

1 even fare as well with its present organization as it
2 might: why not?

3 "A few words suffice to explain. Public educa-
4 tion in Maryland is 'in politics.' Politics are apt to
5 prevent the State Board from acting with vigor; to deter-
6 mine the composition of the county boards; to affect the
7 choice of the county superintendents; even to enter into
8 the selection of the one-room rural schoolteacher. Of
9 course, there are exceptions. Some of the county boards
10 are excellent; some schools are entirely free from political
11 taint. But, in general, political and personal consider-
12 ations impair the vigor, independence, thoroughness, and
13 efficiency of the school system. The public does not
14 begin to realize the seriousness of the political infec-
15 tion or the damage it does."

16 Some of you will remember the late Marie Bauern-
17 schmidt who led the fight to free the schools of Baltimore
18 City from political control. This was such a difficult task
19 and so long delayed that Mrs. Bauernschmidt became an erst-
20 while political leader in her own right.

21 In discussing with Mr. Case the guarantee of