

During my principalship at Lovettsville, some 150 graduates have gone out from this school. Now, when we take into consideration the number of pupils enrolled during these years, we can readily see that a large percentage of our pupils are not completing the high school course. What are the causes? There are many contributing factors, some of which are unavoidable but there is one factor that I think has done much to aggravate this condition, namely, indifference on the part of too many parents.

In our community—nor do I think this peculiar to our community—I have found too often indifference of parents to education and to the things for which it stands, reflected in the attitudes and activities of the children. Consequently, as soon as the child has reached the age limit of compulsory attendance—and sometimes before—that child leaves school and soon with this meager training attempts to win a place for himself in this highly competitive business world, and to assume social responsibilities in a very complex civilization. With his poor equipment, I don't believe that child has had a fair deal.

And, so it seems to me, it is the duty of the citizens of a community to see that their children get all the training of which they are capable or which that community has to offer through its schools. Due to the easy accessibility of high schools to all sections no child in Loudoun should be denied the privilege and opportunity of securing a high school education. This is his birthright and a great injustice is being done when he is deprived of that right.

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