

Lloyd L. Hargis Retires After 28 Years As Principal

(May 31, 1956)

Principal Lloyd L. Hargis, who sometime ago announced his retirement from the teaching profession after 41 years spent in that endeavor, had as a counterpart for his retirement year, the honor of having the largest graduating class in Mount Pulaski Township High School's history—49. His presentation of this record-breaking class tonight at the commencement exercises, will mark his last official connection with MPTHS.

Mr. Hargis was well-equipped for his chosen profession, graduating from Paris, Ill. high school in 1915. He then taught in the rural schools of Edgar county from 1915 to 1918. By a coincidence, he taught one of the schools in Edgar county which his father had taught 37 years previous — in 1878. And it was here that he taught several pupils whose parents had been pupils of his father.

He served as superintendent of grades and high school at Redmon, Ill., 1919-20 and 1921-23. It was while there that he completed a two-year course at Eastern State College in 1921. In 1924, he received his B.S. degree from the University of Illinois, and in 1930 received the A.M. degree from the U. of I. He came to Mount Pulaski high school in 1929 from five year tenure as principal of the McLean community high school. In 1930 he had a part-time assistantship at the University of Illinois during the summer months and did some teaching in the History of Education.

Down through the years of his teaching endeavor, Lloyd took



LYOYD L. HARGIS

time out to become engaged and married to Miss Helen Harman of Charleston, in 1924. Three children, all of whom graduated under him while serving as principal here, are:

Robert Norman, Chicago, electronics engineer with Motorola. He is married and presented the Hargis' with their first grandchildren.

Jerald Kent, Lewistown, Montana, who is a Boy Scout Executive for several counties in Montana, and was married to Barbara Ann Struening, of Lincoln. (Now of Columbia, Mo.)

Barbara Ellen, Springfield, is an art teacher in public schools there. (Now married and living in Peoria.)

Several bits of data relative to Prin. Hargis' years of service here, will be of considerable interest.

Twenty-four persons graduating in 1930 or later whose children attended Mount Pulaski high school while Mr. Hargis was Principal:

1930—Charles Anderson, Albert Grathwohl, Lee McCain, Dorothy Connelley, Everly Mittlesteadt, Mildred Norris.

1931—Sammy Bertoni, Vincent Ey.

1932—Carl Brachear, Michael Drake, Lloyd Marshall, Harold Scroggin, Virginia Clear, Marjorie LaMar.

1934—Elbert Ayers, Eugene Weckel.

1935—Emogene Buckles.

1936—Harry Millner.

1938—Earl Phillips.

1939—Marilyn Mueller, Marcella Wilson, Emogene Veech, Ruth Earline Tendick.



HOME ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT at Mount Pulaski Township High School was entirely remodeled and brought up to date in recent years and is now an unusually attractive feature of the high school's curriculum.—Times-News Photo.

HILLTOPPERS WON DISTRICT IN 1922

Basketball results which we gathered from the Logan County School Messenger, edited by the County Superintendent E. H. Lukenbill back in 1922, showed Mount Pulaski high winning the district that year. The event was held at Lincoln College and W. C. Handlin was the manager. All county teams and Clinton, Waynesville, DeLand and Armstrong, were in the tourney. They beat Beason 47 to 8.

In the district finals in 1923 Mount Pulaski eliminated Lincoln 19-12. This team met Villa Grove and lost a heart-breaking one pointer. Villa Grove went on to win the state. Mount Pulaski was eliminated again the next year by Athens which went to the state and won second place.

Mount Pulaski High won the county tourney in 1926 and in 1932.

LATHAM KENNEY, AND WARRENSBURG FORM UNIT

(Oct. 30, 1947)

The first Community Unit School District to be organized in Logan county came into being Monday when the school districts of Latham, Kenney and Warrensburg, together with Austin township, voted 670 to 154 in favor of such a district.

The territory and schools involved are in three different counties—Kenney being in DeWitt; Warrensburg and Austin, in Macon, while Latham is in the southeastern part of Logan county.

MOUNT PULASKI STUDENTS RATED 4 POINTS ABOVE AVERAGE AT U. of I.

(December, 1933)

1911 FACULTY OF GRADE AND HIGH

The faculty of the Mount Pulaski schools at this writing in 1911, is as follows:

W. T. Skinner, Superintendent and Principal of the high school; Grace Headley, Instructor of English and History; H. E. Ross, Instructor in Science; R. V. Lindsey, 8th grade and Superintendent of Music; Anna Leisch, 7th grade; Florence Wynd, 6th grade; Jennie Hassett, 5th grade; Ada Franklin, 4th grade; Lucy Tutwiler, 3rd grade; Elnora McDonald, 2nd grade; Annetta Rigdon, 1st grade.

The following facts are taken from the 1910 report of the high school: Pupils in the 9th grade, 21; 10th grade, 8, 11th grade, 10; 12th grade, 9. Total enrollment 48; average daily attendance, 38; total graduates, 8; number of years in course of study, 4; highest monthly wages paid, \$120; lowest monthly wages paid, \$60; volumes in library, 300.

HAROLD HARGRAVE BUYS SCHOOL BUS

(Dec. 23, 1937)

Harold Hargrave has purchased the school bus from Virgil Hooe and will operate the same schedule as has been carried out.

Mr. Hargrave will continue to make side trips to whatever points desired and parties contemplating trips should get in touch with him as early as possible to avoid conflicting dates.

A recent report received from the University of Illinois by the authorities of the Mount Pulaski Township high school, shows that the students from Mount Pulaski attending the university made excellent records. The report is based upon the work done by students from the school year 1927-1928 to the school year 1931-1932. A total of 10,123 students was involved in the investigation.

The average grade for all the pupils of the university was 81.68; the average for those university students graduating from Chicago public schools was 81.37; for students from public high schools of the state of Illinois outside Chicago, 81.80; for students from private schools or academies, 79.62; for students from the Mount Pulaski Township High School, 85.94.

Ten graduates of the Mount Pulaski Township High School have made the honor roll at the University of Illinois since 1926.

53% Do A-B Work

In another item the Mount Pulaski school made a surprising high score. About 23% of all university students do A or B grade. Nearly 53% of the Mount Pulaski graduates have done work of A and B grade. Apparently they rank nearly 30% higher than pupils from other high schools in the number of pupils receiving high grades at the University of Illinois.

—Lo. Co. School Messenger.

Report Tells of Early Schools In Logan County

Among the earliest teachers in the county were Thomas R. Skinner and William Copeland, both of whom taught in the Buckles' neighborhood. The former was afterwards County Surveyor and later County Judge, being an incumbent of the latter position when he died in 1857.

William Copeland, best known as "Uncle Billy", was one of the early settlers. The school house in which they taught possessed a single door and no window, light and air coming through the cracks between the logs. Some of the pupils were John Buckles, Mart Turley, Isom Birks, Amelia Cass and Leonard Scroggin.

Early Schedule

The earliest school schedule extant in the county is one made out by Silas Alexander, teacher, Oct. 6, 1841, of a school taught by him, "being situated on the premises of G. W. Turley."

Another Mt. Pulaski school schedule, still in existence, was made out by Michael Finrock, teacher, Dec. 9, 1842, and a third Mt. Pulaski schedule was made by David P. Bunn, teacher, Dec. 26, 1845, and filed with James Primm, School Commissioner at that time. A schedule dated Dec. 1, 1845, is certified to as correct by J. M. McIntosh, teacher. It was a school "kept" by him, in what is now Lake Fork township.

6260 Pupils

The report of 1860 shows that there were in the public schools of Logan county, that year, 6260 pupils. There were 90 school houses and about 100 teachers. Three of these school houses were in Lincoln and one in Postville. The school-attending population of 1860 was thus distributed as to townships, (the present name of townships being used); Aetna 278; Chester 188; Broadwell 375; Corwin 436; Oran 259; East Lincoln (not including the town of Lincoln) 557; West Lincoln (not including the town of Lincoln) 375; Sheridan 140; Atlanta 926; Eminence 529; Orvil 354; Prairie Creek 209; Laenna 140; Mt. Pulaski 715; Elkhart 426; Hurlbut 89; Lake Fork 194; Lincoln school 460.

6,658 Scholars in 1873

The report of 1873 shows 6,658 scholars, 173 teachers, 107 frame school houses, seven brick school houses, six graded schools, two high schools, \$55,839 paid teachers, \$3,708 paid for new school houses and \$83,631 as the total amount expended for all school purposes, during the year. The highest monthly wages of teachers for the year were \$150 and the lowest \$30.

First School Commissioner

J. H. Beidler was elected School Commissioner in 1861 and served one term. Mr. Beidler has the distinction of being the father of the Teachers' Institute idea in Logan county.

Thanks, Mount Pulaski

As our city's only registered pharmacy, we have been accurately and dependably filling prescriptions for area residents these past 40 years. It has also been our pleasure to serve your needs in Gibson Greeting Cards, School Supplies, Toiletries and Sundries.

We take real pride in Mount Pulaski and in the accomplishments of its citizens. Now, as the city prepares to celebrate its 125th anniversary, we'd like to say "Thank You" for the friendships and patronage that has made our business a success.

Connolley Drug Store

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