

Oct. 4, 1916.

Dear Binford:

I am glad to note that you are going into the Richmond system again--in a way--as I believe it will be more satisfactory in many respects to you, especially under the present circumstances. I do not, however, like to see you get out of touch with state affairs. You have a better hold on the people of Virginia, in all sections, and generally, than any other man in public educational work in the state. I am sure of this from conversations with people in the various sections of the state. The time will come when you will be needed in the state work, even tho at present it may not seem to you that you are in position to do anything. When the time does come you will find hundreds of friends all over Virginia who will stand by you; and I am sure you could arouse more enthusiasm around the state than any educational worker we have had in the last ten years. This is my humble judgment--you can take it for whatever it is worth. I know you feel that you must be loyal to the present administration. So do I, and I feel in every way loyal. But there is always a possibility that the situation may change, and you ought not to get out of touch with things. You know the Richmond system has a tendency to produce this, or rather it used to, perhaps not so much now.

You have my best wishes in your new field of work, and I hope you will find much joy and satisfaction in it. I am sure Richmond is to be very much congratulated on getting you.

Very sincerely yours,