

CHAPTER V

FOLLOW THE LEADER! LEADERS ALL!

The success of any public school system depends upon a variety of forces involved. The administrative branch of these is an integral part of a complex organization. The local school board, superintendent, principals, and supervisors all work together to emphasize the idea of a democratic management and association of all school personnel. A very conscientious endeavor has been made through the administration here in Fort Wayne to coordinate all school activity to bring about a spirit of cooperation and good will between school personnel and school patronage. Much of this has been accomplished through the untiring efforts of Superintendent Abbett. His organizational ability coupled with his knowledge of school management has been instrumental in saving the Fort Wayne Schools from financial collapse during the depression years when he became superintendent on through the trying days of World War II and our present day world situation.

Mr. Abbett has served as Superintendent of the Fort Wayne Public Schools now for twenty years. Mr. L. C. Ward his predecessor, was killed in an automobile accident in December of 1931 and Mr. Abbett assumed the superintendency in February of 1932. This current year find him completing twenty years in that capacity. Mr. Abbett's record of school administration is an enviable one. The effectiveness of the entire school program, through his cooperative thoughts and actions and outstanding leadership can readily be seen by tracing the development of the public schools during his tenure. "We Have Come Twenty Years", Mr. Abbett's annual report, shows much that he has accomplished. He has been a most competent leader and we owe him a vote of thanks for establishing and maintaining the very highest standards in the field of education.

The next several pages will contain messages from those in the administrative field. Mr. Abbett will have some interesting facts for us I know, and then the principals who served Miner since Miss Foley all have prepared brief, but informing messages relative to the years they served the school. Following the messages of the principals, supervisors will acquaint us with the work they do and then the classroom teachers who are currently at Miner will contribute some reflections by them.

And now Mr. Abbett: