

I desire at this time to make a statement bearing on this case to show my views as to how the matter should be handled.

Let me first say that on several ~~xxx~~ occasions the question of permitting some high school work in the Purcellville, Hamilton and Bluemont schools and additional high school work in the Hillsboro school has been presented to me. I have always discouraged such proposals because I felt the course proposed would result in a number of weak high schools although it was apparent that the final outcome would be only one high school for the entire territory and that at the most populous place, Purcellville. My attitude has certainly not been a disadvantage ~~any~~ to Lincoln.

When the matter of installing an agricultural department with a teacher paid entirely by the state was first before our county, the State School Superintendent wrote me that I as division superintendent must select the school. I selected Lincoln because it seemed the proper place but received very sharp criticism from another ~~part~~ section of the county for my action.

When the question of ~~xx~~ a separate Purcellville District was pending in 1917 one of my first acts as division superintendent was to advise State Superintendent Stearns that since the object was a new high school the course proposed did not seem the proper one.

When it became necessary to lock horns with the Purcellville town authorities over the collection of what has already amounted to about \$1,000 from a tax on bank stock I have not hesitated to be against the Town of Purcellville and