

Continuance of a school at Unison-Bloomfield and the inevitable rerouting of the high school bus from Unison and Bloomfield directly into Round Hill so that these high school pupils could leave home later in the morning would directl nearly a room full of children from Bluemont. This would leave a two-room school in a four-room building which has a life expectancy of thirty to forty years. It could very well result in closing this school entirely.

It seems important that I emphasize the fact that the final consolidation plans in Loudoun County as now set pxup for both high and elementary schools is much more conservative than the average for Virginia Counties. Without the Unison-Bloomfield school we would have fifteen elementary school centers as follows: Aldie, Arcola, Ashburn, Bluemont, Hamilton, Hillsboro, Leesburg, Lincoln, Lovettsville, Lucketts, Middleburg, Purcellville, Round Hill, Sterling, and Waterford. The average area for each school is 35 square miles. This actually equals a radius of 3.3 miles reduced to the average.

Many of our schools face urgent need of improved facilities and since there is no evidence that the construction of a new building in this case would either be of distinct educational advantage or reduce transportation required, the proposed outlay of so large a sum would surely prove to be a boomerang that would cripple the future development of our schools in the years to come.