

1977

# U S

*intah*  
*chool*

*TIMES*

**FREE**

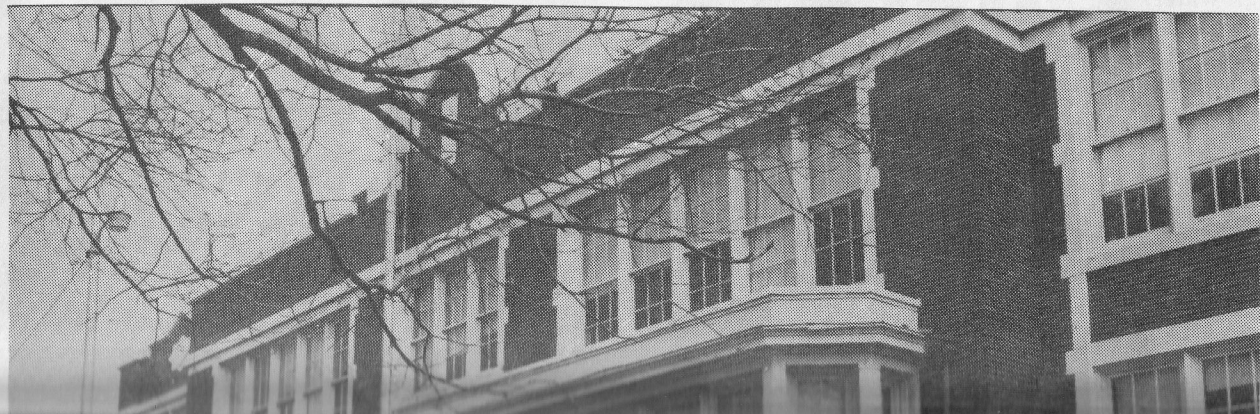
VOLUME ONE

Salt Lake City, Utah, May, 1977

Number One

## **UINTAH SCHOOL'S HISTORY-1915-1940**

In 1915, many people predicted that Uintah School wouldn't be a successful school. The school, which was built in 1915, had to get children from all over the city because the residences were so scattered in this region. So optimistic of the future of the school and district that the real estate companies furnished ties with the street car company to take children to school. The first principal of the school was Fred E.



the school was Fred B. Keeler, who stayed just one year.

It was a motley crowd that first came to the doors of Uintah School. Some came because of the beauty and newness of the building. Others came because they were not welcome in other schools and they believed that they would find a new opportunity at Uintah.

At the suggestion of Superintendent, D.M. Christensen, the spelling of the school was changed from U-i-n-t-a to U-i-n-t-a-h during the first year.

In 1916, A.B. Kesler was assigned to be the principal of Uintah. He began several movements which have become a part of the whole school system.

In those days, the winds from the canyons swept across the fields ferociously. The east winds, carrying the snow from the mountains, would drift it level with the high yard and pack it solid across the street. There were snow fences along Fifteenth East but they were no defense against the terrific wind. Street cars were stalled several blocks away and only by holding on to the fences could one reach the school. Many hats were lost: many feet were frostbitten; and many teachers fell exhausted after reaching the door. Some times the blizzards began in the day. School was dismissed so that children could go home. Small children were tied to larger ones so they would not get lost in the storm.

It was in 1916 that Frank Bagley of the Clover Leaf Dairy sent a few bottles of

milk to the school daily for his daughter and her cousins. Within five years, the idea of sending milk to school had spread well over the city. Lunch was often delayed awaiting for the milk wagon. Mr. Kesler was a friend to all and the faculty enjoyed his spirit. They provided entertainment and community singing while the hungry kids waited for the milk and butter rolls to arrive.

At the time of World War I, Uintah bought a Baby Bond and one each of the three Liberty Loan Bonds. In 1922, these were sold and with the proceeds, there was purchased the first motion picture machine ever owned by an elementary school in the city. Suitable pictures were scarce, but every available source was used; the University of Utah; University of Chicago; and the Eastman Foundation all contributed their bit. The local film distributors and theatre managers were very generous and many good

pictures were shown during noon hour that had to be returned to theatres in time for the afternoon performance.

Where the east building now stands, there was developed a war garden. Vegetables suitable for canning were planted and harvested by the children. From this simple beginning came a planting movement for which Uintah School became famous. It became one of the beauty spots of the city. Seeds were sold at school; flower bulbs were made available, as well as rose bushes and other shrubs. The beautiful gardens were an inspiration to homeowners to beautify their own grounds.

As a result of this came the School Fair and Garden Show. This annual event was held in the auditorium up to the year 1933. Baskets, vases, bouquets of flowers, prize fruits and vegetables filled the halls. Silver loving cups, blue, red and white

ribbons, and cards of honorable mention were presented to the children as awards.

In 1927, because of the growing population of the east bench, the east building was built.

In 1933, Miss Lois Anderson became principal of the school. She recognized the need for a school library and consulted the PTA to see if funds could not be used. On February 12, 1934, each parent was invited to contribute 10¢ for each child toward a library fund. This netted over \$100. The Board of Education appropriated a similar sum and in 1935, a library with a fulltime librarian was made available to the school.

The important event in 1935 was the Indian Pow-Wow. This was inspired by our Indian name. The campus became an Indian Village. Over a thousand spectators enjoyed an evening performance under the floodlights which lighted the scene.

The PTA has been very generous in supplying equipment to the school. It has supplied the school before 1940 with the curtain for the stage, three radios, a duplicating machine, a recording radio and several sets of encyclopedias.

## *Disease Strikes*

Last February, there was an outbreak of flu in the school. Doctors say that it was influenza B. Many other schools have had these outbreaks. In fact, 28 other states have reported similar outbreaks. In some schools, absentee rates went up to 30%. This flu case has mainly seemed to strike school children. Few adults have had it. In each school, the symptoms are similar with fever, cough and sore throat.

