

population changes very little that in a particular small school ~~by~~ may vary 50 per cent within a few years. The present Superintendent, for example, has seen 9 two-room schools reduced to one-room schools some of which were later restored to two-room school status. Also he has seen 10 one-room schools closed for lack of legal attendance, and even now we have a one-room school caring for an enrollment of 57 as an example of a problem heretofore multiplied many times.

It is believed that conditions prevailing in Loudoun County are favorable to the closing at an early date of the 3 two-room schools and 4 of the 5 one-room schools. The Sunny Ridge school is unfavorably located for consolidation.

Let us examine the case for our high schools. Within the last few years educators and the public have shown indications of being thoroughly aroused to the condition that high schools were being geared to a college preparatory system. Without regard for the fact that less than one-fourth of the pupils entering high school were in turn entering college all high schools were almost entirely devoted to preparation for college. There exists in the land today a wave of indignation demanding that high schools ~~p~~ prepare for life. I quote below from a letter written by a graduate of a Washington City high school 6 years after graduation and published in the Washington Post on December 15, 1939.

"I want to know", the letter said, "Why you and your teachers did not tell and teach me about life and the hard, critically practical world into which you sent me --- Why ~~a~~ did you have to spend so much time on dry, uninteresting subject-matter and so little on genuine life problems?" The writer told how he had gone to college for a year, left school in the depression, ²married, landed on relief, and finally: "I am a husband, and a father, working my way blindly from a high school intellectual to a respectable, self-supporting, voting citizen of the community. In this transition