Robert McEliece (St. Petersburg, Florida, workshop on "Future Directions" in coding theory, 1971):

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Too many equations had been generated with too few consequences... Coding theorist professors had begotten more coding theory PhDs in their own image... no one else cared; it was time to see this perversion for what it was. Give up this fantasy and take up a useful occupation... Coding is dead. [Lucky, R. Lucky Strikes Again '93, Compilation of articles from IEEE Spectrum]