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FIRSTS IN THE COLUMBUS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

By Myron T. Seifert

Editor's note: Firsts in the annals of the Columbus Public Schools are of interest to many people. We have culled from the records beginnings of varied sorts. Should the reader wish more than a capsuled statement, perhaps we could provide in-depth information. Our main purpose is to merely pinpoint the start of both the "earth-shaking" and incidental happenings.

ONE OF THE FIRST - IF NOT THE FIRST IN THE NATION - JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS (INDIANOLA JUNIOR HIGH) - was established when the Columbus Board of Education passed a resolution on July 6, 1909, directing the superintendent to organize the new school primarily as a JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL with the seventh, eighth and ninth grades as a unit. The school opened Sept. 7, 1909.

DR. ASA D. LORD, the FIRST SUPERINTENDENT OF THE COLUMBUS PUBLIC SCHOOLS in 1847, brought into being the title of "SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS" - the first in the WEST. He organized the FIRST PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL in Columbus; some historians assert that it was the FIRST PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL west of the Alleghenies. Dr. Lord was a M.D. - the FIRST and only Columbus school superintendent that held a medical degree.

Many people believe, and there is much evidence to show, that Columbus cradled in 1858 on East Rich Street, the FIRST KINDERGARTEN in this country; and, too, there is strong evidence that here was established the FIRST TRAINING SCHOOL FOR KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS. Miss Caroline Frankenberg initiated the movement. In spite of the financial panic of 1893 that was sweeping the country, the Columbus Board of Education gave permission to the Columbus Kindergarten Association to open seven schools. The FIRST night commencement of the Columbus Kindergarten Training School was held at the Broad St. Presbyterian Church in May 1909.

"Among the connecting links which bind youth to age is memory of school days" These were the prophetic words of the FIRST VALEDICTORIAN and the FIRST GRADUATING CLASS of the FIRST COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL in Dec. 1851. Penned by Isabella Poole (nee Gardner), she was the top scholar in the class. The FIRST COMMENCEMENT was held at the Town St. Methodist Church. The Chittendens and Sullivants were in that FIRST CLASS of 13.

FIRST GRADUATING CLASS TO PUBLISH ITS COMMENCEMENT ESSAYS and ORATIONS, in a "hardback", was the Class of 1869.

FIRST JUNIOR-SENIOR BANQUET was instituted in 1875.

When Columbus graduating high school seniors donned caps and gowns in 1951, it broke a 100 year tradition.

The Columbus High School for the FIRST time presented the grads with flowers as well as the traditional diploma at commencement rites. This was in 1880.

The FIRST published class will was drafted by Fannie M. Farringer, member of the 1880 class.

FIRST scholarships awarded to the graduates were given by the Bryan Business College in Columbus. The first three grants to worthy students were made in 1867.

FIRST joint commencement of the FIRST three Columbus high schools was staged in the Great Southern Theatre, June 10, 1897.

FIRST BACCALAUREATE SERVICES were officially authorized in the spring of 1922.

MID-YEAR COMMENCEMENT rites were FIRST officially discontinued in Jan. 1960, but extended through Januarys, 1961 and 1962.

- X Identical class rings were worn for the FIRST time by all seniors in the Columbus Public Schools in 1954. The rings were all alike, save for the name of the school and its initials.

In 1954 June graduates of the Columbus High Schools got something none of their predecessors had - a sleek, new portable streamlined diploma, encased in leather for easy handling.

- X North High 1950 graduates were probably the FIRST to stage all night parties - sponsored largely by the parents. The party was held at the Beechwood Restaurant, 4784 N. High St.

The FIRST graduating class from Evening High was held at present day Central High, June 7, 1927.

The Board of Education in Nov. 1892, authorized for the FIRST that diplomas be issued to those pupils who satisfactorily completed the work of the GRAMMAR school course.

FIRST DENTAL HYGIENIST in the history of the Columbus schools was appointed by the Board of Education Sept. 3, 1947. She was Litty H. Watson, June graduate, '47, of Ohio State University's Division of Dental Hygiene.

- X AMONG THE FIRST IN THE COUNTRY to EMPLOY LADY PRINCIPALS and to pay equal salaries to men and women principals who headed the elementary schools in Columbus was tried in 1870, and so successful was the plan it has since been continued. For the first quarter of a century of the Columbus schools, male principals were used to cope largely with the disciplinary problems. But the Board of Education Superintendent in 1870 took another look at the matter, decided to try the femmes; it worked.

Regular Monthly meetings of principals was INSTITUTED by Superintendent Jacob Shawan in the 1890's. The Columbus Principal Association, which was organized in the same era was the brain-child of Superintendent Shawan.

Vice-Principalships in all high schools were headed for the FIRST by women in 1920.

For the FIRST time, when school opened in Sept. 1920, girls, especially, in the "high (now senior high) and intermediate" (now called junior high) were given special attention by women VICE-PRINCIPALS. They too taught classes. Each high and intermediate high school had one VICE-PRINCIPAL. They were: Miss Edith Bell, High School of Commerce; Miss Grace Peters, East High, Miss Eleanor Skinner, North High, Miss Clara Maetzel, South High; Miss Augusta Connelley, West High; Miss Ellen Boyer, Avondale intermediate; Miss Frances Matzenburg, Crestview; Miss Hedwig Gamper, Hubbard intermediate; Miss Nellie Lee Roth, Indianola intermediate, Miss Alva Edwards, Mound intermediate; Miss Mary Mulligan, Roosevelt intermediate.

"It was the FIRST time in the history of the local schools," according to a local newspaper (Cols. Cit. Nov. 8, 1920) that the high and intermediate SCHOOL PRINCIPALS lent their efforts and sponsorship in supporting an art project. The principals agreed to have charge of the ticket sales, as well as other responsibilities, in connection with the "Better Homes Institute," held at the old Memorial Hall in Nov. 1920. The Institute was conducted by Ross Crane, head of the extension department of the Chicago Art Institute. All school children were admitted free.

FIRST MEETING at the BOARD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING (old Sullivant School) was held in Sept. 1923. Superintendent Jacob Collicott hit cigaret smoking in the schools, and improper dress of girls in his opening remarks before the school principals.

PRACTICE TEACHERS from Teacher's College, Ohio State University made their debut in Columbus Public School classrooms in 1909. Said the Dec. 22, 1908 Columbus Citizen: "The 'observation class' of the Teachers College, OSU, which is seeking teaching experience in the city high schools, will be permitted to practice in the high schools, Superintendent Shawan being empowered to make arrangements for it."

CHARITY SCHOOL - Sponsored by the Columbus Female Benevolent Society, which was organized in July 1835, the first Columbus Free School (popularly known as the Charity School) was established. The lot on which the school stood was donated by Alfred Kelley and his wife, Mary S. Kelley. Wife of the first superintendent of schools, Mrs. Asa D. Lord, was secretary of the organization for many years. The society is still active locally.

FIRST SCHOOLHOUSE - A log schoolhouse, first in Franklinton, forerunner of Columbus, was build by Lucas Sullivant probably in 1805.

FIRST SCHOOL EAST OF THE SCIOTO - The first school, east of the Scioto River in Columbus, was opened on Spring St. in 1814 by the Columbus Presbyterian Church. Other denominations, including Methodist, soon followed suit.

FIRST COLUMBUS ACADEMY - The first Columbus Academy, a single story, two-room frame building on Third St., was built in 1820, by a company formed by Lucas Sullivant, founder of Franklinton and 20 other citizens.

FIRST LEGISLATION - First thrust in instituting the creation of the public school system was made in 1822, When Ohio Governor Trimble appointed a committee to design a system of "Common Education" for Ohio.

CHARTERED IN 1845 - The Columbus Public School district as we know it today was created by the legislature in 1845.

FIRST BOARD OF EDUCATION NUMBERED SIX - After the legislative act creating the Board of Education was passed the first six directors of the Columbus Schools were chosen at a popular election in the spring of 1845. The first Board consisted of William Long, P. B. Wilcox, James Cherry, J. B. Thompson, H. F. Huntington and S. E. Wright.

FIRST BUDGET - At the first organization meeting of the Columbus Board of Education April 10, 1845, the Board asked the City Council for \$700 to take care of the school maintenance needs the ensuing year.

FIRST OFFICERS - The Board organized by selecting William Long, president; S. E. Wright, secretary; and H. F. Huntington, treasurer.

FIRST TAX LEVY - A levy submitted to the voters in 1845 to build a school house, resulted as follows: for the levy, 404; against, 211; and blanks, by default, 501.

FIRST RULES - Eleven rules were basic for the efficient management of the Columbus schools, and were accordingly approved at the April 10, 1845 meeting. 500 copies of the rules were printed and circularized.

X FIRST TEACHER SALARIES - Compensation for first female teachers was \$35. per quarter; male teachers, \$50.

FIRST SCHOOLS UNDER CHARTER RENTED - At its second meeting, April 17, 1845, a male school, which opened a week before, in the "Buckeye Block" was discontinued. Also a female school, which met at the "McElvenis house on Front St." was discontinued. "Charity Schoolhouse" was then rented from a Mr. Slocum at \$4 a month.

FIRST ENUMERATION - Enumerators counted 2430 children (breakdown between pre-schoolers and pupils was not known) in the Columbus School District. The first school term in 1845 attracted nearly 500 students.

X FIRST SCHOOL YEAR (1845) - School payroll was \$1499.34, involving 16 teachers, five men and 11 women.

FIRST SUPERINTENDENT - Dr. Asa D. Lord, a medical doctor, was proffered \$500 for the position of the first Superintendent of Schools. The office and appointment was probably first of its kind in the country.

X FIRST SCHOOL DAYS (1845) - were 5½ days a week; two years later (1847) the school days were made five.

FIRST COLORED TEACHER - John Geddes, colored, was named in June 1847 providing a "suitable room can be obtained."

FIRST TEXTBOOKS - Webster's Speller, the Eclectic (McGuffey) Readers, Mitchell's Geography, Ray's Arithmetic and Smith's Grammar were the first texts prescribed the first two years by the Board of Education.

X FIRST SCHOOLS ONLY QUASI-FREE - Parents or guardians of the students were assessed 25 cents per scholar "to aid in the support of the schools."

FIRST PUBLISHED ANNUAL REPORT for the YEAR 1847 - In his First Annual Report to the Board of Education and the Community, Dr. Lord incorporated a course of study, spelling out the subjects pursued by the students.

FIRST PROFESSIONAL GROWTH COURSE FOR COLUMBUS TEACHERS in the latter 1840s - Teachers attended meetings on alternate Saturday mornings, and listened to lectures of expertise on subjects that would be helpful in their teaching duties.

+ GRADE, CLASSIFY STUDENTS IN 1847 - Dr. Lord structured the first grades and course of study in the Columbus Schools. He designated the beginning grade the primary, and the subsequent grades he labeled secondary, grammar, and high schools. The 3R's, science, mathematics, history and languages were treated at the different levels.

MUSIC PART OF FIRST COURSE REQUIREMENT - Both Dr. Lord and his wife, patrons of the performing arts, made certain that music, both vocal and instrumental, was given attention in the Columbus schools. It became a school-wide requirement in 1871.

DRIVER EDUCATION ELECTIVE FOR SENIORS - Driver Education began in the fall of 1951, and was offered as an elective subject for seniors.

FIRST DISCIPLINARY ISSUE - The Board defended a teacher, a "Mr. Pearson", who allegedly disciplined two students "with severity". The students were requested by the Board of Education to "make acknowledgement of their violation of the rules of the school in the presence of scholars". This was in 1849.

FIRST GERMAN CLASSES IN THE HIGH SCHOOL - Teacher J. C. Christian was employed to teach German in the high school at \$.50 per lesson. (1849)

FIRST GERMAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL - was opened here in Dec. 1850.

BOOK AGENTS BANNED - Book agents were not permitted, in 1853, to visit the public schools "for the purpose of exhibiting or inducing teachers to adopt their books."

FIRST PUBLIC EVENING SCHOOL - opened here in Dec. 1850; met on Mon. Wed. and Sat. nights. Teachers were paid \$1. per night.

RELIGION IN THE SCHOOLS CONTROVERSY for the first in 1853. School teachers were admonished by the Board "that religious education belongs to the parent rather than the school master." Teacher Schenck was dismissed by the Board because "he has endeavored to erase God from the hearts of our children."

FIRST CHURCH BELL FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL - Trinity Church bell was purchased for the Columbus High School at 25 cents per lb.; total - \$225.

FIRST RATES OF TUITION - Students were assessed, in 1855, to attend the schools. High School per head, 11 cents per week; grammar, 37 cents; secondary, 30 cents; and primary, 25 cents.

FIRST LIBRARY IN 1856 - A library was ordered to be kept in the Columbus High School "with Mr. Smith as librarian at an annual salary of \$50. Books to be taken out only on Wed. from 8 to 9 am, and on Sat. from 3 to 5 p.m."

FIRST OFFICIAL CENTRAL LIBRARY - for all schools was opened in 1891 in the old Town St. Methodist Church building; and the FIRST BRANCH LIBRARY was established at Champion, Jan. 1911.

CORPORATE SEAL - First adopted by the Board, June 18, 1857.

ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS were instituted in 1857. A committee of citizens was appointed to visit the schools, note how the exams were conducted, and report back to the Board.

FIRST HIGH SCHOOL - Building at Sixth & Broad Sts. Major N. B. Kelley employed as architect in 1860. His fee was \$300.

SCHOOL WIDE CLOSING - In observance of President Lincoln's Day of Humiliation and Prayer, the schools closed in Jan. 1861.

FIRST VACCINATION REGULATION - The Board prohibited students from attending the schools without first being vaccinated. This was in 1862.

FIRST SCHOOL WIDE INSURANCE, FIRE ONLY - The Capital City Insurance Co. and the Franklin Co. Insurance Co. were given this business in 1864.

FIRST BIG PURCHASE OF THE BOARD, CAPITAL UNIVERSITY, NEGATED - The committee appointed by the Board in 1865 to ascertain "the feasibility of purchasing Capital University," reported that the lowest price at which it could be secured was \$50,000. The committee recommended no go. Approved by Board.

X FIRST GALA HOLIDAY FOR STUDENTS in 1865 - When Gen. Grant came to Columbus, school was dismissed. Scholars attended the reception of the guest.

Board Rules First Time on PUNCTUALITY OF TEACHERS - The Board, in 1867, required teachers to be at their respective schools 15 minutes before the time of school opening. While no deduction was originally made on account of absence or tardiness, the superintendent admonished the teachers to be punctual in attendance, lest an emergency arise.

DISCONTINUE PRAYER, BIBLE FOR FIRST in 1868. "Opening of public prayer and reading from the Bible" operations were discontinued by the Board. The repeal averted explosive and controversial incidents.

FIRST BUST HONORING BOARD MEMBER SULLIVANT - For the first time, in 1869, the Board of Education accorded an unusual honor to one of its retiring members, Joseph Sullivant, who served on the Board for 13 years, and served the community in many capacities all his life. A bust was made of the eminent Board member, and was placed by a Board colleague, Dr. Starling Loving, "in some suitable position in the High School Building."

> EARLY GIFTS TO COLUMBUS SCHOOLS - Back in Civil War days, should a decedent have no legal heirs and who died intestate (without a will) his estate, by State Law, reverted to the "benefit of the common schools." A George Christopherson, who died here in 1864, having no will nor heirs, the Board laid claim to the \$10,000. in his estate. The Board sent one of its members to the decedent's native country, Norway, to seek out possibilities. It took eight years to learn that the claim came to naught. Several tracts have been willed to the Board: One parcel, half of lot #21, where the Administration building is now located, was deeded, via will, to the Board in 1855. And in Civil War days, two parcels were transferred to the Board by two patriotic and affluent families - Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Wells in Jan. 1861, and Mr. and Mrs. William Henderson in July, 1865. And Mound St. school lot, #567, came to the Board by inheritance. What started out as a pilot experiment in 1954, to reward local teachers and administrators for services rendered "beyond the call of duty" and to encourage the recipients to pursue their studies further, has become an annual custom, thanks to the philanthropy of an anonymous donor. To date, he, she, or they have deposited with the Board, for this purpose, at least \$5,000 annually, and to Dec. 1968, the fund totals \$75,000, all of which was dispersed to public school educators.

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FIRST DISMISSAL FOR BRIBERY ALLEGATIONS - A Mr. Alf Humphrey, allegedly paid money to a Board member for his influence and vote to place him in the "position of Assistant Superintendent in the First District Schools." Humphrey, was summarily dismissed. This was in 1872.

FIRST NIGHT COMMENCEMENT FOR KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS of the Columbus Kindergarten Training School - was held in the Broad St. Presbyterian Church, June, 1909.

NORMAL COURSE Instituted in 1873 - The Normal-course for one year was set up in the Columbus High School building, "admitting those who passed an examination for the High School." The course was later expanded to include additional years, and was among the FIRST in the nation to maintain FIRST GRADE normal school in connection with the public schools.

Vitriolic Outburst by Board Members in 1873 - The celebrated Board of Education altercation between two doctors on the Board - Dr. Starling Loving and Dr. R. Wirth - when violent and pugnacious action took place at a regular meeting, startled the whole community.

INSTITUTE TEACHERS initiated in 1874.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION MAKES ITS DEBUT in 1876. - The resolution by Board member Olnhausen introducing a physical education program for the Columbus schools. It read: that "gymnastic exercises (or calisthenics) based upon scientific and systematic methods be introduced and taught in several schools." Three schools - Fulton, New (now Stewart), and Third St. Schools, all in the South-end, were granted "privilege to use three times a week the grounds of said schools for GYMNASTIC and MILITARY exercises, of such pupils of the school as may choose to attend, under the supervision of the principal of said schools."

BAN FIRE ARMS in 1877 - Students were to be expelled from school for having on their person "fire arms or other deadly weapons."

JOSEPH SULLIVANT'S DEATH ELICITS FIRST MEMORIAL FROM BOARD - Upon the death of Joseph Sullivant in June, 1822, who served on the Board of Education 16 years, the Board, in part, said: "He did more than any other man to enlist the hearty cooperation of our city in the cause of public education."

FIRST NEGRO MADE BOARD MEMBER in Dec. 1884 - Rev. James Poindexter was elected ward member of the Board in place of Dr. Starling Loving, who moved from the Ninth ward.

FIRST TRUANT OFFICER in 1886 - The Board authorized the superintendent to name a "competent person to ascertain the condition of all children under fourteen years of age within the jurisdiction of the Board."

FIRST SCHOOL POLICE OFFICERS NAMED in 1886 - The city was divided into four districts, with a "school police officer" attached to each, whose duties were defined as follows: "to patrol during the established school hours through the streets and alleys of the district and to inquire of all children between 8 and 14 years of age, found loitering or not attending school."

BUSINESS COURSE IN THE COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL INSTITUTED - July, 1886.

FIRST PHYSICIAN TO EXAMINE EYES, - and GRATIS - in Nov. 1886, Dr. H. P. Allen was selected by the Board "to examine the eyes of the school children, with a view to ascertaining as to the prevalence of myopia," - all for free.

FIRST COURSE IN MANUAL ARTS PRESCRIBED FOR SCHOOLS. Former Columbus native, Wilson L. Gill convinced a committee of nine appointed by the Board of Education that Manual Arts should be made an integral part of the school program. This was in 1887.

FIRST CONVERSION OF SCHOOL PROPERTY TO PARK in 1887. - The East Broad Street property, owned by the Board of Education, and commonly known as the 'Barr School and property,' was deeded to Franklin county for park purposes upon certain specified conditions. (Probably, it is now a part of Franklin Park.)

BOARD CREATES FIRST PERMANENT STANDING COMMITTEE ON NORMAL SCHOOL IN 1888

FIRST TYPEWRITER INSTALLED IN BOARD CLERK'S OFFICE in 1888 - A "caligraph" was used before, and traded in on the Remington.

TELEPHONES WERE INSTALLED IN ALL SCHOOL BUILDINGS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 1890: Rules were set up by the Board in the use of the phones, including "No teacher shall be allowed to use the telephone during school hours."

FIRST TELEPHONE CONVERSATION IN COLUMBUS WAS between CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL (Sixth and Broad Sts.) and the residence of Principal George H. Twiss (He was 1st Central principal on East Broad St.

The SCHOOL AND CITY LIBRARIES, OPERATING TOGETHER, WERE FINALLY SEPARATED in May, 1890. The Public School Library was among the FIRST to establish a vital relation between the library and the public schools by sending books to buildings for supplementary reading - a forerunner of today's bookmobile.

FIRST SALARY OF TRUANT OFFICER FIXED AT \$780 per annum - John E. Jones was elected to this position.

FIRST LIBRARIAN AND SALARY - J. H. Spielman was elected first school librarian June 1, 1891 at an annual salary of \$1200.

FIRST METRONOME ORDERED FOR MUSIC DEPT. May 10, 1891

FLAG DAYS ESTABLISHED FOR ALL THE SCHOOLS in 1892 - While the schools were expected to fly Old Glory as much as possible, the Board required all schools for the first time to make certain that the American Flag flew from every school house on certain days.

HOWE'S HISTORICAL COLLECTION SETS WERE ORDERED IN 1892 for ALL SCHOOLS.

THE BOARD MET FOR THE FIRST TIME in the "new Board Hall at the library building." (Old Town St. Church converted into library and school headquarters in 1892).

CUSPIDORS (presumably large brass ones) WERE ORDERED FOR THE NEW BOARD ROOM in 1892 - to accommodate the tobacco chewers on the Board

ANTON LEIBOLD MADE FIRST TEACHER OF PHYSICAL CULTURE in 1892. - his salary, \$1000 annum.

NEW FIRST SCHOOL LIBRARY FORMALLY OPENED, April 7, 1892.

A TELEPHONE WAS ORDERED FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT'S RESIDENCE in 1892.

FIRST UNIFORM SCHEDULED FIRE DRILLS IN ALL SCHOOLS MADE MANDATORY AT LEAST ONCE PER WEEK. Rules and regulations were set-up for drills in all schools in Jan. 1892.

BOARD INTRODUCED IN ALL SCHOOLS, PHYSICAL CULTURE, including the Normal School in Feb. 1892.



FIRST RULES FOR GOVERNING A SCHOOL SAVINGS SYSTEM ADOPTED BY THE BOARD in 1901. The Board, however, passed a resolution declaring that it collectively or individually would not be responsible for deposits made under the school savings system adopted.

DANCING FOR THE FIRST TIME WAS OFFICIALLY BANNED "IN ALL RECEPTIONS OR ENTERTAINMENTS IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS" The Board decreed in 1902. And all entertainments given by high school organizations must be confined to the high school buildings.

FIRST RULES GOVERNING HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD AT ITS Feb. 9, 1904, MEETING.

ALL PUPILS ENROLLED IN THE CITY HIGH SCHOOL BUSINESS COURSES WERE TRANSFERRED TO CENTRAL HIGH in 1911.

X LAZARUS & CO. STARTED THE PRACTICE OF FURNISHING TREES FOR EVERY BOY AND GIRL IN THE COLUMBUS SCHOOLS IN 1911.

FIRST RULE REQUIRING ALL COLUMBUS PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS "TO BE NATURALIZED OR NATURAL BORN," was passed by the Board, May 18, 1916.

POSITION OF SCHOOL PHYSICIAN CREATED Jan. 16, 1922. Dr. Ross Hopkins elected to the post.

FIRST DANGER SIGNS were erected by the Columbus Auto Club on all streets in proximity of schools, in Nov. 1913. Next year the School Board appropriated \$250 for "SLOW" signs. FIRST "NO PARKING" STANDARDS PLACED AT ALL SCHOOLS, Dec. 6, 1916.

SCHOOL BOY PATROL BEGINS OPERATIONS, ON RECOMMENDATION OF AUTO CLUB, AT BEGINNING OF SCHOOL in Sept. 1927.

It was a first in the annals of the Board when a teacher, in this case, a Miss Mather, who was kept from school by illness, was paid her salary without deduction. This was June 1853.

FIRST SUPERVISED RECREATION PROGRAM WAS INTRODUCED IN THE SCHOOLS in 1912. Recreation teachers were assigned to five "Half Play Schools" in the primary departments of several schools.

FIRST WOMAN in the history of Franklin County to apply for final naturalization papers was Miss Elizabeth Zakabak, 65, a teacher in the Columbus Public Schools. This was in Sept. 1916.

FIRST PUBLIC BATH FOR STUDENTS WAS INSTALLED IN 1912 at REEB SCHOOL - Built by funds raised by the kids from Reeb School, the City Council and the Board of Education, five showers and five tubs were installed in the school basement.

FIRST WOMEN MATRONS ASSIGNED in 1912 to the Schools - The Board, spearheaded by member Mrs. Dora Bachman, decided that janitresses should be employed in the schools where there were three or more janitors employed.

FIRST WOMAN ELECTED to the Board was Mrs. Dora Sandoe Bachman, who was elected as president of the Board in Jan. 1913. A graduate of the school of law, Ohio State University, she was also the FIRST WOMAN to be graduated from a law school in Ohio.

FOR the FIRST time, all 52,000 students in the Columbus Public Schools, heard on radio the voice of the superintendent, N. G. Fawcett, in June, 1953.

JOE CHAN WAS FIRST CHINESE ENROLLED IN SCHOOLS - Joe Chan, Son of laundryman, Lee Chan, was the first boy admitted to the Columbus Public Schools, and later enrolled in the High School of Commerce. He died of TB, age 17.

X CHAMPION SCHOOL, when school opened there in Sept. 1909, was declared by one news reporter the "FIRST FIREPROOF SCHOOL BUILDING in Columbus!"

FIRST SUPERVISOR OF THE ELEMENTARY Grade (Also called Asst. Supt. of Schools) was named by the Board in July, 1908. He was R. G. Kinhead, for eight years superintendent.

FIRST NINE PRACTICE TEACH IN HIGH SCHOOLS - Nine young women students in the college of education at OSU began practice work in the high schools of the city in March 1909, in accordance with a privilege granted by the board of education to students in the OSU Teachers College. Supt. J. A. Shawan of the public schools and Prof. T. S. Lowden of the College of Education arranged the following schedule of classes under these high school teachers: English, North High School, Miss M. O. Scott, Miss Elinor Skinner, Central, Miss Anna Thomas; mathematics: Central, Miss H. Fullerton, German; North High, Miss Anna Keagle; drawing; Central, Miss Elizabeth Crook, East; Miss Helen Fraser; Domestic Science, Miss Faith Lanman. The student teachers visited a class one week before taking charge of it and will then teach it one period a day, until the close of the year. The young women sent from the university training school were: Miss Olive Swickard, English; Miss Walters, English; Miss Clara Miles, history, Miss Edith Whims, German; Miss Anna Singleton, mathematics; Miss Grace E. Bradford, domestic science; Miss Gertie Rawie, drawing, Miss Dorothy Danenhauer, drawing; They graduated in June 1909, the FIRST class in the college of education.

FIRST GRADS OF TRADE SCHOOL - The first graduation exercises of the Trades School were held at the building at Front and Long Sts., June, 1912. Arthur Tallmadge and Howard Dersch were given certificates and were the first to finish the three years' course in the school. Dr. George Willard, chairman of the teachers and special school committee of the board of education, presented the certificates. Before the short graduation exercises a speed type setting contest was held open to any boy in the printing dept. of the school. There were seven entries for the first prize, which was won by Lawrence Scales. Cit, June 13, 1912.

Miss Margaret Sutherland, head of the Columbus Normal School, was made the FIRST WOMAN PRESIDENT of the Ohio State Teachers Association at Sandusky, Ohio in June 1912.

THE FIRST MEDICAL INSPECTION of all the public schools was made under the direction of Dr. H. M. Platter in Sept. 1912. Assisted in the work were the FIRST NURSES - Miss Elizabeth Doherty and Miss Mina Maxwell.

X FIRST PORTABLE SCHOOL BUILDING was used for the FIRST GRADE at Chicago Ave. School in Nov. 1909.

FIRST PRINCIPAL TO RETIRE under the PENSION STATE LAW was Miss Louise Barr, principal of Siebert St. School, who for more than 46 years served the Columbus Schools. She then was the oldest teacher in point of service in the local schools.

"CHARLES (CHIC) HARLEY WAS THE FIRST HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PLAYER to popularize the game.... Harley is playing his FIRST HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL this year. He had to be coaxed to come out for the team, but since he has put on the togs, it would take more than coaxing to keep him out of the game. He is one of the fastest men that ever wore the orange and black, and his admirers insist that he is a second 'Jimmy Craig' when it comes to carrying the ball. Although almost a novice at the game, he has shown superb judgment in running the eleven." Cit. October 24, 1912.

FIRST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN BOARD COMMITTEES was made by President, Dora Bachman, when she simplified Board operations to a reduction of committees on the Board, in 1913. Her plan involved but four standing committees. At one time the Board had 18 standing committees.

X FIRST ORGANIZATION OF BOY SCOUTS in the United States, according to an account in the Sept. 22, 1910 Columbus Citizen, was formed at the Mound St. Mission, in Sept., 1910 by the Christian Endeavor Society there. South side school boys helped make up the membership.

FIRST WOMAN CHOSEN AS SCHOOL EXAMINER was Miss Margaret Mulligan of Ohio Ave. School. This was in May 1912. FIRST WOMAN EXAMINER IN THE FRANKLIN COUNTY Schools was appointed in 1906. She was Mary Dennison.

X FIRST BOY SCOUT to become Second Class was Lindsay Hayes, 14, a pupil in South High School. This was May 1911.

X DOUGLAS, in 1920, was the FIRST JUNIOR HIGH to teach girls "the art of making hats." Miss Gertrude Silver was instructor of the 65 girls enrolled.

Touted as the OLDEST AND FIRST STUDENT SELF GOVERNMENT in the city, and headed by Jacob Grotzky of Fulton School in 1920, many civic plans evolved from the organization.

FIRST JOURNALISM DEPARTMENT, per se, was instituted at East High School in Sept. 1920. Miss Rowena Landon was the director.

FIRST BIE (Business-Industry-Education) Day was in 1953, when 100 businesses and plants were hosts to more than 2300 teachers and school administrators. The observance which became an annual event, was sponsored jointly by the local schools public, parochial and private, the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, Columbus Industrial Association and Columbus Retail Merchants. Next year, the schools hosted the business people.

FIRST NIGHT MUSIC FESTIVAL, with 34 elementary students taking part, was held in old Memorial Hall, June 2 and 3, 1920. The second night the Intermediate High School Orchestra entertained.

FIRST FREE SUMMER SCHOOL started May 28, 1920 at the High School of Commerce. H. H. Reighley was principal. 18 courses were given in grades 7 thru 12. 25 teachers made up the faculty.

FIRST PTA in the city was organized at North High School in March, 1921.

FIRST VACATION SCHOOL FOR COLORED ONLY in 1922, "if there is sufficient demand." It was one of the FIRST tasks of Principal Arnett Mitchell, new principal at Champion Ave. School, and the FIRST attempt of this kind of work in the city.

X When John H. Francis became superintendent of schools, one of his FIRST duties was to recommend the abolition of the title JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, already applied to seven schools here. He recommended that they be called INTERMEDIATE SCHOOLS. This was in 1916, and the Board concurred.

FIRST ACTING SUPERINTENDENT - Assistant Superintendent C. H. Fullerton was School Superintendent for two weeks, when Superintendent Francis vacationed in October, 1916

FIRST "GRANDPARENTS DAY" in 1916 - Superintendent Francis designated the day before Thanksgiving as such. He suggested that a special effort be made by teachers and pupils to welcome their elders to the various schools, show them how the modern school is conducted, and at the same time entertain them with old-fashioned songs.

TRADE HIGH for FIRST TIME, HAS FOUR YEAR COURSE, accredited, and its grads like other local high school graduates were permitted to enter Ohio State without an examination. This was in 1919, and Louis Headley, 38 Kelso Rd., became its FIRST graduate under the plan.

FIRST JOINT COMMENCEMENT FOR NINTH GRADERS from the nine INTERMEDIATE (Junior High SCHOOLS, was staged at old Memorial Hall, June 1919. Dr. Frank P. Graves was the speaker.

FIRST CLASS FOR GIFTED STUDENTS was formed at NORTHWOOD SCHOOL, 1918. It was called the "Specially Bright Class." It was made a part of the Ohio State University testing program.

FIRST OHIO SCHOOL TO HAVE 100 per cent membership in the "Ohio Club" (purchasers of war saving stamps) was Indianola, in Oct. 1919.

FIRST JUNIOR HIGH (INTERMEDIATE) STUDENT COUNCIL in Columbus, was formed at Indianola, Nov. 1919.

X THESIS WRITING was made a prerequisite to getting a position in Columbus Public Schools in 1919. In addition to the customary interview by one of the assistant superintendents, the applicant was required to write a satisfactory thesis on a subject chosen by the school administrator.

FIRST JUNIOR HIGH in Columbus to establish a printshop was Indianola; also FIRST in publishing a junior high newspaper, called "The Indianola Echo", 1921.

FIRST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING, per se, was Fourth St., erected in 1863.

FIRST CHRISTMAS SEAL SALES in the schools were made in 1921.

FIRST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS ASSOCIATION was organized in Jan. 1922. Miss Annie E. Hall, Fifth Ave. School, was chairman, and Miss Frances Walsh, Park St., secretary.

FIRST SCHOOL FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN was opened at the Fulton St. School, 1922.

CRESTVIEW boasted the FIRST junior high Scout Troop. Starling was a close contender for the honor.

X Columbus school kids saw the FIRST STADIUM FOOTBALL GAME in 1922. Fee, 10 cents. Ohio State vs. Ohio Wesleyan.

Offer of Board President Warner Simpson to permit the establishment of VOTING BOOTHS in Columbus Public Schools was approved by City Council in Dec. 1922. The city used 51 schools for this purpose in 1923.

FIRST WOMAN GRADE SCHOOL TEACHER PRESIDENT COTA, Mrs. Ella D. Howe, first grade teacher at Fulton School, was the FIRST WOMAN to be elected COTA president.

FIRST GREEK HONORARY SOCIETY was established at the High School of Commerce in 1922. Members, to qualify, had "Excellent" marks in at least two-thirds of their subjects.

FIRST TELEPHONE SWITCHBOARD in 1923 was installed at the new Board of Education headquarters, 270 E. State St., (remodeled Sullivant School building).

FIRST THREE MAN Cabinet formed in 1923, - Columbus schools consolidating all departments under these three men. The superintendent, Jacob Collicott, had charge of all educational questions, the clerk, E. L. McCune, had charge of operation and maintenance of the school buildings; the care of school equipment, supplies and the grounds, and the architect, Dwight Smith, had charge of construction, rehabilitation and repair of all school buildings and equipment.

X FINAL EXAMINATIONS WERE ELIMINATED in all the Columbus Schools while John Francis was superintendent, (1916-1920)

FIRST GIRLS RIDING CLUB organized at East High in Jan. 1924. Miss Dorothy Savage, girls physical education instructor at East High, took the girls to the East End Riding Academy, where instruction in horsemanship was given by Horse fancier, Frank Tallmadge.

FIRST SWIMMING POOL Meets, in series of four in 1925, for senior and junior high schools were held at the YMCA. 75 qualified.

What was claimed to be the FIRST ORGANIZATION OF MATHEMATICS SCHOOL PUPILS IN THE STATE was formed by 50 seventh grade pupils of Roosevelt Junior High.

SHOE REPAIRING WAS TAUGHT at Champion Junior High in 1924, the FIRST COURSE OF ITS KIND in Columbus Public Schools.

Daughter of FIRST SCHOOL HEAD, 80 years old, and graduate of OLD CENTRAL HIGH in 1868, journeyed from Batavia, N. Y. to attend Alumni Reunion in May, 1924.

Old CENTRAL HIGH, Sixth St. and Broad was converted for the FIRST TIME to the CITY OFFICE BUILDING in 1924.

For the FIRST TIME in the History of the Columbus Public Schools a majority of the teachers in May, 1924, expressed a desire for a change in the office of the superintendency, then occupied by Jacob Collicott.

HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT was held for the FIRST TIME at the State Fair Coliseum in June, 1924. Old Membrial Hall was no longer adequate to accommodate the graduates.

FIRST GYMNASIAC and WRESTLING MEET of Columbus High Schools and Junior Highs, was held at the new East High gymnasium in March, 1924. Gymnastic exercises included Indian club swinging and figure marching by North High girls, and three exercises for boys in addition to the wrestling. Gymnastics for the boys included buck, parallel bars and tumbling. In wrestling there were four classes, and six minute matches.

FIRST RADIO CLASS IN ELECTRICITY COURSE at Trades High School in Feb. 1925. Theodore F. Kuechle was the instructor.

COLUMBUS public school students packed old Memorial Hall to see and hear the FIRST RADIO SHOW IN COLUMBUS in Feb. 1925.

SENIOR HIGH JUNIORS, sponsored by Hi-Y Clubs, in March 1925, took over City Hall. Robert Matthews, 17, North High boy, took over Mayor Thomas' chair.

FIRST ROTARY HIGH SCHOOL PARTY in March 1925. The club feted 198 Columbus high school honor students at the Deshler Hotel. Talks were made by Maxine Cohen, East High and James Lepper, North High.

FIRST high school ORATORICAL CONTEST, under auspices of the Columbus Board of Education, was held at the Central High School auditorium, May, 1925. Miss Anna O'Neil, 115 Martin Ave., was declared the champion orator.

FIRST OPEN HOUSE was scheduled at North High in Nov. 1925, in connection with NEA week. Robert Newlon, president of the student council welcomed visitors to see the demonstrations in the various rooms and inspect the building. Student council members acted as guides.

FIRST CLOSED LUNCH PERIOD was inaugurated at NORTH HIGH in Sept. 1925. Other senior highs followed suit. The Board, under the ruling, would not allow students to leave the school grounds during the half-hour lunch period. Merchants and grocers protested, boycotting the North High newspaper, yearbook, etc.

FIRST RADIO TALK, by Superintendent Jacob Collicott over WATU during education week, was made in Nov. 1925. He talked on the importance of good citizenship in the training of school children. James Maddox, member of the Board of Education, also spoke. Central High's orchestra played; and Crestview Junior High quartette and girls glee club, and a singing group from Champion Junior High.

FIRST ISSUE of the EVENING STAR, Evening High School publication, appeared in Nov. 1925. It was edited by the advanced English class at that school. Emerson Price was editor, and Pauline Bryant, faculty advisor.

GIRLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION was organized at Central High School in Dec. 1925. Miss Margaret Williams, of the Girls Physical Education Department, was the advisor.

FIRST COLUMBUS "GENERAL" in the 'SCHOOL SAMMIES' ARMY was Evelyn Clutch, 12, of Indianola School. She sold most War Savings Stamps, in 1918 here.

It was a FIRST when five of the 13 CANDIDATES for the Board of Education office were disqualified on the ground that the petitions did not meet the legal requirements, and were accordingly stricken from the list. This was in Sept. 1917.

LOCAL SCHOOL TEACHER, MISS STEWART, was FIRST SUFFRAGIST HERE - In a local election, in 1879, she made a desperate effort to cast her ballot at the Zettler House polling place, but was challenged and given the "bounce". She declared that refusal of this right for the femmes entitled her to avoid paying taxes.

FIRST FEDERAL AID, under the National Defense Education Act, was approved by the Board of Education in March 1965.

FIRST REVISION OF BOARD RULES since 1913 was made in 1923. School rules, covering all activities and departments of the Columbus schools, remained intact for 10 years without a single change.

Principal Arnett Mitchell, of Champion Junior High, was the FIRST COLORED MAN to speak at Bowdoin College commencement.

X FIRST OPEN AIR SCHOOL (TB) was opened at Fieser School in April 1911.

FIRST TIME for REDUCING NINE YEAR GRAMMAR SCHOOL TO EIGHT. The old nine year course of the 1840s through the early 1870s was divided into five grades: lower and higher primary; lower and higher secondary; lower and higher intermediate; and A,B, and C. grammar. Under the revised plan, adopted in 1872, these eight grammar years were instituted: A,B,C and D, Primary; and A,B, C and D grammar.

DRAWING and ART as special subjects came into BEING in 1873, when the Board contracted with a Bostonian, Mr. Briggs, to teach first of all the teachers of these subjects.

THE NORMAL COURSE was made a part of the Columbus High School in 1873.

Pilot PROGRAM of GYMNASTICS instituted in the German schools - Fulton, New (Stewart now) and Third - in 1876.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT and POLITICAL ECONOMY was introduced in the Columbus High School in 1883, following the passage of the National Civil Service Act of Jan. 16, 1883.

COLLEGE PREPARATORY COURSE begins in 1889, when Jacob Shawan became superintendent. He declared that he wanted an elective course of study "to put the high school in harmony with the Ohio State University."

For the FIRST TIME, the Board of Education created, in 1900, a Committee on the COURSE OF STUDY, per se. Heretofore it was tagged with other committees, like a textbook.

WHISKEY, BEER barrels used for the FIRST to transport distilled water to schools during Typhoid Epidemic in 1904. Complaints came to the Board that whiskey could be tasted by the students in the water, whereupon the Board changed the containers to beer barrels.

CENTRAL HOSPITAL SERVICE DEDUCTIONS - FIRST taken from salaries in 1941.

SEX EDUCATION in the schools here started in Dec. 1910, when Judge Samuel L. Black gave a lecture on the problem of sexual hygiene. He addressed 400 boys at East High School. Other lectures on the questionable subject followed.

GERMAN SCHOOLS were the FIRST to make a change of black and gray slates for green. This was in 1884, when a study was made, and decided that the black and gray were injurious to the eyes.

Columbus BOARD of EDUCATION took over for the FIRST the operation of the Practical Nurse School of Columbus and Franklin Co. in Feb. 1959.

Eighth graders, in 1958, learned health science for the FIRST by the telecast route. Daily lessons were telecast by the Board over WOSU in cooperation with the University.

The FIRST UNGRADED SCHOOL for dull pupils opened in 1911 in the Mound, Fieser, Northwood and Southwood buildings.

ASAFETIDA BAGS used in the schools as a preventative for diphtheria were officially barred from the schools for the first in Oct. 1909.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION WORK WAS INAUGURATED in the Columbus Schools in 1892, but prior to the reorganization in 1919-20, there was no required course in the work.

X 400 enter FIRST FIELD MEET at Ohio Field, Ohio State University, June 9, 1922. Cooperating with the schools in staging the event were the Chamber of Commerce, Columbus Federation of Labor and the Council of Social Agencies. Calisthenics, races and playground games such as dodge ball, slog ball, bat ball, overhead basketball relay, tug of war, shuttle, three deep, end ball, leap frog relay, belt race and straddle ball relay were on the program.

A remedial "Treatment Training Course" was instituted by Physical Education Director Joseph A. Stevens at East High School in Jan. 1924. Corrective physical exercises were practiced by many of the boys.

Janitor Plan of Watchman on Week Ends Officially Approved in Aug. 1924. A janitor was assigned to each of the four new high schools on Sat. afternoons and Sundays. This action came as a result of the \$3000 fire in the chemical storage room at East High.

Playgrounds of the public schools, operated by the Board of Education during the summer, began in July 1923, Director B. E. Wiggins, supervisor of physical education opened the facilities at First and Second Ave. schools, Michigan, Leonard, Fieser and Ohio Ave.

SIGHT SAVING classes were formed at Hubbard School in 1924.

The FIRST SPECIAL SCHOOLS to help backward students (those over 12 who are overage for their grades) were opened FIRST at Fieser, Mound, Northwood, Southwood, and Garfield schools.

Dr. Asa D. Lord, FIRST School Superintendent, did FIRST Spadework for physical education in 1847. He introduced in the Columbus High School in that year studies in physiology, anatomy and hygiene.

FIRST MILITARY UNIT in the Schools Organized in Civil War Days by General C. C. Walcutt. North High Principal Everett, in 1906, favored rifle-training in physical education courses.

Brawls, fights interpretation of game rules in high school athletic contests prompted the high school principals in 1905 to adopt a Code of Rules; the Board concurred.

FIRST STUDY made on Physical development of Columbus School boys in 1883.

ANTON LEIBOLD was FIRST full time physical education head; he started here in 1892, and served until 1918. Much of his physical culture philosophy followed the German format. He authored many articles and books on physical games.



CARDS, POOL in the Clinton school rocked the city in 1916. Principal W. W. Castle who organized the Athletic Club in his school came under fire for allowing these games. He resigned rather than remain in the Columbus schools.

HUBBARD Junior High School was the FIRST SCHOOL to conduct a daily course in physical education. This was in the school year 1913-14, and all students were in class 15 minutes daily.

FIRST TRAFFIC SCHOOL SIGNS - erected in 1914; "No Parking" Cards in 1926; School Patrol, 1927. Before the "20 Mile" sign, arresting the eyes of every motorist in front of every public school building, warning signs to motorists were presented by the Columbus Automobile Club to Board in 1914. The Board appropriated \$75 for their erection "suspended on brackets from telegraph poles on all approaches to school buildings." (School News, Nov. 14, 1914) And 12 years later, the Board of Education, AAA, and the City Council took steps to guard further the lives of the boys and girls, By erecting "No Parking" signs and standards at the various schools, it provided a safety area in which students could travel. It also provided a free space for fire equipment, if needed. (Minutes, Dec. 6, 1926)

And in 1927, the Board officially approved the School Patrol idea, and authorized the Superintendent to institute the movement in the elementary schools, for the purpose of "regulating traffic" on the recommendation of the local Auto Club. (Minutes, Oct. 3, 1927)

FIRE DRILLS FIRST were made a part of the school's program in 1876. At least one drill weekly was required in all schools by the Board of Education in 1891.

For the FIRST time in the history of the Columbus schools, a school building was largely destroyed by fire. This was the Main St. School in Feb. 1898. A \$20,000 blaze at the Ohio Ave. School at the beginning of school in 1916 delayed its opening. A \$12,000 fire hit Douglas School in Nov. 1955, and a \$20,000 blaze at Shady Lane in Feb. 1959. In 1965, two firemen suffered injuries in an \$8000 fire at the Board of Education Maintenance Shop, 160 S. Champion. An overheated furnace caused a \$10,000 fire at the Retarded School Mt. Vernon. In March, 1942, McGuffey School was the FIRST to invoke regular AIR RAID DRILLS. Others follows. In the 1950s there was an epidemic of phony bomb scares in several schools.

By the fall of 1959, it was decreed that all students have POLIO SHOTS.

FIRST SCHOOL SAFETY DIRECTOR was named. Howard F. Wilson was named to this post, in 1963

Students FIRST CARRIED WATER TO SCHOOL for drinking purposes during the 1913 flood. FIRST MAJOR CALAMITY to hit Columbus schools was the 1913 FLOOD. Seven school buildings were put out of use and 12 school children LOST their LIVES.

FIRST MAJOR GRADUATING CLASS TRAGEDY was June 4, 1948, when three WEST HIGH seniors, enroute to a breakfast party following their class "prom" drowned when their auto plunged into the Scioto River, three miles north of the Columbus Zoo at 5:40 A.M.

FIRST SCHOOL ACCIDENT, in which a teacher allegedly suffered an injury, was reported by Fieser teacher, Miss Christina Robinson, in 1877; the ventilating register near the school's ceiling let loose alighting on Miss Robinson. The Board assumed all medical expenses, and her attorney asked an option of taking \$600 for the remainder of her life, or accepting \$5000 cash. The Board instead offered to pay her a regular fee which would help compensate her salary, which was paid her during the Board hassle.

FIRST HIGH and ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ATHLETICS were supervised by the City Recreation Department on Board of Education property. It was alleged that this was the FIRST and only major city where the school property was so used "under the direction of an organization not under the direct control of the Board of Education." In 1920, it was agreed between the city and the School Board, that hereafter, the latter organization "would assume full responsibility for all organized recreation for children of school age and the City Recreation Department devote its attention to providing for adults."

FIRST SPORT LEAGUES were conducted by the Schools' Physical Education Department in 1920-21; and the FIRST three supervised PLAYGROUNDS were conducted by the Board of Education in the summer of 1921.

FIRST ALL TIME FOOTBALL TEAMS NAMED BY EAST, SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL NEWSPAPERS, in 1923. Two local high school papers announced all-time teams in their issues in Dec. 1923. The X-Ray, official organ of East High, which takes into consideration stars from 1912, named Eddie Elgin and Peg Fuller on the ends; Harold and Howard Courtney on the tackles; Husky Thurman and Butch Pixley on the guards; Red Newlin at center; John Vorys at quarter; Chic Harley and Joe Murphy at the halves, and Jimmy Sauls at fullback on the first team. Chic Harley was named captain of the East High team, and "Chuck" Robinson was named the South High leader (Cit. Dec. 8, 1923).

FIRST TRACK MEET in which Columbus High Schools participated, was held in the spring of 1909, at Ohio Field, Ohio State University. In 1915, a Columbus High School Track Meet was held for the FIRST, involving only COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOLS. It was held annually then, prior to the Ohio Interscholastic Meet that began in 1909 on Ohio Field.

COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS among FIRST TO PLAY BASKETBALL back in 1898 at Lanman's Basketball Arena, in the storeroom of the Norwich Hotel, State and Fourth Sts. Old Central High Girls, and East High as well as several from the YW, made up the FIRST TEAMS. Boys basketball teams from Columbus High Schools were invited to the FIRST INVITATIONAL at Delaware, Ohio in 1909.

When B. E. Wiggins became Director of Physical Education in the schools, he converted the annual Field Day into "Flag and Field Day" in 1922.

NORTH HIGH GIRLS PLAYED FOOTBALL in 1903 - a FIRST. FIRST GIRLS BASKETBALL TOURNEY, between Central and East High, both coached and refereed by Miss Mayes Rickey, won by Central. FEMALE TEACHERS signed up for a PHYSICAL CULTURE class in 1910. Teacher was Miss Ellen Wilson of the City Recreation Department. This was a FIRST for SCHOOL MARMS.

A QUASI-CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL TEAM played the GRANT AVE. GIANTS in Football in Nov. 1894... a FIRST in local sport annals.

CRESTVIEW JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL was the FIRST and ONLY school in Columbus to house an indoor swimming pool. It was FIRST proposed in the school's plans in 1911. It was never popular with the parents in that era. Women, in particular, took a dim view of its use for the children, and the Board of Education, in 1915, came under severe criticism for the expenditure. Early girls classes in swimming were taught by Miss Helen Bell of the Patriotic League. Columbus High Schools and Junior Highs staged the FIRST Meet at East High School in March 1914.

PTA's set up FIRST headquarters in School Administration Building, 270 E. State St. in Sept. 1924.

The Manual Training idea in the local schools was hatched in 1884-85 when Superintendent Stevenson and the Board got together and decided "Now is the Time". The FIRST PUBLIC overt expression about "industrial education" in the Columbus schools was declared in the annual 1882-83 Report. "The workbench is a better educator than the billiard table," he said, "a hammer and nails than a pack of cards; the cornfield, than the baseball ground, the fields and woods than the crowded street."

The FRONT ST. SCHOOL in 1885, just new, was FIRST tried as a facility for the classes in manual training. And Educator Wilson L. Gill, former Columbus native, and a committee of nine blue printed the FIRST complete three-year Manual Art Course in the Columbus High Schools. This was in 1887. It was not until 1894, however, that the Board made a substantial appropriation (\$7000) to fan-out the course in other Columbus schools.

The FRONT ST. SCHOOL became one of the Nations FIRST TRADES SCHOOLS in Nov. 1909. H. W. Lowell was its supervisor. The work was divided into departments of culture, wood-turning, cabinet making, mill work, mechanical drawing and printing.

X Go Fly a Kite, was more than a cliché back in 1911, when the manual arts students took to the air with their unique hand-fashioned kites. This became an annual tradition in the elementary grades, later the high schools, down to the depression days, 1930s.

FIRST domestic science (cooking and sewing) came into the public schools when the manual arts (carpentry) was established in the panic year, 1893. Both disappeared temporarily, and the domestic science course was resumed in 1907. FIRST switch in the name of "Domestic Science" to "Home Economics" was made April 21, 1914 by the Board of Education.

Columbus school children in 1953-54 ate beef from the nation's store of surplus for the FIRST time since depression days, 1936. Carloads of frozen hamburgers, canned beef and gravy, were transported here.

Quasi-Normal School officially born in Columbus in August 1875; meetings were on Saturday mornings. Creation of the Columbus Normal School, per se, as an integral part of the Columbus school system was made by the Board in Nov. 1883.

Music, art, drawing, and dramatics, while relegated as secondary school studies in the beginning of the Columbus schools, Dr. Lord, the FIRST superintendent, introduced the subjects as electives for the FIRST in 1847.

FIRST High School Band in the city to provide music at a civic demonstration was the West High Band. It marched at the dedication of the West Broad St. bridge in 1921.

FIRST TV BROADCAST, involving every Columbus elementary public school, was Jan. 1, 1959 over WOSU. The Ohio State University cooperated then with the Columbus schools by providing a 20 minute telecast in health science for eighth grade students.

FIRST SCHOOL to use RADIO for teaching was South High. SOUTH HIGH was too the FIRST to develop a "closed circuit" television station. Physics teacher, the late E. S. Stauffer and Miss Marguerite Fleming spent years in developing the project.

OSU FIRST TELECAST into the Columbus Schools, over WTVN facilities, was in 1953.

Dr. W. O. Thompson, OSU president, and erstwhile Columbus Board of Education member, was the chief speaker on Columbus' radio program from the Signal Corps of the university in April 1922.

FIRST COMMERCIAL COURSE, authorized by the Board, was in the school year 1886-87.

FIRST CAREER DAY in the schools, was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce in March 1921. Talks were given monthly on vocations by speakers furnished by the Chamber.

FIRST COOPERATIVE PROGRAM in 1924 involved 125 high school students. Classes here held three times a week in these stores for the students: The Union, Z. L. White, Kresge, Dunn Taft, Boston Store and The Chamber of Commerce. Teachers employed by the Board were Margaret A. Castle and Kathryn White.

FIRST big capital procurement proposal was the purchase of Capital University in 1865. The Board reported adversely, because the price of \$50,000 was prohibitive. (Capital University was then on North High St.) in the Buttles Hubbard area.

The exclusive Columbus Women Teachers' Association was organized May 16, 1911, for social and professional purposes.

1800 seniors in the local schools enrolled for the FIRST Driver Training program in 1951.

FIRST Oratorical Contest among high school students, held under the auspices of the Board of Education, in May 1925, competed in Central High School.

Forerunner of teacher-parent organizations was The Columbus Home and School Association, formed in 1910 at the home of Mrs. Samuel C. Derby.

FIRST "Courts of Honor" (with three grades of honor: Page, Esquire and Knight) were organized in each junior high school in 1922. Tentative plans, recommended by a committee of teachers, were made to institute in each senior high school an honor society to be known as "Alpha Sigma Psi" with three grade honors: Alpha, Sigma and Psi. This never was firmed, however.

FIRST "Bands of Mercy"- a kindness to all living creatures movement - was organized in all the schools in 1884. It lasted well past the turn of the century.

FIRST Teacher-Health Insurance - Teachers Mutual Benefit Association called Columbus Teachers Mutual Aid Society - was instituted in 1888.

FIRST official duties of school janitors spelled out in 1887. The janitor was appointed by the Board's visiting committee, "by and with the consent of the Board." "It shall be his duty to make and regulate fires, to sweep, dust, and when necessary, scrub the rooms and hall, keep the privies and out-houses clean and in good order, guard the buildings, furniture, fences and grounds, and do such work about the premises as the visiting committee or principal shall require of him."

Originally called school matrons of the schools, in Jan. 1912, the title was changed officially, for the FIRST time, to janitress. A janitress was employed in schools having three or more janitors. She too was under civil service regulations.

Classical subjects, Latin and Greek, were made a part of the high school curriculum in 1849. Greek was discontinued in 1883, and subsequently, it was introduced in the high school in various years.

For the FIRST time, the Board required four years of English, instead of three as a requirement for high school graduation. This was in Jan. 1956.

French language was FIRST offered in the high school as a subject in 1850, discontinued, and resumed again from time to time. French history was offered in 1894. During World War I, the study of the French language and history hit a new high in enrollment; German was phased out, and students held bon-fires of the German texts.

> The FIRST Shoe Fund, originally known as the "Penny Collection" among pupils, was started in Dec. 1896.

The FIRST Truancy Department, to correspond to changes in the law, was organized in Aug. 1910.

The new school savings plan, where children open accounts in a local bank, was instituted in May 1923.

> The FIRST Penny Lunch program, starting first in Mound St. school in 1912, was operated jointly by the Columbus Board of Education and the Home and School Association.

Female Married Teachers, whose husbands also taught school, were denied contracts for the FIRST in 1932. The rule was not rescinded by the Board until Feb. 1937. Actually the Board frowned upon employment of married teachers until June, 1927.

School employees who entered the military or naval service were automatically granted "an indefinite leave of absence and at the termination of their military assignment be reinstated to their former or equivalent position," decreed the Board in 1940.

The FIRST National Recovery Act. (RCA) emblems and decals were distributed through the pupils in Dec. 1934.

Permission was granted the Ohio Society U. S. Daughters of 1812 to place a bronze tablet on the old Franklinton school (Sandusky and Broad Sts.) "Marking the site of the FIRST COURTHOUSE in Franklinton." This was in Feb. 1939.

First military unit - a drill one - was formed in the Columbus High School in 1856. It was a marching contingent. In Jan. 1874, the Columbus cadets, with the approval of the Board and made up of high school students came into being. General C. C. Walcutt, former mayor and erstwhile Civil War general, in cooperation with the Board, drafted a constitution for the contingent. During World War I, in 1917, noon drills in Columbus high schools were conducted. On June 11, 1906, when Lincoln's cabin aboard a rail car on its way to Louisville to be enshrined at the National Park near there, Columbus schools near the union station were dismissed to sing patriotic songs on its arrival there.

FIRST Junior Red Cross membership drive in the schools was conducted in Jan. 1918. Fee was 25 cents.

Try to find a picture of Washington and Lincoln today, in the school rooms! Every room at one time found a likeness of the two. In 1900 the DAR provided a picture of Washington for the schools; in 1914, J. F. Linton, local attorney, saw that the 800 school rooms had a picture of Lincoln. These were pictures of Lincoln in 1856.

FIRST flag regulation was established in all schools by the Board of Education in Jan. 1922. The Board provided flags of regulation dimension and quality for all schools.

Phonetic method of spelling was introduced by degrees in the Columbus Public Schools in 1906.

Probably the FIRST McGuffey Society in the country was founded here by Columbus residents, mostly local public school products, on March 26, 1918 at the Franklinton Co. Courthouse. Other McGuffey clubs, honoring the author William Holmes McGuffey, sprang up over the country. His name, as author of the popular readers, was a household word.

"Silk Stocking" schools, like Douglas, Fair Ave., Ohio Ave., Main St., old East High and Main St., were so called past the turn of the century by virtue of the fact that the children of the local elite were in attendance at these schools.

A Linden school teacher, F. F. Cole, past the turn of the century, taught his pupils in geography by song. In locating the State of Ohio, he sang and taught his pupils to sing, "North of Ohio, Michigan and Erie Lake are found; Pennsylvania and West Virginia come to its eastern bound; West Virginia and Kentucky form a boundary line, and Indiana on the west its borders to define." He also taught his pupils names of the states and capitals by the song route.

In 1955 Schools trained for the Atomic Age. Beginning with high school, classes in English were required in every grade; two years of science for Atomic Age youngsters was required for graduation; and the trend was to emphasize science, not just in high school - but beginning with the kindergarten; the same trend was in mathematics.

FIRST "Sawbuck Brigade" of 300 Columbus High School boys was organized in Civil War days. Gov. Dennison asked the boys to do their bit in the war effort by sawing the firewood, centered at the Statehouse yard, furnished by central Ohio farmers and then, after the cutting, deliver the wood to the families of the soldiers at the front.

A "Buffer Court" was established in the Attendance Department of the schools in 1925, FIRST of its kind in the country. Students violating school regulations, after sufficient warning, were brought to the "Buffer Court" held in the administration office and justice was meted out to the guilty ones.

Trades High School State Charter was revoked by the State Department of Education in Oct. 1925.

Erstwhile Columbus school teacher, Christine Yates, 90, who died in Kansas City, in 1909, directed that her body be cremated and ashes "strewn upon the water in the Mississippi River."

FIRST Clerk-Treasurer of the Board was Edward B. McFadden, who was appointed to this office in April 1910. Prior to this time, from 1845-1910, the two offices were separate.

FIRST brand new auto purchased by the Board of Education for the Superintendent of Schools in 1913 came to an abrupt stop and end. Chauffeur of the car on Labor Day of that year, decided to take a joy ride in it, with three of his Labor Day companions. The car went too fast downhill, and the driver lost control, damaging the vehicle. No broken bones or fatalities.

The philanthropy of an anonymous donor to reward teachers and administrators for services to the Columbus Public Schools performed "beyond the call of duty" began in 1954. Annually, every year thereafter, he has continued the practice of ear-marking \$5000 to local educators.

Following the enactment of the FIRST statewide legislation providing free schooling in 1826, the local school district, without the leadership of a superintendent, (there was no Columbus Superintendent of Schools until 1847) was managed by a Board of Directors. They were: W. T. Martin, school master and historian, Dr. Peleg Sisson, a physician, and Reverend Charles Hinkle, a minister. Most of the Board of Education members have been largely from the professional ranks. FIRST SCHOOL EXAMINERS in 1826 were James Hoge, C. H. Wetmore and Henry Mathews.

C. C. Walcutt (Board member 1873-1894) and Dwight Swisher (1934-37; 1942-1959) were the FIRST to establish Board tenure records, exceeding a score of years each.

X FIRST School Board rule, restricting the time of speakers at a meeting, was decreed in 1869. "No member shall speak longer than 10 minutes, nor more than twice on the same subject, without leave of the Board," the regulation read.

The FIRST Board of Education drew up FIRST rules for elementary pupils.

"No tobacco in any form is to be used, in or about the school building.

"All vulgar and profane language is strictly forbidden.

"Every scholar is to be clean in person and clothing.

"No boy over 10 years of age is allowed to attend a school taught by a female teacher.

"Any scholar tardy more than 15 minutes is to be sent home for that half day, unless a good excuse is brought by the parent or guardian.

"School begins at 8:30 and closes at 5." (There was a 2 hour lunch period)

FIRST citywide teacher examination for positions in the schools were held June 22, 1847. In addition to an oral examination, the applicant submitted a three page thesis "containing his views on the best methods of teaching... on the means of interesting students in their studies... and his opinion of school government in general."

FIRST EXAMINERS of candidates for teacher jobs in 1847 included Dr. Asa D. Lord, chairman, and N. Doolittle, secretary. A. F. Perry was the third member of the committee. Among the applicants to be evaluated by the examiners were six prospective German teachers.

FIRST School Superintendent's contracts were written annually. This practice prevailed down to 1874.

A good teacher is a good disciplinarian. This was the FIRST universal statement governing this problem, known as Rule #58, of the School Code, adopted in 1868. "Their fitness for their stations will be estimated in a great degree by their ability to secure and maintain the best discipline...with the use of the mildest measures and greatest influences," said the code, in part.

The FIRST comprehensive set of rules adopted by the Board of Education in 1869 encompassed 140 rules. The rules stood, without substantial change, for the next quarter of a century.

Only books, prescribed by the Board of Education were permitted in the classroom. Teachers were expected to work within the framework of the Board selection of all literature. This was FIRST declared by the Board in 1869.

The Board took a dim look upon the promotion of any commercial activities in the schools. It saw fit, for the FIRST time, to restrict all programs, in 1869, that did not conform directly to schooling, per se. This included all types of entertainments, spelling matches, special speakers excepted. The ruling barred solicitation of every type.

To avoid any smack of favoritism in the schools, the Board in 1888, tabooed for the FIRST time, gift-giving by students and/or parents to school employees.

A dozen standing committees, membership three each with the exception of the Visiting Committee (one for each school) was agreed upon for the FIRST by the Board in the mid 1870s. This pattern of committee organized remained intact for the remainder of the 19th century. The committees were: 1) teachers and examinations; 2) teachers, textbooks, course of instruction and apparatus; 3) salaries; 4) finance; 5) supplies; 6) buildings; 7) school-house sites; 8) stoves furnaces and ventilation; 9) printing; 10) rules and regulations; 11) school library; and 12) visiting committee.

The TEACHER TIME SCHEDULE was spelled out in 1877. Teachers were expected to be at their posts a half hour before school in the winter season, 15 minutes in the early fall and spring months.

FIRST holidays officially declared as such by the Board in the 1870s were limited to "Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years and teh Fourth of July (when school was in session). The State Fair as a holiday was optional, depending upon the superintendent's point of view.



"Deestriks" within a broad-scoped Columbus Public School District were FIRST proposed and numbered in 1869. The sub-"deestriks", numbered from one thru eight, helped to identify a given school. The fifth and sixth districts were largely in the German south-end sector. Here the student were FIRST taught in German, afterward English.

An irregularity in the school treasurer's office in 1885, involving an embezzlement by an employee of that office, and his subsequent suicide, prompted the FIRST rule that all teachers thereafter would receive their pay-checks personally from the school treasurer. In 1920, the practice of the principal distributing the checks to the teachers was resumed.

FIRST schoolwide fire drill regulations in 1890, imposed by the Board of Education, were little different from those in force today. Monthly drills were required, and presumably at the close of school.

For the FIRST time, the Board of Education expressed in writing, at its Nov. 29, 1892 meeting, an open invitation to all ex-Board members to attend any and all of the Board meetings. Involvement of these people could "lend much weight to the deliberations," wrote the 1892 Board.

To curtail the practices of students vandalizing property, especially at Halloween and Commencement periods, the Board for the FIRST took action at its May 29, 1900 meeting to curtail these exuberant activities. Flag-pole sitting, painting roof tops, steeple-jack antics among students came under the blow of the Board directive.

Although the Board of Education had studied the adoption of an official seal in 1859, it did not actually make an official selection until 20 years later. In 1879, the FIRST official seal was used. It was patterned after the State of Ohio seal, having the letters, "BOARD OF EDUCATION, COLUMBUS, OHIO," in the circle.

While the superintendents of schools in Columbus over the years in the first half of the 19th century had little to say about the teachers employed, the members of the Board did most of the selecting of teachers they wished to employ. Not until 1905, did the Board for the FIRST delegate largely this responsibility to the superintendent; his recommendation of teachers was generally approved by the Board. In the 19th century, knowing members of the Board, especially the all powerful Teachers' Committee, would most certainly give teachers a "shew-in."

Like the captain of a sinking ship, the teacher played a comparable role in a school conflagration, and was the last to leave the school room in the event of a fire. This rule was adopted for the FIRST March 4, 1905.

"Help the Handicapped" meant little to the Columbus School Board in 1905, when it considered a resolution for the FIRST time dropping all teachers, and refusing to approve new ones unless they passed a health test.

For the FIRST time in the school's history, DANCING was permitted in the schoolhouses. This was at commencement in 1905. Upon motion of Board member Dr. W. O. Thompson, the Board approved allowing "the junior and senior classes may each have the privilege of giving a dance during the year to close not later than 11 p.m.

The rules and discipline committee took under advisement, back in 1905, the suggestion that all employees of the Board be required to take a physical and mental examination when they arrive at 50 years, and every five years thereafter; this was strongly opposed by Board member, Dr. P. D. Shriner. Shriner won out.

FIRST attempt to delete the standing committee on sites was proposed by Board member Dr. Starling Loving in 1872, but without success. He feared that bad men might hereafter creep into the Board, thence in said committee, and convert it into a shrewd real estate ring.

FIRST lengthy span of closing schools was in 1918, when the influenza epidemic closed the Columbus schools for 2½ months. Columbus Day, October 12, 1918 was a memorable, tragic day in the Ohio Capital City, when normally a celebration was in order, and the school children observed the occasion in many ways. But none took place; people were too sick to note the anniversary. "Twas a bleak Monday."

Columbus teachers heard for the FIRST time the basic philosophy stated by Dr. Harold Eibling at the pre-school convocation held in Veterans' Memorial building in Sept. 1956. "Education is for character as well as for knowledge... Education without morality is deadening," he said.

Dr. Eibling dedicates for the FIRST time, a Columbus school - Eastmoor High School in Sept. 1956. This was the FIRST dedication of a local high school since the Linden-McKinley school building in 1928.

FIRST one floor junior high school, called Hamilton, then Linden Junior High - was in the making in 1956.

Summer School in 1957 offered for the FIRST time a course in driver education.

Dr. Novice Fawcett, erstwhile school superintendent, was installed as OSU president in April 1957.

First curriculum council was established in May 1957. It involved teachers, principals and administrators.

For the FIRST time in the schools' history, a superintendent and his assistant attended high school graduation ceremonies in which their children were members of the class. Proud "pops" were, Dr. Eibling and Cleo Dumaree, his assistant.

For the FIRST time, the School Board and Battelle joined hands in offering a FREE course in high school mathematics at the Battelle Institute. Classes began Sept. 1957.

First test-scoring machine, which scores 600 tests per hour, was installed at Board headquarters in Oct. 1958.

FIRST resource teacher to make a comprehensive social science study school-wide was Floyd Carlisle.

North High was the FIRST school to have a full time activity-coordinator. Miss Gregg was named to the post in the summer of 1959.

School for retarded was moved to permanent headquarters at Olentangy Elementary School in Jan. 1958. Prior to that it was scattered in three places since the Mt. Vernon School fire.

FIRST woman in 12 years to head a Columbus Senior High School was Frances Henning at Linden-McKinley in Sept. 1959.

FIRST SCHOOL SYSTEM in Ohio, with the joint help of Superintendent Eibling and Gale Reeder, secretary of the Civil Service Commission, in classifying and standardizing non-teaching jobs, was the Columbus Public Schools. This was effected in Sept. 1960.

South High School was the FIRST school in Columbus to institute a "Hall of Fame" of its illustrious sons and daughters. Pictures and documentaries of the school's greats lined the corridors in October 1960.

FIRST ACCIDENT INSURANCE program for all public school students, who paid the initial premium, was instituted in April 1961.

FIRST campus designed secondary school was Beery Junior High School. It was completed in 1960.

The Russian language was part of the course of study at Medina School in 1961.

Dr. Watson H. Walker, elected to the Board of Education in Nov. 1961, was the FIRST NEGRO since 1900 to be accorded this honor.

Columbus school system was probably the only one in the United States with an emergency alerting set-up. Station WCBE linked 131 schools in 1962.

FIRST school to get a guided tour of the new Administration Building was Stewart Ave. in June 1962.

The School Board converted the Broadview Elementary School, 1485 W. Fifth Ave. into the FIRST permanent headquartered Practical School of Nursing in Sept. 1962

Freedom Foundation Awards included the Columbus Public Schools in 1962. The Benjamin Franklin Principal School Award was given to the Columbus Schools for its "Festival of Freedom" program in the 131 schools during the year. The idea originated with Dr. Eibling, who suggested that teachers develop programs beyond the regular classroom study of history and government.

Columbus Area Technical School was established by the Board at 245 W. Broad St. in May 1963; planned to give two years college training, and was designed to produce a technician "who can occupy a position between a graduate engineer and a skilled craftsman."

Selection of an APPLE as a symbol for the Columbus Public Schools was effected in Sept. 1964.

The Board approved for the FIRST time participation in FEDERAL AID under the National Defense Education Acts in March 1965. Previously, the only federal aid was passed to the state and indirectly channeled to the local schools.

Project Head Start was officially approved by the Board in April 1965.

Columbus Public Schools were the FIRST in Ohio to receive a nod of the Adult Basic Education Program.

Dr. Harold Eibling was the FIRST Columbus School Superintendent to be accorded a 33rd degree in the Scottish Rite Free Masonry organization. This was in Oct. 1965.

James Wade was named the FIRST Coordinator of Intercultural Education in the schools, in 1965.

Council of 17 members was created by the Board in Dec. 1965, for the purpose of advising the Board on racial problems in the schools.

The Neighborhood Seminar plan proposed by Joseph Davis involved every segment of the population. A preliminary evaluation showed up many school needs and recommendations.

For the FIRST time in Feb. 1967, the release of test data for individual schools was being considered. School officials in the past refused to release comparative school scores for fear of misinterpretation.

The FIRST WBNS-TV education documentary, entirely in COLOR, was telecast in April, 1967. Dr. Eibling appeared on this panel in this FIRST, along with several other central Ohio educators.

Columbus schools for the FIRST time introduced guidelines for teaching sex; these were released to teachers and principals in May 1967.

The School Board authorized the McElroy-Minster counseling firm, in May 1967, at a monthly rate of \$125 to work details of a major medical insurance program for full time employees in May 1967.

Columbus Schools in June 1967, formed a "Gallon Club" made up of employees who gave this minimum amount of blood to the Red Cross.

A citizens' advisory committee, formed in April 1966, approved its FIRST action proposals to combat racial imbalances in the schools. The proposals included; 1) appointment of a special assistant to Supt. Eibling to be responsible for the development of racial balance programs; 2) inclusion by Board action of the racial balance factor in setting up altered school boundaries; 3) adoption of an open enrollment policy; and 4) initiation by the Board of Education of talks with adjoining school districts "to discover ways and means of cooperating to produce a better racial balance throughout the metropolitan area."

For the FIRST time; in a proposed series of TV monthly talks to teachers, Dr. Eibling spoke to 3000 teachers over WOSU-TV in Sept. 1961. "This telecast," Dr. Eibling said, "marks a milestone in my service as school administrator."

Guidelines and duties of school principals were spelled out, for the FIRST time in 1861 (high school principals only) and in 1868, for all principals. Ringing of the large brass hand-bell at the "beginning and closing school, recesses and recitations" was an early exercise prescribed by the Board. Keeping his watch wound, and checking often with the Savage Jewelry Store, (official timekeeper of the city) so that the bell would be rung on time was expected of the principal. And being a private eye, to protect properties, and checking the "cloakrooms and privies" for depredations was also within the school head's province.

Principals' monthly meetings at the Board of Education started in the 1890s. The Columbus Principals' Association, founded in 1890, was the brain-child of Superintendent Shawan. Reserve principals, the counterpart of present day cadet principals, had its origin in this era, too.

One of the FIRST and OLDEST SCHOOLS, Third St. was built in 1866. It is still standing, and is currently used as one of the special school centers of the system.

When lightning blasted to pieces into ribbons of steel, in 1895, the tall metal flagstaff at the Front St. School, it was a FIRST to be written into the local school annals. "Maybe we're not doing right by the school," facetiously said one Board member.

FIRST legal effort to integrate the Columbus schools came by way of a state statute in 1849. A political subdivision was required by law to create one or more districts for black children if they were refused admission to the common schools. In 1855 there were four black schools, with an enrollment of 312.

When the Columbus High School, FIRST of its kind in the midwest, if not in the country, was formed in 1847, black youths, along with the whites were admitted. Miss Mary E. Knight was the FIRST black person in Columbus to graduate from the Columbus High School. This was in 1878.

FIRST adequate school for black children was established at Long and Third Sts. in 1871. It was significant too that it was named after a white member of the Board of Education, Dr. Starling Loving, who always manifested more than ordinary interest in the education of the black race.

It was a FIRST in 1897, when a black teacher was assigned to a white school, Medary. In 1904, a count showed that Columbus was the FIRST and only Ohio city to employ black teachers for white children.

Columbus Board of Education met in the City Council for the FIRST time in May 1870. Shortly prior to this time, the Board held its sessions in the high school building.

At one point in the 125 year history of the Columbus Public Schools, there was a move to abolish the office of the superintendent of schools. Joseph Sullivan, who had served many years as a member of the Board of Education on his retirement in 1869, battled this move - and won out. We still have a superintendent of schools.

FIRST GERMAN-ENGLISH schools in the southend of Columbus were established before the mid-nineteenth century. After the Board of Education had built its first three schools at strategic locations (the Middle building at Third St. near Rich, the North building at Long and Third Sts. and the South building at Mound and Third) it turned its attention to the GERMAN-ENGLISH schools. And in 1852, at the corner of Fourth and Fulton Sts., the Board erected the German-English School building, later called the Central Fourth Street "Deutsche Central Schule" and still later the Central German-English School. In this sector, of course, the German was always spoken of FIRST, when the combination "German-English" was used.

The German schools, and the GERMAN students were among the FIRST in Columbus to hold a variety of entertainments in the school buildings. Holidays of various sorts, and German entertainments, generally always musical, and military drills and exhibitions abounded in these schools. The last day of school picnics and entertainment concept was carried on in pre-Civil War days by the German English schools. Could be another FIRST.

One out of three teachers employed by the Board of Education in 1847 were German, and were assigned to the Columbus schools. Total teaching staff for this year was 17.

FIRST Board of Education member to head the Columbus Maennerchoir was German born Otto Dressel. He always spoke and sang in German.

Relative of Board member Martin Gemunder, was the FIRST organ manufacturer in Columbus. He marketed the FIRST organ in post Civil War days here.

Columbus Public Schools were the FIRST in the country to teach the German language in depth. This, according to Superintendent Stevenson, in 1872 was "peculiar to our city".

For the FIRST time, the teaching of German in the schools was moved from the South end to the North. (North of Broad St.) In 1875, the Board named a special teacher in German to the Sullivant and Park St. schools. 2100 enrolled in the courses this year.

Both English and German scripts were used from the FIRST years of the Columbus schools. Whether to teach the southend children the German or English script copybook pattern was never really resolved. It depended upon the teacher's talents and wishes.

German books of every kind were made a part of the Columbus City Library. One section, in 1876, was reserved for the German children, especially from the southend, who were able to read the German literature in that language.

The German schools in the city, in 1880, were the FIRST to substitute the white slate for the traditional black slate that was used in the schools.

The FIRST teachers in the German-English schools taught both the German and English languages.

For the FIRST time, in 1900, special teachers were assigned to each school where German was taught, and she was "required to teach ALL the German in that school."

The FIRST German Artillery Company in Columbus in 1846 (around the time of the founding of the Columbus Public Schools) recruited from the local schools new members. The boys who signed up were expected to serve for a five year stretch. The next year a Captain Otto Zirckel recruited 90 youths for a German volunteer Military Company.

FIRST Columbus Public School Aeronaut was Edward W. Mix, who ballooned over his home on the West Side here during the International Balloon Contest held in 1907. He established many records.

One of the FIRST school architects in Columbus was Philip Schlapp, who designed many local schools, including the old Sullivant and Fieser schools (both now gone). He planned the Deaf and Dumb School, parts of the Ohio penitentiary, and also built Camp Chase prison on the West Side. He came to America in 1848, and grew up with the development of the Columbus schools; died in July 1908.

The FIRST graduation exercises of the Trades School was held at the building at Front and Long Sts. in June, 1912. Arthur Tallmadge and Howard Dersch were given certificates and were the FIRST to finish the three years' course in the school. A speed type-setting contest was held prior to the rites. There were seven entries; Lawrence Scales was the winner.

School Board member Mrs. Dora Sandoe Bachman, was the FIRST in Columbus to espouse the cause publicly of womens' suffrage. She spoke at a rally on July 4, 1912 in Goodale Park.

FIRST extra pay was granted to athletic instructors or coaches by the Board in Feb. 1913. For coaching football, the extra was \$75, and \$50 for any other sport for one season. And for the management of two or more sports for the entire, \$50 was paid.

Columbus teachers elected the FIRST pension board trustees in May 1909. They included: J. A. Shawan, Superintendent of Schools, John J. Stoddart, President of the Board of Education, and Foster Copeland, President of the City National Bank. Two others name by the Board of Education to the pension board were W. O. Thompson and John L. Trauger.

Wife of Superintendent of Schools R. W. Stevenson (1871-1889 in Columbus) Mrs. Rebecca A. Stevenson was nee McConnell; and the family name caused the town of McConnellsville to be founded. Her father was Joseph McConnell, an early settler.

Among the FIRST charter members of the Sigma Delta Chi professional fraternity organized at Ohio State University in June 1911 were former Columbus students W. M. Kipplinger and L. F. Laylin.

Max Reiser hosted for the FIRST time in July 1911, and many years thereafter, 2000 school boys and girls ranging in age from five to 14 to his movie house, the Hub Airdrome at Third and Main Sts. and feted them also to popcorn, peanuts and lemonade.

Compulsory retirement of teachers of the Columbus Public Schools was required after 40 years of service, or when the man had reached 65 and the woman 60. This was in 1911.

Scholars were guests for the FIRST time of the Columbus Aero Club in 1911 and witnessed the great aviation show produced live, at Columbus Driving Park, in the southeast.

FIRST automobile was purchased by the Board in Oct. 1911 for the exclusive use of the superintendent and Board members in the pursuit of their visiting duties to the various schools. It cost \$1640, and was a five passenger machine. It was purchased from the Buggy Co.

While there were not many reports of drugs use among students in the early 1900s, there was a report that hallucinations among the "gangs" was produced by sniffing the vapor stews from gasoline cans, and getting on "gasoline jags."

For the FIRST time in the 20th century, there was no city high school football championship declared. This was in 1912. The victory of East High over North High 20 to 3 on Ohio Field, OSU, upset the apple-cart. East's Harley and Thurman were the stars. Thurman punted at one point 65 yards, a FIRST in local annals.

FIRST baby born in a Columbus school during the 1913 flood was "Rose Madeline Sweeney. Marooned at Dana School, the stork stopped here.

FIRST West High pupil lost in the 1913 flood was Gladys Ford.

Teachers, dressed in "long bloomers", on the playgrounds had the sanction of the Board in 1913.

FIRST proposal, limiting the cost of graduation gowns, came in 1915. Supervisor of the high school recommended \$5 as the top limit in graduation dresses.

Besides the national anthem and several patriotic songs, the school boys and girls in the Columbus schools learned an Ohio chant that was sung in all the schools on "Survey Day" (open house visitations) in Nov. 1913. The song went:  
 "Known to the world is the wonderful story  
 Mother of presidents, such is her name:  
 Mother of schoolmasters, glory to glory'  
 Even to dwell in Ohio is fame."

FIRST night school teacher in journalism was Kyle Palmer, who taught at Commerce High Night School in 1916. He edited a paper there also; called it "The Owl." This was the FIRST journalism class in any night school in the city.

The FIRST and largest single project ever undertaken by a student in the manual arts department was a motor boat, completed in 1918, by Herrancourt Corrodi at South High. The boat cost Corrodi \$1280, and was used on Buckeye Lake.

FIRST co-op classes under the Smith-Hughes Act in the fall of 1918 were instituted in the high schools.

FIRST serious setback in high school football came to the city schools in Nov. 1918, when Allen Miller, halfback on the West High football team, died as a result of a broken neck in a game with East High on Ohio Field. Players of the West High team were pallbearers.

Columbus Board of Education accepted the proposal in 1919 of the FEDERAL BOARD for VOCATIONAL TRAINING to educate disabled soldiers and sailors in the public schools here. The Federal Board paid Columbus schools a tuition fee for all men sent to the schools from outside the city and for those taken from Columbus over 21. It was a forerunner of the FIRST GI educational fringe benefit.

The FIRST Columbus superintendent of schools to have his arm in a sling on Christmas was John Francis. Just before the holidays in Dec. 1919, in an effort to start his car, his crank back-fired and fractured his arm.

Miss Marie Gogle, assistant superintendent of schools, was made director of the FIRST National Council of Mathematics, which was organized in Cleveland in April 1920.

FIRST Middy Day for high school girls in the Columbus schools was initiated in April, 1921. It was planned for the FIRST by the vice principals of the senior high schools as the FIRST step toward simple and appropriate dress for girls going to high school here.



✕ FIRST extensive system of mass competition in athletics was begun here in 1920, when B. E. Wiggins was director. "Columbus is the only city that has an extensive system of mass competition in its public schools, and is as successful as the intra mural competition at Ohio State University," said the Jan. 2 1922 Citizen.

✕ At Felton School in 1922, all the teachers were unattached. Pupils had no trouble remembering titles of teachers: they were all Miss so and so.

Siebert School, among the city schools in 1922, was unique; it enrolled but two grades, the seventh and eighth.

✕ The city's FIRST and biggest box kite, which was built by manual arts teacher, Paul McCullough of three schools, Bellows, Franklinton and Fieser, in 1922, was entered in the annual public school tournament. It was 12 feet high, 11 feet wide, four feet thick; to fly it, it was necessary to hitch it to a horse or an auto.

Teacher, Miss Eloise Framme, from Douglas Intermediate School, in 1922, was popularly known as "The Stadium Girl."

Miss Kate M. Lacey, Columbus High School graduate and once a member of the Board of Education originated and managed the celebrated "Quality Concert series, for four seasons at old Memorial Hall.

FIRST school-wide involvement of the Boy Scout movement by the Columbus Schools was initiated by Superintendent Collicott in April 1923. The local Boy Scout Council contributed \$1200 to help pay for a parttime teacher to foster the move in the schools.

The court required the Maryland Casualty, who bonded the Federal Construction in the construction of the Taylor Ave. School and the Sullivant Ave. School in 1920, to pay the Board of Education \$28,367, because of the failure of the construction Co. to produce, as per contract.

FIRST Greek Honorary Society for graduating seniors was formed in June 1922 at the old Central High (Commerce) Sixth and Broad Sts. and was called Sigma Kappa Psi. Seniors were required to have excellent grades in two-thirds of their school work in order to qualify for membership in the society.

Old East High School, at Franklin and Loeffler Aves., was converted in Aug. 1923 to Franklin Junior High School. The new junior high acquired the junior high pupils from Douglas School, which became the home of the Columbus Normal, previously housed in the Sullivant School building.

FIRST twice winner of the "Miss America" title, was Miss Mary Katherine Campbell, East High graduate, 1922.

Arthur L. Leonard, Central High Teacher, and Bertha Jacobs, North High Teacher, jointly authored a textbook, "The Nation's History" in 1924.

FIRST teacher authorized to teach Religion in the public schools was Miss Olive May Wampler. She was employed by the Franklin Co. of Religious Education to organize and teach the subject, in cooperation with the Northwood and Indianola grade schools, in Sept. 1924.

At the FIRST Radio Show in Memorial Hall, in Feb. 1925, former Columbus student and mayor, James Thomas spoke through the loudspeaker placed on the Statehouse, to the assembled guests, and in fact, the whole city of Columbus. His voice could be heard distinctly four miles away. There were 9000 fans on the FIRST day of the radio show. All heard the voices of Rev. D. F. Rittenhouse, First Baptist Church, the Dennis Sisters, the Loos Brothers, Alan Hale's orchestra, and Eddie Peabody, the versatile musician.

The FIRST football team was organized at the old Central High School, Sixth and Broad Sts., in 1892. Student Herbert Kannamacher, who was captain and quarterback, spearheaded the organization of the FIRST team. The team without a coach played at least four games, losing to the Deaf and Dumb School, Granville Academy and Kenyon Military Academy, and winning from North High 5 to 0. The following boys were on that FIRST team:

Center--George Duffy, Guards --Ben Chamberlain, Art Zimmerman, Tackles-- Herb Drury, Charles Bond, Ends--Lewis Drum, Ron Knauss, Quarterback--Herb Kannamacher, Halfback--Fred Ingram, Bert Dennis, Hugh Kannamacher, Fullbacks--Frank Colgan, Hal Wright.

The FIRST basketball league was formed in the 1898-99 season. Prof. F. C. Gugel of the YMCA was the organizer. North, East and Central were the FIRST City High School teams to compete. East High won the FIRST city championship, winning four games. Seven made up the team, and the champs, East, were: Bulen 'C', Miller, CF, Bigelow, RF, Cohagen LF, Jones, G, Maxwell, RG, and Pickel, LG.

FIRST baseball city league in 1899 was loosely organized. Some teams failed to show up, and there was no declared champion that FIRST year.

FIRST administrative control of the athletic program was inaugurated Feb. 11, 1901 when the principals of the four high schools got together and set-up four guidelines for future athletic contests. They were: 1-pupils in good standing, 2-passing grades in three studies, not counting drawing and music, 3- other high schools played must have same standards; and 4-certificates from the principals of contesting schools must be presented before any contest may be entered into.

East High formed the FIRST athletic association in the city high schools' history. This was in 1903, and was formed by 250 charter members.

FIRST official all-high football team was selected in 1903. It included:

LE - Bently, Central  
 LT - O'Harra, Central  
 LG - Cherry, Central  
 C - Watson, North  
 RG - Henry, North  
 RT - Gibson, East  
 RE - Morris, North  
 QB - Reel, North  
 LH - Justice, East  
 RH - Miller (c), North  
 FB - Peach, East

In 1905, the Columbus Sporting Goods Co. offered the FIRST trophy for the city baseball champion.

FIRST track meet was in 1905. Central defeated North 59 to 48 at the Driving Park in a dual meet. Two Columbus teams, North and Central, competed in the FIRST Annual Interscholastic Track Meet at Idlewilde Park, Newark, this year also. FIRST state championship in Track, held at Granville, was won by North High in 1907. The FIRST school-owned athletic field was purchased by the Board of Education Feb. 1, 1912 for North High School at King Ave. and Tisdale St.

North's new baseball field was dedicated in 1914, and the FIRST contest played on a Columbus high school field was Friday, May 1, 1914; North defeated East 5 to 2.

FIRST city football officials and coaches met jointly at the Columbus Athletic Club to set up an equitable schedule for the city league.

In 1919, the Interscholastic Athletic Association of Columbus was organized for the purpose of scheduling games.

The National Track Championship, meeting at Chicago in 1926, came to East High. George Simpson matched the world record in the 100 yard dash, 9.8 seconds; and also won the 220 yard dash, 21.8 seconds. East's 880 yard relay was also victorious at this event.

East's Jack Keller won the high and low hurdles at the Stadium State Meet in 1928, as did Central's Herb Moxley in the 440 dash. Both were State records.

1929-30 Central High's football team became city champions - the FIRST in 20 years.

FIRST All-High football banquet was instituted in the depression years, 1933, by the Columbus Dispatch. It was held Nov. 20, 1933, at the Neil House.

Linden High School became a member of the city league in football in 1945.

East High was named the FIRST Columbus team to win the state basketball championship in 1951, defeating in the finals Hamilton by a score of 57 to 39. The game was televised.

FIRST all-star basketball team, playing city champion, West in 1916; All-Stars won, 31 to 23.

FIRST all-star football team, playing city champion, East, in 1917; All-Stars won 7 to 0.

FIRST annual city track meet, under the control of the Columbus Board of Education, was held at Ohio State University in 1920.

FIRST year for basketball and baseball city league under the supervision of the Columbus Board of Education was inaugurated in 1921.

FIRST State basketball tournament, supervised by the O.H.S.A.A. was staged at Ohio State University in 1923.

FIRST year for the Little Brown Jug Trophy, symbolic of East-North victory was held in 1925.

FIRST high school night football game was played in Columbus in 1929; North 20, Bexley 0.

FIRST City Track Meet scheduled on a Columbus high school track was held at Central in 1931, and won by Central.

FIRST State baseball championship, played under the supervision of the O.H.S.A.A., was won by Aquinas in 1928.

FIRST coaches and their tenures follow: Central - football, C. M. Bookman, 1906; basketball, Fred Hamm, 1908-1912; baseball, Fred Hamm 1908-1916; and track, Prof. Austin. East - football, Otto Magley, 1905; basketball, Frank Gullem, 1910-12; baseball, Otto Magley, 1903-05; and track, Bob Collins, 1913-14. North - Harry Swain, football 1907-14; basketball, John Edwards, 1912-14; baseball, Harry Swain, 1908-16; and track, Harry Swain, 1908-18. South - football, John McDonald, 1911-14; basketball, John McDonald, 1912-14; baseball, John McDonald, 1912-13; and track, Harold Dunlap, 1920. West - football, Lee Leahy, 1910; basketball, Lee Leahy, 1911-12; baseball, Otto Magley, 1909-12 and track, Foreman Slager, 1930.

Diseases and pestilences stalked the first public school rooms. Smallpox took its toll, for the FIRST in 1850, when there was a wholesale exodus of students from the school rooms. The Board of Education passed the FIRST compulsory vaccination measure in Dec. 1862, prohibiting student attendance at school for refusal to be vaccinated. In 1893, for the FIRST time, the Board included all employees in the ruling of vaccination.

The city appropriated \$3000 to begin polio shots for grade school tots in 1955; the School Board furnished the clinics for this purpose. Doctors volunteered services; in 1958, all children under 10 were required by the Board of Education to be Salk-vaccinated.

FIRST deductions from teachers' salaries for the Central Hospital Service was begun in 1941.

FIRST sight-saving classes were opened at Hubbard School in 1924; at Main St. two years later.

For the FIRST time, the Board voted to install rest rooms in all high school buildings, save North, where it was crowded and "no room for it." This was Feb. 7, 1912.

FIRST course in high school physiology was instituted under the direction of Superintendent Asa D. Lord in 1847. "A lesson has been recited (physiology) every week, accompanied by a lecture every alternate week" (presumably by Dr. Lord who held an M.D. degree) the School Annual Report read.

The Civil War "fever" of joining up spilled over into the Columbus schools. Those unable to go, principally because of the age limit, with Board of Education nod, organized a military unit, paraded up and down the streets of Columbus in their red trousers and scarlet caps, intermittently during the war. A special FIRST flag, made by the FIRST class in Grammar School at the Columbus High School building designed and made a beautiful flag for the unit, presented by a Matilda Rudisell. Precision drills in the schools were continued until 1872, when the plaster falling from the walls, induced by the marching, caused the Board to call a halt to the program.

FIRST social room for students, introduced at Clinton High School in 1916, met with mixed reactions. Here cards, and billiards were permitted, and the principal A. W. Castle, finally resigned his post.

Principal Charles Everett of North High School was the FIRST to advocate a course in the high school of rifle training. This was 1906, and was a part of the T. R. Roosevelt philosophy which had begun to take hold about this time.

The FIRST Red Bird Knot-hole Gang consisted of practically all the school boys in Columbus. They had special reservations for the boys at the opening game, April 16, 1934. 75 junior and senior high boys were excused from school early in order to take part in the preliminaries, prior to the opener.

West High dedicated Magley Stadium, Oct. 15, 1937 defeated Aquinas, 6 to 0.

FIRST elementary school baseball team, the baseball nine of the B Grammar grade at the Rich and Third St. Building, to defeat a high school team was unheard of. Too, it defeated in May, 1899, a highly touted East End Club 18 to 11. This was another FIRST for the school, since the Rich school club played only six players.

For the FIRST time Columbus saw the LIBERTY BELL. This was on Nov. 3, 1893, when the train paused for a half-hour at the Depot. It appeared here this same year, April 27, 1893, at night.

Teacher Charles Barr was the FIRST high school teacher to receive a gold-headed cane from his students. This was in 1867, and was given him as an appreciation for his kindness and service to the Columbus High School.

FIRST girl scout in Franklin Co. to hold the rank of the Golden Eagle was a Miss Morris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Morris, 1192 Hunter Ave., then a member of the North High graduating class of 1925.

FIRST local case of excusing a known married student from attending the public school was a girl from a South end elementary school in 1895.

Future Teachers' Clubs throughout the Columbus high schools FIRST took over the duties of teachers, grades one, two and three, for the week of Nov. 3, 1952.

An enterprising teacher back in 1907, when a typhoid epidemic hit the community, hit upon the idea of transmitting the assignments and hearing the lessons of two of her students, who had succumbed to the disease, by telephone. They graduated.

John H. Melvin installed the FIRST radios in the Columbus schools. At Reeb Ave. in the 1920s they made all the equipment by hand; the PTA there helped finance the cost of the supplies.

WCBE was officially "on the air" for the FIRST time, Sept. 1956. Superintendent Eibling was the FIRST speaker. Thousands of youngsters gathered around FM sets in classrooms throughout the city to hear that FIRST broadcast. The FIRST programs, running 15 minutes each, covered Ohio History, adventures in research, music discussions, talks on books and interviews with foreign students. JOHN H. SITTIG was the FIRST director of WCBE.

It was a FIRST in Oct. 1958, when Samuel J. Williams, teacher at Roosevelt Junior High, and his class sent a recording of "America the Beautiful" to the Kremlin. The Reds acknowledged receipt of the record and agreed to play it for its people.

An innovation in the form of a wireless telegraphy experiment was performed by two students at East High class day exercises in 1906. For the FIRST time demonstrations featured class exercises in the public schools. Ray Cochran and Malcolm Miller, 1906 graduates from East, showed how the wireless they manufactured worked. Another demonstration for the commencement audience this year was the portrayal of an old New England town meeting. Eda Kieffer was narrator.

Columbus Public Schools launched their FIRST complete course in educational TV for Elementary Schools in Feb. 1959. At that time 1800 sixth graders in 60 of the city's school classrooms turned on Channel 34 for a FIRST in a 15 week series of half-hour elementary science programs. The next day a roughly equal number repeated the process.

South High School, pioneer in use of radio for teaching, became another FIRST in TV in April 1955, when a closed circuit television station was completed.

It is probably the FIRST of its kind in the nation. By thrifty saving and planning for three years, the school itself purchased extensive equipment, camera, monitors and TV sets for receiving. E. S. Stauffer, teacher there, who pioneered the radio installation at South, also did the TV project there.

FIRST Columbus woman in 30 years, Mrs. Mildred Bickel, a member of the Columbus Board of Education, heads Ohio's PTA. This was in Sept. 1949.

South High teachers and students saw the world series, Brooklyn and New York, play the world series on TV: another FIRST in Oct. 1949.

FIRST inter-high school symphony orchestra, composed of the best high school musicians in the city and county, was planned by the Junior Board of the Columbus Philharmonic Orchestra in Oct. 1949.

The Trooping Theatre of the Junior League of Columbus dramatic committee brought "Cinderella" to the schools FIRST in Oct. 1949.

North High dedicates its FIRST Radio Unit in Nov. 1949. The cost \$4000.

Russian propaganda in schools was ordered confiscated and impounded by Superintendent Fawcett in Dec. 1949.

FIRST directors of two new departments, coordinator of curriculum and in-service and director of radio and audio-visual programs, were appointed by the School Board in April 1950. Paul Klohr headed the former, C. Harold Tabler, the latter. Tabler's resignation, because of ill health, vacated the post, and John Sittig, from South High, was made the assistant director of radio and audio-visual education in August 1950.

Miss Helen Sandfort, art teacher at Indianola Junior High School, was named in August 1950 as the FIRST director of fine arts for the city schools.

FIRST Ohio charter in Junior Achievement by the National JA group came to Columbus in Sept. 1950. FIRST Board chairman was Frank Williams, who later was a member of the Board of Education for 16 years, beginning in 1954.

FIRST chest x-rays in the Columbus High School began in Sept. 1950. X-rays were given all students 15 and older in the six Columbus high schools, and was financed by the Columbus TB Society from money received in the 1949 Christmas Seal sale. The plan was furnished without cost also to all school employees.

FIRST all-city band was organized in the local schools in 1951.

FIRST conversion of the Greenlawn Veterans' Housing Project into classrooms by the Board of Education was effected in 1951.

FIRST local winner, and one of 400 throughout the nation, of the \$5000 scholarship to the General Motors Training School, Flint, Michigan, was South High graduate, 17 year old John Wright in Jan. 1951.

The PTA made UN flags, and presented them to every school in Columbus and Franklin County in 1950. They were 3 x 5, indoor types.

South High's Kennel Club was a FIRST. It was founded in 1937 by the club's advisor, Miss Ellen Boyer.

The Community Junior Theater series of the Columbus Junior started a move, that began for the FIRST in 1943, of bringing the shows to the different regional high schools.

Carl Smith was the FIRST physical education teacher hired in Columbus. This was in 1918. He was coach at Starling Junior High throughout the school's history to 1963 when he retired.

FIRST donations, en masse, by teachers, of Red Cross blood were made in 1950.

North High Teacher, Art Kiefer, was Ohio State's FIRST winner of the Western Conference medal for athletics and scholarship, back in 1915.

FIRST organ in a Columbus school dedicated to the memory of the 89 South High servicemen who lost their lives in World War II, 1950.

Only girl drummer in a city high school band - and certainly among the FIRST in the history of the Columbus schools was a South High junior, Nancy Matteson, in 1951.

FIRST records in high school golf were shattered when Carl Spangler's North High gold teams took three successive championships - in 1944, 45 & 46.

FIRST lady bus driver was Mrs. Irene Linnear, N. Starr Ave., who was employed by the Columbus Board of Education in 1923.

For the FIRST time, graduates of the June class 1951, wore caps and gowns for commencement.

FIRST widespread use of marijuana in Columbus high schools reported in August, 1951. 100 known users are listed by schools: East High was in the lead. (j. 8-7-51)

The Columbus Education Association's FIRST picnic for teachers and principals in Sept. 1951 at Oak Park, Sunbury Rd. catered largely to the newcomers on the faculty roster.

Central High School published its FIRST yearbook since 1929 in 1952.

11th Ave. School pioneered a traffic safety plan in 1923, when one of the students returning from school was run over by an auto and fatally injured.

For the FIRST time, a Columbus high school won the Hildesheim vase given out for outstanding work in classical studies. West High was the recipient in January 1952.

FIRST sight-savings plan adopted by the Board of Education in Jan. 1952. Two sight-saving teachers on roving assignments to all the schools were named by the Board. Walter Bohl, Supervisor of Special Education, outlined the program. Mrs. Mary Barthman was the FIRST roving eye-saving teacher named; and a full time sight-saving class at Hubbard school was maintained under the supervision of Miss Nellie Orebaugh.

Alice Roland, Roosevelt Junior High, was the FIRST scholar in Columbus to receive the Franklin Co. Historical Society's FIRST certificate of merit award in Jan. 1952. Her scrapbook on Columbus and Franklin Co. history merited the award.

FIRST mass air-flight by Columbus and Franklin Co. teachers (20) on a week-end trip in Feb. 1952, to St. Louis was sponsored by the National Aviation Education Council where an education conference was held.

Oakland Park School, which opened in Feb. 1952, was the FIRST of the "master plan" new schools.

The FIRST kitchen, per se, in a Columbus school was opened at Mound St. School in 1893.

FIRST traffic court case deciding authority of the Columbus School Patrol hearing was held in Sept. 1953. Mrs. Ella Bowers, 40, allegedly ran down the flag of a patrol boy at Fifth and Neil Aves. She was fined \$25 and costs. Court backspowers of the schoolboy patrols. Judge Rodney Ross, ex-South High teacher, heard the case, and found the lady guilty.

FIRST mother-son team teaching in Columbus schools, was scheduled at Douglas School in Sept. 1953. Mrs. Ethel Teeple and her son James F. Teeple teamed at the sixth grade level.

FIRST outdoor demonstration of the reflective powers of Nite-Rays was given before several thousand gridiron fans at the McKinley-South game in Nov. 1953. The Nite Rays were materials that reflected at night, and were used as safety signs.

The Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts stages its FIRST Central Ohio High School Exhibit, in Jan. 1954; Columbus schools and pupils got generous awards.

The FIRST TV classroom art workshop took to the air, in Feb. 1954.

FIRST new style diplomas (encased in leather and of the portable type) were given high school graduates in June 1954.

Columbus Practical Nursing School was granted accreditation, for the FIRST, in May 1954.

Dr. W. H. Scott (former president of Ohio State University) in dedicating the new Clinton School in 1924, gave a speech here FIRST that was accepted as a dedicatory format for schools throughout the nation. School men throughout the nation requested copies of the celebrated speech.



The 1800 boys and girls of the school safety patrol started wearing white gloves for the FIRST time, when on duty. A pair for each of them was presented by the Columbus Auto Club in Nov. 1955.

Ohio's FIRST State School Board met in Columbus, for the FIRST, Jan. 3, 1956. Paul L. Walker was the FIRST from the 12th District, Franklin County.

Central High teacher, H. H. Priest, never missed one day in teaching during his 53 years of teaching - 45 of them in Columbus. This was his record down to retirement in Jan. 1957, and probably a FIRST.

Novice G. Fawcett was the FIRST Columbus School superintendent to become president of Ohio State University. He was appointed in June 1956.

The FIRST dedication of a Columbus High School since the opening of Linden-McKinley in 1928 was the new Eastmoor Junior-Senior High School, dedicated in Sept. 1956. Dr. Harold Eibling, who had just begun his duties as school superintendent in Columbus, was the principal speaker.

X Final exams - abandoned in Columbus as a grading device in the 1920s - were resumed in the Columbus high schools in January 1956 for the FIRST.

For the FIRST time an American History contest was sponsored by the DAR for elementary school-age children. This was in 1954: Main St. School won first prize.

Pamphlets and posters "selling" Columbus as a city in which to live happily were distributed throughout the country by Columbus schools in their search for more fine teachers, back in 1955. Coordinator of teacher personnel, I. F. Young, spearheaded the movement.

Everett Junior High home economics course expanded, in 1955, to include baby-sitting.

Judy Smith, 12 year old eighth grader at West Junior High, goes to Washington as Central Ohio's spelling champion in 1955.

Restaurant training course at Central High, in Sept. 1955, was a FIRST in the city schools. They served their FIRST lunch in their new tearoom at the downtown high school in Oct. 1955.

The FIRST model legislature for HI-Y and TRI-Y clubs was staged here in April, 1952. 376 delegates attended. This was Ohio's FIRST teenage model Legislature.

FIRST PTA teacher-trainee scholar in 1948, whose mother was a teacher at Franklinton school, graduated with honors from OSU in 1952, and planned to work for her master's degree before becoming a teacher. She was Margaret De Victor.

X The FIRST and only circular kindergarten room in the new Scottwood Elementary School, completed in 1958, was a perfect circle, and possibly the only one of its kind in Ohio, Gilbert Coddington, architect said.

FIRST IBM scoring machine was rented by the Board of Education, in the fall of 1958, for \$75 a month. It scored 600 "achievement and ability tests" in one hour.

For the FIRST time during the 1950's school enrollment booms, the Board of Education rented houses to provide classrooms for students. The Board authorized in Dec. 1958, rental of six new homes adjacent to the Clarfield Elementary School, 3220 Groveport Rd. The Board agreed to pay \$70 monthly rental for each home.

FIRST teacher ballot, in March 1959, by a vote of 1479 to 880, asked the Board of Education for a shorter Christmas vacation and an earlier closing of schools.

Two West High students, in 1959, won national titles. Leslie Wilson was named "National DECA Student of the Year" (also winning \$1000 cash), and Nancy Steele was named the national secretary of the organization.

FIRST Columbus school to use electronics to instruct pupils in foreign languages was Clinton Junior High. The school PTA bought two listening and recording booths for \$380 each, in April 1959. They were used for Spanish instruction.

North High School was the FIRST school in the city to have a full-time activities coordinator. Miss Meta Gregg was named to the post in 1959.

FIRST Columbus woman in a dozen years (1947-1959) to head a Columbus high school was Miss Frances Henning, who was appointed acting principal of that school, following the unexpected death of the late principal, W. W. Barlow in Aug. 1959.

In 1959, the Columbus Board of Education conducted a trial run on field trips in conservation education, a unit of study assigned to fifth grades. Special teacher, George Jenny was in charge.

Improving reading and language skills of first graders was the target of the FIRST new Division of Special Services, started in Sept. 1964. It was a compensatory program designed to reach children from economically and socially deprived neighborhoods.

Six areas of study grew out of the FIRST Neighborhood Seminars on School Program and Finance conducted in May 1963. 1,737 recommendations were made by 4000 seminar participants.

An Inservice Education Committee was appointed in Jan. 1965, by the Division of Instruction to upgrade the inservice education requirement.

Participation in the National Defense Education Act was approved by the Board for the FIRST in March, 1965.

The Columbus Teacher Procurement brochure won FIRST prize at the annual School Public Relations contest in 1964, and again in 1965. The Weekly Guide won FIRST in 1965.

The FIRST downtown Teachers Credit Union office was opened in the Seneca Hotel in 1965.

The Manpower Development Training Program was started here in January 1963.

The FIRST Med-Cat health insurance program, approved by the Board of Education, was instituted Nov. 1, 1965.

Visiting teachers began calling in 1962, at the homes of potential dropouts prior to the opening of school.

FIRST programs conducted in the inner schools in 1965 were: "Project Head Start", after school centers, and participation in an additional work-study program with the city of Columbus.

In 1957, Columbus schools initiated a program for brain injured children. Research with blind and deaf and how best they can be trained was begun in the 1920's.

The Modern Math series of textbooks, grades 1 thru 6, were approved by the Board to begin in Sept. 1966.

Ohio State University collaborated with the Columbus schools, in 1966, in the evaluation of eight projects designed to improve the quality of education in low-economic areas.

The Board took the initial step to create a technical school institute in Columbus when it passed a resolution in 1966 which requested the Ohio Board of Regents to approve a technical district consisting of the Columbus school district.

The stylized apple, FIRST used in 1964, was filed as the "service mark" with the Secretary of State in 1966.

DEPTH (Discovering, Exploring, Pursuing The Humanities) was taught in the Columbus 10 senior high schools in the mid 1960's.

The Board of Education officially established in 1967 a Columbus Public School Memorial Fund serving as a repository for gifts, donations, or bequests to the Columbus Board of Education.

The Board of Education established in 1967 for the FIRST time a maintenance and landscape operation, per se, for the beautification and care of school lawns.

The new Columbus Testing Profile, developed by the Division of Special Services, and copyrighted by the Columbus Public Schools, was introduced locally in Oct. 1967.

FIRST annual Gourd Show was staged in the halls of the Administration Building in 1963, when students entered exhibits of the vegetables, which they planted and raised from seeds.

The Board of Education's acceptance and approval of the Ohio State University's Advisory Commission report on Problems Facing the Schools was received in March, 1968.

FIRST Columbus resident to be elected president of The National School Public Relations Association, was Dr. Joseph L. Davis, assistant superintendent of Special Services. This was in April 1968.

School Information Services was split into two new departments in May 1968 - Publications and Public Affairs, and Public Information. Together with departments of Program Planning and Evaluation and Research, they comprised the administrative responsibilities of the Division of Special Services.

West High School achieved two FIRST's simultaneously, Nov. 23, 1968. The Drama Club at that school presented the classic childrens' play, "Sleeping Beauty". It was the FIRST time in Columbus schools that a cast of high school players staged a childrens' play strictly for a youthful audience.

Dr. Eibling, superintendent, was awarded The Distinguished Citizen Award in 1968 by the Central Ohio Chapter of the Public Relations Society... for developing a strong public relations program for the Columbus schools.

FIRST Board of Education regular meeting held in a Columbus high school convened in March 1969 at Marion-Franklin High School. It was a precedent-setting session. The Board hoped to fan-out to other schools for their meetings.

FIRST public discussion of the new, comprehensive testing program was aired over WBNS radio, April 13, 1968, as a part of the Education Coalition Report.

Dr. Harold Eibling was the FIRST EDUCATOR to receive the Liberty Bell Award in 1964; Jack Gibbs, principal of East High, was the second educator, in 1968. The annual award was given by the Columbus Bar Association.

Dr. Harold Eibling was honored in 1968, as president-elect of the American Association of School Administrators.

FIRST three winners of the Valley Forge Awards from the professional staff of the Columbus Public Schools were: Miss Mary Baker in 1959, and Edwin S. Stauffer and Mrs. Evora Parkison, the following year. Clinton Elementary and Crestview Junior were school winners in 1958.

Among school children in six states who tuned in on the FIRST test lesson of the Midwestern program on Airborne TV instruction May 15, 1961, were fifth and sixth graders at Clinton Elementary School. Installation for special equipment for the FIRST was supervised at Clinton by PTA President Charles Widney, a TV engineer.

Harold Nelson, teacher at Dominion Junior High School, was the FIRST Columbus classroom teacher ever named to the State Teachers Retirement System, and the second classroom teacher elected to the Retirement Board. This was in 1962.

Columbus Public Schools made the FIRST move to retrain unemployed persons in the Columbus area, back in Jan. 1963. A class was begun at Walnut Ridge Junior-Senior High School. 20 enrolled, with ages 18 to 45. Clinton Tasch was the FIRST coordinator of the novel program.

FIRST three Columbus Schools that held memberships in the North Central Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges were East, North and South. All three members since 1905.

The FIRST and only program of its kind in the state at helping homemakers in public housing projects was started in 1962 at the Lincoln Park community and coordinated through the Industrial Arts office of the Board of Education, with sponsors the State Department of Education and the Metropolitan Housing Authority. Two courses were taught at the Lincoln Park Facility: Stretching the Dollar, and Making and Re-making clothing.

FIRST in the nation was a training program instituted June 10, 1962, under the sponsorship of the Columbus Public Schools and the Ohio State Service for the Blind. 24 blind students from all over the state enrolled for a 13 week program. Ages ranged from 18 to 59. MDTA coordinator Carleton Bankes engineered the program.

Lay readers, drawn from the ranks of former teachers and professional writers, assisted for the FIRST in 1966, in grading themes for English teachers.

Centers to provide medical and dental services for all school children (\$231,000 in Federal Funds used) were set up at these schools in 1966: Barrett, Everett, Starling and Champion Junior Highs. (Incidentally, these four schools were named in honor of prominent Columbus citizens).

The ICE Council of 17, was created by the Board of Education in Jan. 1965. Its purpose was to study and advise the Board on racial problems.

Dr. Eibling tossed out the FIRST spade-full of soil, prior to the planting ceremonies of historical flowering dogwood, from the famed Yorktown battlefield, in Virginia, at Yorktown School in April 1967.

The FIRST educational documentary, in color, over WBNS-TV, was shown in April 1967. Dr. Eibling served on a panel with several other central Ohio school heads.

Guidelines on SEX EDUCATION from the Office of Assistant Superintendent L. W. Huber on May 15, 1967, were the FIRST ever provided to teachers and principals in the Columbus schools on this once tabooed subject.

For the FIRST time, Columbus High School graduation invitations were printed with the wrong date. The mistake was discovered when received by the students in May 1967.

The Columbus Testing Profile, a graphic representation of a pupil's ability and achievement, was approved as a testing instrument for the FIRST in June 1967.

School Board, for the FIRST in 1968, adopts 50 changes, recommended by the OSU study.

The FIRST one-floor junior high school for Columbus was in the making in 1956, Hamilton Junior, later named Linmoor Junior High School.

In 1878, Miss Mary E. Knight completed the Columbus High School course, and became the FIRST black person in Columbus to earn this distinction.

Columbus was the only Ohio city in 1904 to employ black teachers for white children.

"The FIRST joint meeting of the city and county teachers" was held in Nov. 1899 at Central High School (Sixth and Broad Sts.). Principal Albright presided. He addressed the 450 teachers on the subject, "The Columbus Teacher - His Relations and Opportunities."