## SOUTHERN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

(Incorporated 1937)

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Office of the President 726 Jackson Place, N. W. Washington, D. C.

May 9, 1942

President ARTHUR D. WRIGHT

Chairman of the Board ROBERT OGDEN PURVES

Secretary of the Board EMMETT J. SCOTT

Mr. William T. Smith, Leesburg, Virginia.

My dear Mr. Smith:

I am in receipt of an invitation to the dedication of the Douglass High School on Friday, May 15th, and regret more than I can say that an engagement of long standing makes it necessary for me to be in New York on that day. I am sorry to miss this occasion.

At the same time, I want to congratulate you and the other members of the Board on the erection of a new high school building for the Negroes of Loudoun County. I have known Loudoun County and its general situation for many years, since I was State Supervisor of Negro Schools in Virginia more than twenty years ago, and I know that this building has been greatly needed and that its final attainment will mean a great deal to the colored people of Loudoun County.

Again expressing my regret at not being able to be with you, and with best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

ashur D. Wight