

I am beginning to get an upper hand on the lower rung of the ladder of life for which your education never prepared me a whit".

The writer outlined what he thought his school training should have included: "I wish I have been taught more about family relationships, child care, getting along with people, interpreting the news, news writing, paying off a small mortgage, house-hold mechanics, politics, local government, the chemistry of food, carpentry, how to budget and live within the budget, the value of insurance, how to figure interest when borrowing money and paying it back in installments, how to enjoy opera over the radio, how to detect shoddy goods, how to distinguish a political demagogue from a statesman, how to grow a garden, how to paint a house, how to get a job, how to be vigorous, and healthy, how to be interesting to others, how to be popular, how to be thrifty, how to resist high pressure salesmanship, how to buy economically and intelligently, and the danger of buying on the installment plan."

By changes from within we are trying hard in Loudoun County to meet the kind of challenge found in this letter. One very serious handicap has been the larger number of high schools which by their number and small enrollment have thwarted us in many directions in the development of a well-rounded curriculum suited to the vastly different needs of the individual pupils. We must remember that a college preparatory course is essential if we are to continue to have lawyers, doctors, engineers, philosophers, etc. Other courses must be added to care for those who complete their education at the high school level. The needs of each pupil must be considered and met. In the small high school there exists an extremely difficult problem to which no solution except high school consolidation has yet been advanced.

We have reduced the number of high schools from 12 to 6. Most of this has been done within the last few years. In four of these 6 high