

TEACHERS NEED MORE INFORMATION

A letter signed by three teachers in the Pinckney schools and sent to a number of individuals and organizations shows a lack of authentic information regarding procedure on the part of the teachers. Their statement that the use of provisional or temporary teachers in the schools throughout the state, and especially in Lawrence, is not for the best interests of the children is undoubtedly correct. That something should be done about it is also correct. The insinuation that the state legislature could have done something about it, or that it failed or shirked a part of its duty, is entirely erroneous and shows that the school teachers should get a bit more information.

Here is the trouble in the school system in Lawrence. Teachers have been going to better jobs. Temporary teachers have been hired. The school is prevented from paying more salaries because the 14 mill levy is the top limit as provided by law. However, the local school board can go before the state tax commission and ask for permission to raise the levy to such place as is necessary to provide needed funds. That can be done without legislative action. If the local board decided to add another mill and levy 15 mills instead of 14, which is now the limit, it would get about \$16,000 more money which would be adequate for salary increases.

There is a crisis in the schools. Not only in Lawrence but in the entire state. It can and probably will be taken care of as outlined above. The teachers can help by spreading factual information. Taking a pot-shot at everybody within range will only add to the confusion. The public can help by insisting that salary schedules be increased. The board of education is perfectly willing to act and has the necessary power to solve the problem. They would appreciate having the reaction of those who pay the bills.