

J. F. Stewart and Principal T. H. Kiah Say People on Shore Resent J.C. Law

Salisbury Senator Should Have Made a Check-up Before Talking, Says Mr. Stewart. Eastern Shore People Resent Any Legislation Which Denies Them Equal Opportunity as American Citizens, Says Principal Kiah.

Eastern Shore citizens commence this week to be heard from as a result of the statement made by Senator David J. Ward that they were satisfied with the present Jim Crow law in Maryland and were not asking for a change.

Statements refuting Senator Ward were made, this week by James F. Stewart, Salisbury undertaker, and Principal Thomas H. Kiah, of Princess Anne Academy. **Is Not True**

In a signed statement Mr. Stewart declares that the assertion of the Salisbury Senator is not true. He writes:

"An article appearing in your paper of March 11, headlined: 'Eastern Shore Citizens Do Not Want Jim Crow Law Repealed, says Salisbury Senator,' is not true.

"I am very sorry that the Senator from Salisbury did not make a canvas or check up of his and other counties before making such a statement. I think he would have found it necessary to have made a different statement or else declined giving out any at all, because I for one feel very keenly the embarrassment which we as a group have been subjected to by this untimely information.

"To say that we are satisfied with a law that has for its one and only purpose to segregate members of my group and subject them to conditions that would make us feel less than citizens of this commonwealth is unfounded and also an insult to the intelligence of our racial group.

"I say this in defense of 590,000 Negroes that make up the nine counties of the Eastern Shore

which is designated politically as the First Congressional District of Maryland.

"As an Eastern Shoreman and a native of Wicomico County, I can never give sanction or encouragement to a law which was created in 1904 and has since served to make the men, women and children of my race hang their heads in shame as to the injustice accorded us as citizens of this great commonwealth of Maryland.

"I hope the Senator from Salisbury, Md., will find it convenient to correct his statement about the Negroes of the Eastern Shore being satisfied with the Jim Crow law or else give us the benefit of his service to do all he can to have this law which is a curse to our racial group, repealed at this session of the Maryland Legislature."

In a letter to the Citizens' Jim Crow Repeal Committee, Principal Kiah says: "The Negroes of the Eastern Shore of Maryland, resent any legislation which denies them manhood rights and forbids them to enjoy the privileges of equal opportunity to come to the best and the most as American citizens. This is true, whatever may be said to the contrary."

Making campaign
This week the committee is concentrating its efforts on getting out opinion of both white and colored opinion on the Eastern Shore. The committee is determined to leave no member of the legislature cloudy on the matter of what citizens in this state feel about this Jim Crow law and their determination

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to fight on until it is taken off the books.

Political Club Protests

At a meeting of the Independent Voters Political Welfare Club, of Maryland, held in Washington Sunday, that organization went on record as refuting both the statements of Senaors Dudley G. Froe and David J. Ward, according to President John L. Jenifer. In a letter to these Senators, he said:

"We desire to enter an emphatic protest against the statement ascribed to you concerning the attitude of the colored people of Maryland toward the repeal of the Jim Crow law of that state. You are reported as saying that the Negroes of the Eastern Shore do not want Jim Crow repeal.

"The sentiment of the Negroes of the entire state of Maryland, the Eastern Shore not excepted, on the subject of Jim Crowism, has never for a moment wavered, and your unauthorized attempt to misrepresent the feelings of our group on this question, presents, in our opinion, either an inexcusable ignorance of one of the burning questions of the hour, or a deliberate intention to tender a gratuitous insult to our people as a whole.

"As the executive committee of the Independent Voters' Political Welfare Organization of Maryland, representing the twenty-three counties of the state, we hereby say to you very plainly that neither you nor anyone else has any authority whatsoever to picture the Negroes of any part of Maryland as being satisfied with any form of Jim Crowism and we further inform you that our people not only have never been satisfied with the infamous Jim Crow laws of the state, but we never will be until they are wiped out and forever off the statute books. For this, and other reasons, the statement ascribed to you is nothing less than an insult to the intelligence and manhood of the 300,000 Negroes of the state."