Prophesy

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Congressman John Bell Williams painted a gloomy picture of the administration's federal aid to schools program the other day while envoys mulled an action already taken in favor.

The Raymore share of the face that the Missouri State Education Association had already approved resolutions favoring acceptance of federal aid, pointed out the evils of this program.

He proved himself ever so right on one score.

As Williams began to speak, he said, "I am sure that you will not approve what I am going to say," and, he seemed so right.

But we can't say that Williams was utterly lacking approval of the county superintendents of education, to whom he spoke.

At the very outset of his speech, he said:

"The schools have come a long way since I was a boy. . . . the quality of education and the teachers have improved. . . . There was a ripple of applause.

After that, Williams drew close attention, but no demonstration.

There were no huzzahs when he told the schoolmen that he "would be happy to pay added taxes for salaries for the teachers and if it meant keeping the federal government out of our schools."

CAUSTIC

In a state that has in ten years hiked the school appropriations for all purposes from some $50,000,000 a biennium to almost $130,000,000, it seems that some appreciation would have been shown for the latter statement.

But when Williams had finished, the only comment we heard was:

"John Bell forgets that we are already receiving some $19,000,000 a biennium in federal aid to education in Mississippi."

Williams was quick to say, "That is the Constitution among friends?"

And it seems to be working more than a job out of our control these days.

But when Congressman William's suggestions for federal aid to education is unconstitutional, it didn't seem to impress much. True enough, there is no mention of education in the Constitution of the United States, but the constitution is being used to implement integration in schools.

However, when Williams suggested that the government has unlimited power, we do not need a constitution, there were some unexceptionable comments.

"Hitler's first step was nationalization of the schools of Germany, Williams reminded. "When he could teach the youth as he wanted, he soon grew his crop of Nazis."

"Hitler's first step was nationalization of the police force, and with a Gestapo he controlled the people. That was the key to his power."

Thus, in two steps, Germany became a dictatorship, the Congressman sized up. That first step, nationalization of education, is nothing more than federal aid to education, the Congressman warned.

DIRECTIVE

That Pres. Kennedy will do by executive order what he is not trying to do by law, the integration strings to federal aid—was fairly well stamped by Williams' speech.

"Even Adam Clayton Powell, the Negro Congressman, is telling that," Williams reminded. "For I see federal money in your schools, you will submit to any federal command whatever.

The congressman then gave the example of Peabody College which accepted federal aid. Lowering of standards by pressure, stagnation, interference, no freedom for improvements, and an inconsistent federal guidance were the complaints of Peabody College.

"Is that what you want for the common schools of Mississippi?" Williams asked. And, we heard no answer.

"Do you think that the U. S. Supreme Court which won't let you cut off this federal money, will let us do so on federal money?" Williams demanded and we didn't hear an outcry.

WOLF!

"The cry of "wolf" may have fallen on deaf ears, since the teachers, already pledged to federal aid by decree of their own association, were getting deader and deader.

But they listened attentively and respectfully, and there were those that correlated Williams as he closed out his speech.

We wonder, however, how many gathered to bosom the advice:

"Stop teaching this progressive education and move back to the safety of basic education."

And—"in the children lies our future, and you as teachers lies the molding of that future."

And—"Federal aid to education is just the panacea of all our ills."

And—"Bureaucracy central government will provide crunches for our states."