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ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE**

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1938

**1,700 FLORIDA TEACHERS  
RAISE DEFENSE FUND FOR  
SALARY FIGHT**

Jacksonville, Fla. Dec. 2.- Without a dissenting vote, 1,700 Florida teachers, meeting here in a two-day session opening Thanksgiving day, pledged full financial support in the state-wide fight to equalize the salaries of colored and white teachers in the public schools.

The pledge of financial support came shortly after an address made by Thurgood Marshall, of the legal staff of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who came here in connection with the case of John Gilbert, a public school teacher in Brevard County, Florida.

Gilbert was dismissed by the county board of public instruction, shortly after the Association filed suit against the board in his behalf. Gilbert is seeking to have his salary equalized with that of white teachers doing the same work. His case is now pending on appeal before the supreme court of Florida.

The teachers not only voted to raise a defense fund to fight the case, but also voted to pay for Gilbert's tuition in college in order to enable him to further his preparation for teaching while the case is being fought through the courts.

Florida represents the third state where teachers have actively taken up the fight for equalization of salaries, which was launched in Maryland by the N.A.A.C.P. three years ago.

The Association is also preparing to carry the salary fight into Virginia and Alabama.