward P. Davis, of Philadelphia, from Maine. She lives at 250 South Twenty-first street.

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