

The Next 13 years (1941 – 1954)

Sharon R. Mote came to the Wahpeton School on February 7, 1941 and remained until August 1945. He was responsible for organizing the Student Government Association, which is still an active organization on the campus. Beautiful school gardens were much in evidence at, this time and the produce helped supply fresh vegetables for the children's menus.

Homer L. Morrison took charge of the school on August 1, 1945, to remain until 1949. Mr. Morrison retired from the Indian Bureau and together with Mrs. Morrison, made their home in Tacoma, Wash.

On September 29, 1946, J. W. Wellington, then Supervisor of Farms and Dairies of, the Washington Office, visited the Indian School Campus for the purpose to evaluate the desirability of farming and dairy activities in the school program. At this time, the Wahpeton School had the best dairy herd in the Indian Service. Superintendent Morrison and Mr. Wellington concluded: milk could be purchased cheaper locally than by producing it at the school; students were not receiving enough academic training to warrant the many hours spent in taking care of the herd and agricultural activities (the students at that time were only spending one-half day in the classroom); and very few students followed or entered into the dairy business subsequently, on January 2, 1947, in 26' below zero weather, the dairy herd was shipped to Indian boarding schools at Chilocco, Okla., and Albuquerque, N. M.

With the retirement, of the dairy herd and reducing the agricultural activities to a minimum the student's classroom schedule was then changed from, 1/2 day to a full day of academic training. From that point henceforth there has been a continuing program emphasizing the academic work. The number of students who have continued on to high school and others to college and institutions of higher learning has increased greatly since that time.

With the agricultural program dropped from the school program, equipment, buildings and, land holdings connected with this program were put up for sale on bids. The following concerns received parcels of farm land adjacent to the school campus: Wahpeton Cemetery Association In 1956; State School of Science in 1957 in return for this land, the Science School through Federal Public Service Law 8525, will provide 10 scholarships per year for 10 years to qualified Indian students in the form of tuition scholarships; the City of Wahpeton in 1959 received as a direct grant a parcel of land of some 14 acres west of the campus between the highway and the railroad track to be used for educational and recreational purposes. (PRESENT SITE OF STERNS HOCKEY ARENA AND WATER TOWER)

Herbert C. Calhoun was transferred from the Pierre Indian School to the Wahpeton School, in the summer of 1949. The enrollment was again increased and many improvements were made in the employees' quarters during his administration.

The school's first May festival was instigated at that, time and has become an annual event. Mr. Calhoun retired in 1954.

Ole B. **Sande** was appointed in 1954 to be the next superintendent. He was intensely interested in the personal welfare of the students. A major project at that time was the improvements made in the children's dining hall. After a period of three years, Mr. Sande was transferred to the Area Office in Aberdeen, S. D., (June 1957) to the position of Assistant Area Director. Wahpeton folks will long remember Mr. Sande for his active interest in the church and civic affairs of this community.