

KANSAS SPLITS ON FLAG LAW

By A. R. BUCKINGHAM

TOPEKA, Kan., Oct. 5.—When Jay S. Parker, Kansas Attorney General, ruled that the compulsory flag salute was the law in the State he discovered all Kansans did not agree with such proceeding. Newspapers and State officials have received many protests from ministers, professional men and citizens in every walk of life. They contend that such a law is Hitlerism in its worst form and if Kansas has to have compulsory patriotism it might as well not have any, because it means nothing.

The groups which have been most active in demanding a check on patriotism believe the compulsory

flag salute is a form of patriotic discipline which will do school children no harm and inspire respect for what the American flag stands for. Recently Mr. Parker made it clear that the law means just what it says and its enforcement is not a matter which can be treated as being optional.

The only open defiance of the law has come from members of Jehovah's Witnesses, which believes that salute to a flag is idolatry. In Barton County four pupils who refused to take part in the school's flag salute ceremonies were suspended until they were willing to comply with the flag salute regulations.

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