A Brief History of Franklin School

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A BRIEF HISTORY
OF
FRANKLIN SCHOOL

By
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1950

History 390
Dr. Waller
SHIELD
Franklin School (1891, 1921), grades 1-6. One unit of the older type, the other more recent. An elementary school in the southwestern part of the city, capacity about 600.
Old historical landmarks have a peculiar fascination for the majority of people. The Franklin School of El Paso is such a landmark. This old four-room building, with its quaint little tower and "Owl" decoration is still in use. Where the owl came from, whose idea it was, how long it has been there, no one seems to know but - there it is!

To all appearances the front of the building is the same as when it was built, but "old timers," whether Franklin pupils or not, know better. There were five or six steps that once led to the entrance. No one remembers when the lots were filled up and the steps covered so that the entrance would be on a level with the street. Mrs. Lilly Smith Howard, a retired teacher and principal from the City's Public School System, says: "I used to live on Santa Fe Street but was neither a pupil nor a teacher in Franklin, but I do remember the steps well because most of my 'courting' was done on those school steps."¹

¹ Interview with Mrs. Lilly Smith Howard, former Principal of Lincoln Park School, December 18, 1950.

Formerly Leon Street was at least three feet below its present level. There are several old houses opposite the Watkins Motor Company on Leon Street where one has to take five or six steps down in order to get to the front door. In bygone days,
these houses were on the same street level with the school. Later, however, the streets in that vicinity were raised or filled in to equal the downtown area street level. The drab, dilapidated, sunken houses and a few dump holes that are still left do not present an attractive appearance but the property is very valuable. Business concerns would like to buy them and perhaps in the not too distant future all that section will be warehouses, parking lots, or automobile establishments.

Few schools have been in the public eye or caused such furor as Franklin. In the "good old days" it held the enviable position now held by the ultra-modern Hillside School.

The exact date of the building of Franklin School has always been a matter of controversy. Both Franklin and Bailey claim the distinction of being the older school. For years Bailey was called Mesa and that may have been the cause for some of the confusion. Franklin, on the other hand, was called the Ward School for only a few months. Principals, teachers, pupils, and citizens of El Paso to this day claim one or the other as the older school but few people really know.

We were privileged to look through some of Major Burges' interesting old records and scrapbooks and fortunately found the following item from the El Paso Morning Times of June 3, 1891:

At a regular meeting of the school board last night, the four schools of the city were named: The Myrtle Avenue school, the Central; the one north of the Southern Pacific railroad, Mesa, the new school
in the First Ward, Franklin; and the colored school on South Kansas Street, Douglas. 2


The fact that the "new school" was named Franklin is proof enough that the Mesa School had been built earlier. It is not our purpose to give proof as to which school was the older, what we were searching for was the date on which this school was built. The architect's name was E. Krause, but in a fire which took place many years ago all his records were lost, 3 and we have to be satisfied with bits of information garnered here and there. We also looked through old school records and under the date of March 7, 1891, we found that Warrant Number 179 was issued for the amount of one thousand dollars as the first payment to Spencer and Rattenburg on the First Ward School. 4 Here again we have the date 1891 as the year the school was built. At a meeting of the Board of Trustees held September 11, 1891, a motion was made and carried

3 Interview with Miss Annie Grady, former Principal of Franklin School, November 7, 1950.

4 Records of Warrants upon the Treasury issued by the Board of Education in the City of El Paso, Texas, beginning August 1890, p. 28.
"to pay the balance due Spencer and Hattenburg on Franklin School." The total cost of the building was fifteen thousand dollars. Again in the minutes of September 7, 1891, we find that Miss Florence G. Thornton was elected principal of the new Franklin School with a personnel of three teachers. This is the first time we found in school records the name Franklin given to the First Ward School.

Franklin Coonts, El Paso's first postmaster, was given the privilege of naming the Post Office. He called it "Franklin" and Franklin remained the official name until the city was chartered. It was through the efforts of Anson Mills, a leading citizen, that the name "El Paso" was given to our city, although to this day old Juarez residents and many Mexicans living three or four hundred miles south of the border still call El Paso, Franklin. The name of Franklin Coonts, however, is not forgotten,

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5 Board Minutes. September 1891 to April 1892, p. 2.


8 Interview with Mrs. J. Burges Perrenot, November 17, 1950.
we still honor his memory - a mountain range, a canal, a street, and a school bear his name.

The Board of Education was generous from the beginning. Less than one month after school opened, the superintendent was authorized to buy unabridged dictionaries for Franklin and of greater importance was the fact that the External Committee authorized the buying of stoves to heat the building.

The evening paper of May 18, 1892, carried a short item telling of an entertainment given by the Franklin School at the First Baptist Church for the purpose of raising funds for the school library. There was no helpful P. T. A. in those days.

It was the "untiring," faithful and enterprising teachers that worked the project out. Not six months later a similar item appeared in the paper. This was a musical entertainment arranged by the teachers of the Public Schools for the benefit of Franklin School. The notice is as follows:

The book reception to be given tonight at the district court room for the benefit of the Franklin school library, promises much by way of a pleasing
entertainment. No admission fee is charged, but the promoters will esteem it a courteous act and at the same time do substantial good if the commers will contribute a book. In addition to the following program the McGinty Band will furnish music:

Programme

Quarter...Messrs. Bevan, Easterly, England and Parker
Solo .................. "The Nightingale"
Miss Ainsa
Solo .................. "Love's Sorrow"
Miss Rose
Solo .............. Selected ...... Mrs. Lander
Duet ....................... Selected
Miss Doane and Mr. Easterly
Solo
Cornet Obligato .................. "Answered"
Mrs. F. B. Brown and Mr. Brown
High School Quartette .............. "An Old Song"
Misses Shelton, Trumble, Ullman and Jones
Solo ....................... "Queen of the Night"
Miss Longuemare
Solo ....................... "A Day Dream"
Miss Trumble12

12 Ibid. December 19, 1892, 4:4.

The result of the musical appeared in the paper the following night:
The book reception, in behalf of the Franklin school library, as given at the court house last night, was well appreciated, 127 books being added to the collection. A musical entertainment was given consisting of solos, duets and quartettes, in which local musicians, assisted by pupils of the school, took part. The McGinty Band furnished choice selections, and taking the entertainment entire, it was both successful and interesting. 13


For some time the building up of the library was of chief importance to the patrons and teachers of the school.

In January the El Paso Herald carried this news item:

A visit to the Franklin School library disclosed a delightful little room on the second floor of the building of which the school may well be proud. The room is circular in shape. The floor is newly carpeted and the pretty curtains and pictures just hung add much to its appearance. On the north side are the shelves with neat glass doors set in the wall; containing good books. Below the book shelves are the shelves for curiosities of all kinds and specimens of minerals, a modest collection of which is already begun. The interest taken by the children in their late acquisition is all absorbing. 14


Well meaning citizens, from time to time, would donate books from their own collection. Books "suitable for a school library" - perhaps, but certainly not for pupils in grades from the first through the fourth. Dr. Justice gave Woods History of Uncivilized Nations and Sr. Dominguez's gift was Cooper's complete works in nine volumes. 15

15 Evening Tribune. March 8, 1893, 8:2.
The city fathers thought El Paso would grow northward, therefore the railroad tracks were laid where it was thought they would not interfere with the development of the city. The center of town was Mills Street; the Grand Central Hotel, located where the Ellanay Theatre now stands, was - well, it was comparable to the best in the Southwest. The prominent citizens lived on San Francisco and Santa Fe Streets, Magoffin Avenue, San Antonio and Franklin Streets.

It was through the efforts of these families that pressure was brought to bear and Franklin School was built in its present location.\textsuperscript{16} There were many young children in the neighborhood and their parents did not want them to attend either the old Central School nor to go to the "wild chaparral" which surrounded Mesa School.

Little Helen Newell, now Mrs. Roy Davis, lived with her father and mother in the Center Block Hotel, located near the Oasis Cafe in Pioneer Plaza, because her father needed to be close to his business. Later, however, Mr. G. W. Newell built a fine home at 110 West Franklin Street. Mrs. Newell is still living in the old residence. Children of prominent old families, Hague, Coffin, Look, Francis, and Christie to mention but a few, were among Helen's little friends and classmates at Franklin. How well she remembers her beautiful teacher, Miss Elise Haggert.

\textsuperscript{16} Interview with Miss Freda Rheinheimer, November 17, 1950.
The boys and girls in Helen's class and all the children in the school, for that matter, were very romantic and every day impatiently waited for school to be dismissed so that they could see the beautiful Miss Haggert leave the school accompanied by her "beau," Mr. Henry S. Beach. Many times the couple was followed for a few blocks. 17

17 Interview with Mrs. Roy Davis, November 20, 1950.

Mrs. E. W. Earl said her father built the Coffin residence in 1883. It was a large frame house on southeast Overland and El Paso Streets. She remembers Miss Thornton, the principal, and remembers distinctly that during recess the boys and girls played separately on the large vacant lot to the south of the school or on the open lot on the north. The favorite games for the girls were "Drop the Handkerchief" and "London Bridge." The boys generally chased each other, wrestled a bit or played ball. 18

18 Interview with Mrs. E. W. Earl, November 20, 1950.

There were only four classrooms in the building and the grades taught were from the first through the fourth. Due to the fact that fifty percent and often as high as sixty percent of the pupils were Mexicans, a teacher often taught two or three grades in one classroom, either to Anglo children or Mexican children, and not infrequently taught a class with a mixture of...
both nationalities. Miss Haggert taught such a class, second and third grades of Anglo and Mexican children. She never had any discipline problems but admitted that the little trouble she did have was caused by American children. Her little Mexican pupils were very refined and exceedingly polite, a joy to have in any school.

She used to ride a bicycle to school and wore an ankle length skirt that must have caused quite a commotion. The superintendent spoke to her about the "short" skirt and she was obliged to buy a longer skirt (one that swept the floor) for classroom use. She said, "I wore the short skirt when I rode my bicycle to school but would have to go into the cloakroom to change to the long one after I got there."

There was no supervised play, of course, but twice a day there was a twenty minute rest period. During this short recess the children would get out of the building and use their own devices and choose their own games. There seldom were any fights.

The drinking water was gotten from a hydrant but even in Franklin, the school built for the "elite," there was the community drinking cup. A few children took their own tin cups but placed them here and there and everywhere. Under such circumstances they were undoubtedly less sanitary than the community cup. There was a tiny building back of the school with two toilets for the girls and facing the opposite direction
two toilets for the boys.19

19 Interview with Mrs. Henry S. Beach, November 17, 1950.

It is interesting to note the changes a few years will bring. "On motion of Dr. F. W. Gallagher, duly seconded, the Superintendent was instructed to request the Lady teachers, as a precautionary measure against disease, not to wear dresses that touched the floor."20 A short time after this ruling was put into effect in our "progressive" city, a lovely teacher from out of town became a member of the city schools. She had always boasted of the fact that no one wore dresses as long as she did. It nearly "broke her heart" to have to wear short ones.21

20 Board Meetings. 1900, p. 233.

21 Interview with Mrs. F. H. Payne, former Principal of Franklin and Alta Vista Schools, December 5, 1950.

The public school system of El Paso was established in 1882 with an election which created El Paso and Independent District with "the schools under the management of the city through a City Board of Trustees."22 The same system prevails

Way back in the nineties the children in the lower grades were taught "readin', an' writin', an' 'rithmetic."
One of our fine principals, an all El Paso product, distinctly remembers when she went to school and attended the primary grades. The alphabet was taught to the beginners in the first grade and when a class would go to and from reading and spelling the children would sing the "A - B - C's."

Song

The time tables were sung also by the different grades as they went to and from their seats to their arithmetic class.

All the rooms had blackboards and they were used daily but the children used slates to do their work at their seats. The double slates were the pride and joy of those who possessed them and the envy of the other classmates. The scratching of the slates was a trial to the teachers and a bane to their
existence but slates were used for several years.

There was formal reading taught even in the first grade and it was a difficult task to teach the little "babies" the "name" word and the "action" word. What does the action word do? What are we talking about? etc.

For seat work colored paper was used and many little things were cut out and made. Of course, plenty of paste was used. Some children ate the paste - as they do now.\(^{23}\)

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\(^{23}\) Interview with Miss Gertrude Higgins, former Principal of Alamo School, October 26, 1950.

An innovation was introduced in the city schools by the principal, Mr. W. H. Savage. He employed three special teachers for the "finer things of life." Miss Mary E. Gates for drawing, Miss Mary J. Stanton for penmanship, and our beloved Mrs. W. R. Brown, nee Kate Moore, for music. Miss Moore, El Paso's first music teacher, was the first music teacher in the public schools of Texas.\(^{24}\) Headquarters for these fine teachers were in the old Central School. From there they would make the rounds of the schools to teach their respective subjects.

Mr. Savage stressed discipline, but claimed that to spare the rod and spoil the child was antiquated, and that discipline should be secured through love and kindness.\(^{25}\)

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Corporal punishment was later permitted.

When Franklin first opened its doors in 1891 there were about 125 pupils enrolled. Kindergarten was coming to the foreground but not as an established fact. A special meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to "consider the matter of renting a room in Franklin School for the Kindergarten enterprise." It was unanimously decided to let the room free of charge.\(^{26}\) This Kindergarten in Franklin School was the first in the State of Texas.\(^{27}\)

The following September, however, the schools were again overcrowded and Franklin could not spare the room for Kindergarten. So many children were attending that it was suggested that in order to relieve the congestion the state law be enforced "and stick to the scholastic age of eight years."\(^{28}\)

It was not until 1894 that the modern school system of El Paso really began. It was during Mr. G. P. Putnam's first year as superintendent of schools that he organized the schools into Primary, the first three grades; Intermediate, the next four grades; and High School, the last four grades.\(^{29}\) This system

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\(^{26}\) Board Meetings. 1890-1891, p. 11.


\(^{28}\) El Paso Herald, September 15, 1892, 1:6.

is in use today.

Although education was not compulsory there were some requisites. Any resident children "between the ages of six and nineteen were allowed to attend school free. Evidence of a satisfactory vaccination was required. A pupil could be punished corporally, suspended or expelled for misconduct; habitual tardiness or absence resulted in suspension. After an absence of three days a pupil was dropped and on returning was restored.

This policy was followed for a good many years until our new method of reporting attendance came into effect in 1930-31. A pupil was promoted on an average of seventy-five in all studies."30

Here, as in all schools, pupils are promoted with a lower average. Educators are of the opinion that all children benefit from the instruction given and so oppose outright failure. Most of them approve and favor promotions - "courtesy promotions" nowadays, "social promotions," formerly.

Non-resident children had to pay tuition. "On motion the following rates tuition for pupils not entitled to free school privileges were adopted:

"For 1st grade, 2nd and 3rd $2.00 per month.
For 4th grade, 5th and 6th 2.50 per month.
For 7th grade, 8th and 9th 3.00 per month.
For 10th grade and 11th 4.00 per month.
For Kindergarten 1.50 per month."31

31 Board Meetings, September 1891 to April 1902, p. 43.
Monthly Tuition Fees in effect now:

"Elementary grades above low first - Texas residents $12.00
Elementary grades above low first, non-Texas residents $13.00
High School grades - Texas residents $20.00
High School grades - non-Texas residents $21.00
Kindergarten and low first - Texas residents $9.00
Kindergarten and low first - non-Texas residents $10.00
Nursery $8.50

"Tuition at El Paso Technical Institute varies with the cost of training and teaching and is set by the officials for different groups. Tuition is payable in advance, monthly. Four weeks constitute a month." 32


Many prominent Mexican, American, and German families from Juarez availed themselves of this opportunity and sent their children to the modern up-to-date Franklin School. In the old rosters you will find such names as Flores, Samaniego, Dominguez, Miana, McDowell, and Steymann. There were approximately forty children that came over from our neighbor city across the Rio Grande. What fun the boys and girls had! A street car load of them, talking and laughing as the little mule car jogged along. These children could not go home for lunch so they brought it with them in the morning. Again what fun they had, after eating their lunch, roaming and exploring around the sand hills close by. A favorite haunt was the vacant lots where the Union Depot stands. One day many workmen were on the scene, the "playground" was being excavated - a depot was to be built. While digging a workman encountered some human bones - oh, how horrible; but when a woman's skull with beautiful, long, red
hair was unearthed that was more than the little boys and girls could stand. Some screamed, others cried, but all quickly left the scene of what once may have been a cemetery and never visited the spot again. 33

33 Interview with Mrs. F. Casillas, the former Paula Steymann, November 16, 1950.

Often items have appeared in the papers about planting trees34 and beautifying the grounds35 but not a blade of grass can be found nor is there a vestige of a sign of what once might have been "beautiful school grounds."

El Paso has been most fortunate in having few fires. Undoubtedly this has been due to the fact that for the past fifty years fire prevention has been stressed in the Public Schools. Dr. W. N. Vilas, when president of the school board, offered a beautiful United States Flag as a prize to the school making the best record in fire drills. Mayor Sweeney and the Board of Education made a tour of the schools for the purpose of deciding the contest. 36 The markings were made on the basis

36 Ibid. December 15, 1908. 7:4.
of the number of exits to the number of pupils. Franklin and Douglass School were close—it was only a matter of seconds—but Franklin was judged the winner.\footnote{37}

\footnote{37} Ibid. December 16, 1908. 6:3.

A most appropriate date was selected for the raising of the flag. Mrs. Mary Ross Keister, a descendant of Betsy Ross, raised the flag on February 22, 1909, before a large audience which included the mayor, several councilmen and members of the school board. The flag staff was secured by the Daughters of the American Revolution. The flag staff still stands on the grounds. Mayor Sweeney was the Master of Ceremonies. The opening number was the singing of America by all present, then Judge Eyler gave a talk. What an impressive sight when Mrs. Keister hoisted the flag. From the very top of the staff as the flag was unfurled, a shower of five hundred little flags fell from within the folds of the handsome emblem. What a scramble, especially among the children, to gather the little flags. For the closing number the audience sang the Star Spangled Banner, after which the school was opened and a reception was held for the visitors. Children dressed as George and Martha Washington served punch. Mrs. Mamie Patterson was the principal.\footnote{38}

\footnote{38} Ibid. February 22, 1909. 3:6.
In the School Trustee election of April 1, 1907, Franklin was used as a voting precinct for the first time. To this day it has remained a voting precinct for the various city elections. It was also used, as were all schools, in 1942 to ration sugar.

Judging by the number of teachers employed, the enrollment of the school has varied greatly from year to year. In 1908 only four teachers were employed, in 1909, however, seventeen teachers were on the staff.

In the Board Minutes of August 1910 we found this item with regard to establishing the school boundary of Franklin:

"All pupils below grade five residing South of the A. H. and S. A. tracks and West of El Paso Street as far south as the river report at Franklin School. Pupils in this district above grade four report at San Jacinto School." The redistricting of the schools was to avoid overcrowding but when the district lines were enforced some dissatisfaction was manifested.

When school opened in September it was practically a
Mexican school and it is quite apparent that the American parents were not too satisfied with the situation, as is evidenced by the following testimony in the Minutes of September 1910:

"Verbal communications from Mr. Crozier was to the effect that parents living in the Franklin and Beall School districts objected to sending American children to these schools and asked permission to send them to San Jacinto School. Mr. Peabody suggested that this be granted provided the San Jacinto School was not overcrowded which Mr. Crozier stated was not the case at present. Motion was made that American children in Franklin and Alamo districts be allowed to attend San Jacinto. Superintendent Crozier stated that all those at Beall would ask the same privilege and that San Jacinto would not be able to accommodate them. Motion was amended to include also the Beall School. In this form the motion carried."\(^{42}\)

\(^{42}\) Ibid. September 11, 1910.

The redistricting of the schools was to relieve overcrowding. Franklin did receive some benefit. When the school opened in September her enrollment had fallen to 189 children.\(^{43}\)

\(^{43}\) Board Meetings. May 23, 1911 to June 29, 1912. Vol. II. Meeting September 2, 1911.

In the Spring term of 1914 Franklin was again overcrowded with 290 students. All the rooms were on half-day sessions.
The first grade was a mixture of American, Mexican, Italian, and Chinese children. None but the Americans could speak any English, and the little ones would often get restless.

Victrolas were coming into popularity for school use and Franklin was fortunate in receiving a gift of one from the W. C. T. U. To quiet the tots the teacher frequently played selections on the Victrola. Traumerei so affected the class that nearly all wept aloud when it was played but it remained a great favorite.44


The following year the enrollment was still greater, 430 pupils using the same four classrooms. The principal tried an experiment of shorter hours with fewer children in order to give the individual child more attention. There were three shifts; from eight to eleven, from eleven to two, and from two to five and no recess. The Gary System was introduced in the city schools but due to these shifts it was not put into effect in Franklin. Miss Glenn, the principal, started another innovation. Somehow or other she had managed to get a shower installed in the room to the left as you enter the building. Any of the girls who wished to bathe could do so in the morning, the boys used the shower in the afternoon.45 Strange as it may

see, it was quite popular.

The first year Miss Glenn headed the Franklin Faculty, the school was an "Anglo" school but it did not remain that for long. Poor, dirty, little, undernourished Mexican children from Heaven alone knows where, enrolled in large numbers. It took two days for the principal and a woman she got to help her, to delouse forty children. The school did not have any modern facilities, and the water used was heated in large lard cans over open fires back of the school. One would think the parents of those little ragamuffins would appreciate that their little offsprings were completely clean once, and they were but there was one complaint - one mother was afraid her child might die from the use of the water.

In 1950 if children of any nationality, American, Mexican, German, or Italian, etc., are found with unclean heads, we have doctors, nurses and hygienists to clear the unsanitary condition.

Miss Glenn's greatest problem was the congestion in her school. She was at a loss as to where to put the children. She went to the Board of Education and begged that something be done to relieve the situation. She was told that if she could find a place anywhere near the school, the Board would be glad to pay rent for two rooms. She got it! A long room on South Overland Street, probably a warehouse, was secured and made into two classrooms but they were filled immediately and still more room was needed.

The first Kahn Bakery was located on the corner of Leon
and Overland Streets. Three years after Miss Glenn took charge of Franklin the bakery moved to another location and the School Board secured the old bakery building and made three more classrooms, but there seemed to be no amelioration, children were still enrolling. This was at the time of the "Mexican War." Children of our American soldiers that were stationed here and lived close by, and many children of Mexican families (refugees) in Juarez, came to school to Franklin. What trying times these were for the teachers!

Civic-minded women of the wealthy, aristocratic class (also refugees from Mexico) were most helpful and generous in feeding their poor little compatriots. Among these, and really at the head of this project, was beautiful Mrs. Alberto Madero (sister-in-law to Francisco Madero, the President of Mexico). Mrs. Alberto Madero and several of her friends daily donated a large pot of beans and many loaves of bread to feed the hungry children. Tin cups, later replaced by tin plates and spoons were also donated. These women brought the big pot of steaming hot beans to the little tower room on the second floor which served as the principal's office and library and it was here Miss Glenn dispensed the food. A few of the most needy children from each classroom were "formally" invited to have lunch with the principal. It was pitiful to see the eagerness with which the little ones accepted the invitation, and most gratifying to see them enjoy the frugal repast of beans and
bread. Without a doubt this was El Paso's first "soup kitchen." 46

46

Interview with Mrs. Mable G. Gray, former Principal of Franklin School, January 5, 1951.

During the Punitive Expedition many American soldiers were quartered in temporary wooden barracks. When the soldiers left the border, the Board of Education bought one of these wooden structures and it was set up as a classroom back and between the "bakery" and the school proper. In the beginning, Miss Carlota Borunda had the room to herself. She taught a group of fifty or more non-English speaking children ranging in ages from seven to seventeen. From here, according to each individual's understanding and mastery of the language the student entered whatever grade he best fitted. Miss Borunda's opportunity to teach the language was splendid because she was an excellent and conscientious art teacher - she really did a man-sized job in both. She was the art teacher and an inspiration to teachers and pupils there for many years. Franklin lost a wonderful teacher and friend when she was obliged to resign because of ill health. This room was later divided into two classrooms. 47

47

Interview with Miss Freda Rheinhheimer, November 17, 1950.

Franklin had expanded considerably, and now taught through the sixth grade. Many Juarez children came to school in El Paso and the situation was getting critical. To relieve the situation
in the Public Schools and especially in Franklin the Board of Education passed a resolution that "only children of bonified American citizens who reside in Juarez be admitted to the Public Schools of El Paso."43


The school was still unable to accommodate all the pupils. One of the Franklin teachers was sent with her Sixth grade class to a room in the condemned Sunset School, also known as Neill School. This school is now a part of Technical Institute. Mrs. Alma Bartlett had several pupils in this class that were later to become famous, the most important of which were the Alonzo brothers. Luis Alonzo is none other than the handsome Gilbert Roland, ex-husband of Constance Bennett. The other brother, Francisco Alonzo, less known in the United States but well known in the Republic of Mexico, is a great producer, his brother's director and advisor, and an exceedingly wealthy man. He has not changed his name. More interesting than either of these two, however, is Gilbert Roland's chauffeur, butler, secretary, companion, etc., - Salvador Rios - but this is not a page from a Hollywood star's notebook.

Many things were required of a principal in those days. Once it rained so hard that the water was several inches deep and coming into the small classroom in the bakery. Sans shoes,
ankle deep in water, Miss Glenn and the janitor bailed the children out and built a temporary dam to keep the water from coming in.

As stated before, the little tower room was the office and library. During Miss Glenn's principalship another generous patron made a valuable gift to the library - a beautiful set of law books. How interesting! How widely read those books must have been!

A most unusual thing was taking place in the office. The 'phone was always found on the floor and no one knew how it got there. The Ford agency was building an establishment across the street from the school and there was hammering going on all day long. Somehow or other this hammering caused a vibration which moved the 'phone and it fell off the desk many times during the day, but no one was ever present when it happened. It happened once too often, the mystery was eventually solved and the floor became the permanent locality for the telephone. If anyone of "importance" came into the office an explanation was always forthcoming in answer to a quizzical expression on the visitor's face when, after using the 'phone, it was put down on the floor again.

Once there was a carnival held in the vacant lot next to the school. The calliope played all day long, drumming up trade, of course. How could anything be accomplished under those conditions! The principal went to the School Board and requested that the menace be removed - nothing could be done,
the Carnival Company had paid the rent to the city for the vacant lot - and anyway they would be gone in two weeks. Two whole weeks with shrill steam whistles blowing all day long!

At another time there was a street show in this vacant lot. A terrific sand storm came up and the tent caught on fire. The huge blazes were frightening. The school was threatened and it was imperative that the children be removed from the possible danger. Excitement was rampant, and much to the disgust of the children the school was quickly emptied, without a mishap, and the children were marched to the edge of the river. El Paso's two fire engines controlled and put out the fire.

The harassed principal had an unenviable task, four rooms in the main building, three rooms in the bakery, two rooms back of the school, two rooms two blocks away, and now a classroom about a mile away. Mrs. Bartlett efficiently carried on her work with the principal out of reach, but at times the head of the school was needed. No sooner was Miss Glenn in Sunset when the phone would ring and she was needed on Leon Street. This going back and forth was not particularly pleasant but it had its "compensations." Mr. Gray, Miss Glenn's fiance, came to the rescue frequently. She would get in touch with him and in no time he would take her in his little runabout from one school to the other.49 Who knows if that is the reason

49 Interview with Mrs. Mable G. Gray, former Principal of Franklin, January 5, 1951.
she gave up the principalship of the school.

Miss Glenn's psychology could not be excelled. She was faced with rather unusual problems with the parents as well as with the children. If any of the fathers "balked" she threatened them with the police, the mothers she threatened with the priest, and if the children got unwieldy they were properly spanked. It always worked!

The first time Dr. George H. Higgins, the school physician, went to inspect the Franklin pupils he entered the smallest room in the bakery building. He looked around and with a twinkle in his eyes, exclaimed, "This is indeed a study in diminutives, a little room, a little teacher, and little children." It was indeed just that - a young teacher not five feet tall, a first grade class, and the small room with two tiny windows that served neither for ventilation nor light. The handsome old doctor stressed the use of the handkerchief, he insisted that every child always carry a handkerchief. Everytime he entered a classroom his first words were, "Everybody get out your panuelo (handkerchief)." The children called him "Dr. Panuelo."

One time Dr. "Panuelo" came to Franklin and several of the children in one of the classrooms pulled out dirty old rags, all they had, and were proudly waving them to show they had panuelos. These panuelos overwhelmed him. "Alright, alright," he cried excitedly, "put it away, put that away." El Paso was fast becoming a health center and the citizens took great
precautions against tuberculosis. This waving of dusty rags that may have been picked up from the street was most distressing to the doctor.

A bust of George Washington was somewhere in the hall, it had been sorely neglected for quite some time and the statue no longer seemed attractive. Even the teachers had ceased to tell the children about the Father of Our Country, etc. This neglect was brought to the attention of the teachers by a little first grade boy. One day Mauro returned to school after he had been dismissed. His teacher asked him why he had returned and he answered, "I here for my cachucha (cap), he is by el hombre (the man)." No disrespect was meant. Imagine her horror "el hombre" was George Washington, the cap was on his head.

As the old pioneer families moved away less desirable citizens moved in and for a number of years there was a row of houses of ill fame on Overland Street. What a neighborhood for adolescent boys and girls! Something else for the teachers to do! It was essential that the children go straight home from school, the teachers had to see that it was done. It was easy enough to keep the children from lingering on the way but how could one keep curious young eyes from peering into the "Mansion House." There is nothing either remarkable, unusual or naughty in beach pajamas now, but in those days it was only "those wicked folk that dared to wear such clothes" in public. And the multi-colored togs did set the people gaping.
An old quotation, we know not from whence it came, keeps recurring to our mind:

"In the mud and scum of things
Something always always sings."

How true! Like the "Tree in Brooklyn," in a junk yard back of the famous Mansion House, it grew - a wisteria vine! What a magnificent sight this old vine was in the spring with its huge, gorgeous clusters of flowers. Every spring the Franklin teachers took their pupils to see the vine blooming in all its glory. The city grew, changes took place, and God's handiwork disappeared along with the grime.50

50 Interview with Miss Bernice Brick, former teacher in Franklin. November 28, 1950.

For several months there was much talk with regard to a new Franklin School. Should the old building be sold? Where would the new school be located?, etc. On May 8, 1915, the property, corner of Leon and Overland Streets, was bought51


but it was not until February 1920 that the new school became a reality.52 In the meantime the only improvement or addition

52 Board Meetings. From April 21, 1919 to April 9, 1920, Vol. VIII. Meeting February 25, 1920.
to old Franklin was a spiral fire escape built in August 1915 which was torn down again ten years later.  

53  


53  

Miss Annie Grady, with a personnel of eight teachers, became head of Franklin in 1919. She moved into the new building as soon as it was completed and the old school was opened as the first Vocational School in El Paso - another first for Franklin.  

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Vocational classes were also held in El Paso High School, San Jacinto, and at 222 North Kansas  

55  

Interview with Miss Annie Grady, December 5, 1950.

54  

but when Technical Institute was finished all trade classes were transferred there.

55  


but when Technical Institute was finished all trade classes were transferred there.

At the Board Meeting of August 1920 "Mr. Hughey further outlined the beginnings already made of a trade school in cooperation with the federal government and directed by Mr. Briggs in the Franklin School."  

56  

Board Meetings. From April 21, 1919 to April 9, 1920, Vol. VIII. Meeting August 17, 1920.
Auto repairing was taught downstairs to a group of ex-service men in the morning while a second group studied grammar upstairs. In the afternoon the groups exchanged places, one group worked in the carpentry shop, the other studied grammar. In order to allow autos and trucks to be brought in part of the wall on the north side of the building was removed and a large door built.\[57\]

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57 Interview with Miss Annie Grady, December 5, 1950.

The following incident took place after the new Franklin was built. Franklin always did remarkably well in fire drills and the teachers and pupils were ever on the alert.

Miss X--- stressed the importance of coming to school on time - her pupils never came late to class. One noon the children came in as usual. Guillermo, all flushed and out of breath ran up the stairs, a minute later than the class but still on time. He was holding something with both hands on the back of his neck. He stood in front of the teacher and after several attempts was unable to say a word so he turned around and "flew" out of the room and down the stairs as fast as he could go with Miss X--- right after him. The class did n't know what to do so they followed. The teacher in the next room, hearing the patterning of feet immediately got her class out. One teacher after the other did the same. The upstairs was emptied in no time. The teachers downstairs thought this an
unusual procedure because the lower grades were always gotten out of the building first. Perhaps this was a real fire, but how strange no warning had been given, no bell rung, but this was no time for speculation. These children likewise were gotten out in record time. But what of the principal? At the sound of the stampede she stood in front of her office absolutely dumfounded. What had happened to her school: She saw one class after another hurrying as fast as possible. Soon all the classes were in their respective places - Miss X --- was last seen turning a corner still running after Guillermo. The children were brought back, Guillermo came later, he had been leaning against a tree a short time before school took up and big red ants were crawling down his back.\(^58\)

\(^58\) Interview with Miss Bernice Brick, November 28, 1950.

Work was started on an addition to Franklin to house the heating and plumbing of the school and to furnish it with an auditorium.\(^59\) The heating and plumbing was done but to this day there is no auditorium.

Around about 1926 and 1927 the illegal transportation of liquor from Mexico into the United States and the sale of this liquor were difficult problems to handle. "There was a time when many around here made money easily in the liquor
bus in ess and di d n't pay a license fee of any kind. Among these was Jonny X's father who had a concealed but flourishing business. Jonny, nine or ten years of age, was in our room, and morning after morning came tardy and went to sleep in his tracks after he got there. After an unreasonable period of this it was brought to the principal's attention and for a time all went well. When Jonny began to be tardy and sleepy again we decided to go to his home some day after school. (In those days we did n't have many school nurses and visits to our children's homes were rather unusual). We found the house practically abandoned, every door wide open, but with evidences of having people in it. We were n't there long before a woman came and gave us some information about the Xs. Only the father had remained behind to settle all his affairs, but the family had moved to the interior of Mexico because they were afraid of prohibition, etc. 'Our Jonny' could swim like an eel, the Rio Grande just deep enough and prohibition officers were too busy elsewhere - so Jonny until a week before had made the proverbial hay. Over his neck he threw a strong cloth contraption about six inches wide and four feet long, at the ends of which were tied two bottles of fine liquor. Jonny would swim back and forth two hours or more in the dead of night to increase the family budget. The entire family was born in the United States. They were uncertain about everything so rather than face the consequences they uprooted themselves and their bootlegging and
made the effort to adjust themselves in Mexico."60 This is

only one of dozens of little anecdotes which could be written here enhancing our Franklin history - you might be interested to know that Jonny never was married, but more than six or eight of his nephews and nieces have gone through Franklin School. In the last two or three years he has attended several school functions there.61

During the year 1925-1926 a sewing machine was secured and the older girls were instructed in sewing every Friday afternoon. The addition of the fifth grade was also made that year. Kindergarten was taught again from 1930 to 1939. Then it was taken out of the Mexican schools and the children kept in the Low I grade for one year. The Low VI was added in 1932, the High VI in 1937, the Low VII in 1938, and in 1939 the High VII, and these grades are taught at present.

There were three attempts made in 1932, 1934, and 1938 to form a Parent-Teachers Association but all resulted in perfect failures. For the first attempt great preparations were made, large electric light bulbs were bought and the room where the meeting was to be held was really "dolled up." Mr. Joe Gandara
was secured as an interpreter and Mrs. William P. Hooten was to talk on the purpose, etc., of a Parent-Teachers Association. Only two women came to the meeting. In 1934 similar preparations were made, the teachers stressed the importance of the meeting to the children and gave them notes to take to their parents—six parents came. To the last and final attempt Miss Grady made at organizing a Parent-Teachers Association, two women came, both "prominent patrons" of the school. One was a Mexican, the other a Syrian, both wanted to head the organization, no compromise could be reached, so the idea was given up. 62

62 Interview with Miss Annie Grady, December 5, 1950.

For many years the temptation has been great to the poor folk of Franklin who live near the tracks. But who would not try to secure something to eat if it was within reach and one was hungry? We know that few families counted on part of their subsistence, at least, in the bunches of bananas the littlest members of their family brought home. Often this bunch of fruit was an outright gift to the little scavenger by someone in authority on the box cars. However, it is hard to believe that so many bunches of green bananas would make their way into these poor homes. Is it not a wonder that no one ever heard of the children having mishaps nor accidents on these railroad tracks? 63

63 Interview with Mrs. Elvira McLaughlin, December 5, 1950.
During the depression much poverty was found among the children of the public schools. Franklin was no exception. Different civic organizations helped in the schools where the need was the greatest. The College Woman's Association and the Women's Club of El Paso prepared food at the El Paso High School and fed from ten to fifteen undernourished children of Franklin School every day.

Interview with Miss Annie Grady, December 5, 1950.

There was much unemployment and some families were almost destitute when a beautification program of the twenty-six city schools was started by the Works Progress Administration in 1936 and quite a number of fathers were given work. There was some remodeling and all the rooms were painted. To lessen the noise, noise proof blocks were put on the ceiling of the halls. There is a large plaque-like slab of cement on a wall of the old building commemorating the work done by the P. W. A.

Interview with Miss Freda Rheinheimer, November 17, 1950.

In 1944 the situation with regard to undernourished children was deplorable. Mrs. Catherine Strieber, the secretary of Franklin, and Ernest Lopez, the janitor, supervised the serving of mid-morning milk. Seventh grade girls were dismissed from their classes and they helped serve the children.
The mixture served was prepared in the basement. Over a gas plate water was heated and mixed with canned milk, sugar and cinnamon or chocolate syrup. All first and second grade students were given one glass. Undernourished pupils from the higher grades drank their glass between classes. The dishwashing was done by the janitor assisted by four boys. A solution of hot water and soap was made and two large lard cans were used. Ninety of the thinner students at the school also received a small glass of grape fruit juice. This was gotten from the War Foods Administration.

"The milk program at Franklin School began in February when the Council of Jewish Women allotted twenty-five dollars to buy milk for twenty sick and thin students. Teachers supplemented the amount according to Miss Grady, the principal."

The program expanded to 125 students in March when canned milk by the carloads was sent by the government for the milk program.66

66 El Paso Herald-Post, May 12, 1944, 7:5.

In October 1943, Mr. Hibbard Polk, the principal, succeeded in establishing a Parent-Teachers Association and it is a thriving organization. Not too much has been done, the organization is young and does not have much money but a healthy nucleus is there.

That October also, the school was opened to the community
for the second time in its history. A carnival of large proportions was held and one thousand people attended. Four hundred dollars was cleared, a tremendous feat for a poor community.

A fence was built around the school this year and the alley was closed to traffic. Both of these items are of great importance; prowlers are kept out and the children are not annoyed.

The older pupils accredited themselves exceptionally well in art, and several prizes were won by them. The most important of which were: a local contest sponsored by Mrs. Lavora Norman in which a boy won ten dollars and a State Poster Contest where thousands of children competed, in which another boy got honorable mention.67

67 Interview with Miss Zena Knight, November 17, 1950.

Mrs. Elvira McLaughlin, a very energetic teacher, wanted to do something worthwhile for her graduating class. She succeeded in collecting enough money from several business firms, and the pupils contributed a little towards the enterprise. She chartered a bus and with two other women besides herself as chaperones took the class to Carlsbad Caverns. Many visitors at the caves remarked at the exceptional behavior of the forty children. What a beautiful experience for the children and especially for those who had never even been out of the city.
The trip will long be remembered. 68

68

Interview with Mr. Hibbard Polk, former Principal of Franklin, November 17, 1950.

At no time have the facilities for a playground at Franklin School been adequate. When the enrollment was small, however, the problem was not a serious one. As the enrollment increased and new enterprises were built in the neighborhood that used portions of the Franklin "campus" - the difficulty became acute. Today the Watkins Motor Company owns about a fourth of a block in width and one-half block in depth which is cut off and fenced completely from the school property. This, of course, has decreased the grounds considerably and for several years has made it necessary for the School Board to rent vacant lots close to the school. It is a very undesirable situation, but one without a satisfactory solution. At present the playground is about two and one-half blocks away and it is necessary for the children to cross streets two or three times before reaching it. Thus far, the "coach" (so the children speak of their Physical Education teacher) has had no casualties because of this, but the hazard still exists. Last year one of the youngsters lost his life in the vicinity of the playground - but it was not during school hours nor on the school operated property. The young Nevarez boy was "exploring" in one of the adjacent old ruins when he missed his footing and fell to his death. This and the occasional mix-ups between a few of Franklin's "problem
children" and those who live near to the so-called playground, is about all that has been disturbing along that line. But the playground itself has never been conducive towards creating a desire to be on it; it's only one way of getting out of the classroom. How those boys and girls can care to go out in that soft dirt day after day when the weather is dry, or how they can play in the mud once in a while when it has rained, is beyond comprehension. And yet the Physical Education teachers survive. They hold classes out there - from the fourth through the seventh grades from 9:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. daily - and have two or three teams in different games come out the winners every year in the interscholastic contests. The present "coach," Mr. Ride, has made a name for himself under those terrific handicaps.

No phase of the extra-curricular activities has been neglected at Franklin School where it has been at all possible and feasible. Principals as well as teachers have been progressive and always eager and willing to have students do whatever is beneficial for them and what is being done successfully elsewhere.

In this connection Franklin, for several years, has had a rather efficient group of boys and girls who have done patrol duty on the campus and on the street intersections around the school.

In the spring of 1950 there were more girls than boys in the highest class, on whom falls the duty of patrolling. These girls accepted the work and actually "worked the street intersections"
and even donned the patrolman's helmet! To our knowledge these were the first girls in El Paso schools to do this. And they did a good job of it. Sergeant Bond, of the Police Force, in charge of Patrol groups of the Public Schools, was gratified with their efforts to such an extent, that he was instrumental in securing passes so that the girls might attend some of the football games - a privilege heretofore granted only to boys.69

69 Interview with Mrs. Elvira McLaughlin, December 5, 1950.

According to Miss Grady, the school colors were selected by the third principal, Miss Alice Fitzpatrick. They are: the Green from the Mexican flag and the Blue from the American flag - thus she honored both countries. The Shield was made during Miss Grady's principalship.70

70 Interview with Miss Annie Grady, December 5, 1950.

The school song is that of Creighton University - "The White and the Blue" - with the word "Green" substituted for "White."

The Green and the Blue

The Green and the Blue, colors two,
it is you we defend.
Fearless for you, Our might to fight
we will lend.
So wave, colors wave, we will fight
on for your glory.
Green and Blue! We will fight till
the fight is won. 71

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71


Interview with Mrs. Zena Knight, December 5, 1950.

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This song is sung at all school events, at football games, track, graduation, etc., and the colors really wave.

Perhaps little children are not as "bad" as older ones.

For several years the school authorities have had trouble with one or the other of the High Schools with regard to writing on the walks, and occasionally on the walls of the buildings. This is usually done before some football games. However, there have been instances where the writing has been done with malice aforethought. Whatever the reason, drastic measures have been taken and one does not hear of that anymore. In the Minutes of 1895 we read the following and we quote exactly:

"On motion duly seconded it was ordered that a special committee appointed to inquire into investigate ascertain if possible who defaced the Franklin School Building by writing with paint obscene Language. J. Holeman being the accused and Report at an Adjourned Meeting of the Board on Monday Night March 11th, 1895." 72

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72

Board Minutes. From 16 October, 1894 to 1 April, 1895.
March 4, 1895, pp. 56-57.

Little Jay Holeman was expelled but not for long. In the Board Minutes for March 11, this laconic statement was found and no more: "Jay Holeman may remain on good behavior." 73

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73

Ibid. March 11, 1895, p. 59.
Now pupils are expelled for defying principals and teachers, for habitual tardiness, and for various and sundry offenses. Pupils are also punished for minor misdemeanors but if the offense is of a more serious nature the pupil is given warning before he is expelled. One boy in Franklin had committed some wrong and had been "duly punished." About this time the music teacher gave an assignment - to any pupil that wrote words to a song, words that really had meaning and that fit well with the melody, she would give the grade of "A" for that week. All the class wrote songs, several were excellent. The outstanding song belonged to the boy who had been punished - his song made a "hit" with the teachers and pupils and has been taught to over two hundred pupils. He received his "A," too.

The music is the song of the Marines:

"From the halls of old Franklin
to the office of Mr. Bean
I was taken by my teacher to receive my paddling,
First for talking to the girlies
then for talking back to him,
Now I'm thankful to old Franklin
and the paddling of Mr. Bean." 74

Interview with Mrs. Elvira McLaughlin, December 5, 1950.

The institution has kept pace with the development and progress of the schools. Franklin is one of the "feeder" schools for Bowie High School and the pupils do well there.
Teachers - 1891

Grades 1 - 4  Enrollment 125
Miss Florence G. Thornton  1st Grade Principal
Miss Anna L. Moore  2nd Grade
Miss Mary H. Gates  3rd Grade
Miss Jessie Stanfield  4th Grade

Board Minutes 1890-1891, pp. 46-47

Teachers - 1950

Grades 1 - 7  Enrollment 543
Mr. C. S. Bean  .  .  .  .  .  .  .  Principal
Mrs. Shirley Saks  .  .  .  .  .  Clerk
Mrs. Hazel Thompson  .  .  .  .  L1B
Mrs. Louise Jones  .  .  .  .  .  L1A
Mrs. Marie Connally  .  .  .  .  H1A
Mrs. Kimi Yanagawa  .  .  .  .  H1B
Miss Paula Jean Sittel  .  .  .  L2A
Mrs. Ruth Nations  .  .  .  .  .  H2A
Mrs. Larette Malone  .  .  .  .  H2B
Mrs. Emma Jean Hay  .  .  .  .  L 3
Mrs. Thelma Stone  .  .  .  .  .  H 3
Miss Ellen McCormack  .  .  .  L 4
Mrs. Maude Folsom  .  .  .  .  .  H 4
Mrs. Loula Dixon  .  .  .  .  .  L 5
Mrs. Corrie Lee Craven  .  .  .  H5A
Mrs. Zena Knight  .  .  .  .  .  H5B
SUMMARY

In these progressive and changing times it is difficult to say how much longer this historical landmark will stand. Franklin has seen innumerable changes throughout its colorful existence, in itself and in the city.

It has been difficult to get data on Franklin School. However, most persons contacted not only enjoyed the reminiscence of the "good old days" but were eager to tell something about the old school.

There are several whom we could not see. While there can't be much that has been omitted, yet it is regrettable that we were obliged to leave those viewpoints which like those which we have included, could not help but be unique and colorful.

The account has been faithful even to the extent of relating events chronologically. That, however, has neither lessened nor detracted our interest in the brief history of this well-known old school. And we feel fortunate in having been able to cover it as completely as it was done.
APPENDIX
Miss Freda Rheinheimer . . .  L 6
Mr. Louis Aguirre . . . . . .  H 6
Mrs. May Cousar . . . . . . .  L7A
Mr. O. F. Volmer . . . . . .  H7A
Mrs. Elvira McLaughlin . . .  H7B
          Music, Art
Mr. Edmundo Ride . . . . .  P.E.

Educational Directory 1950-1951, El Paso
Public Schools, p. 24.

Graduating Class
Fall - 1950
High 7B

1. Bermudez, Fernando
2. Butler, Shirley
3. Calderon, Ruben
4. Carreon, Raul
5. Chacon, Concepcion
6. Chavez, Theodore
7. Collazo, Billy
8. Franco, Celia
9. Fuentes, Heriberto
10. Gomez, Roberto
11. Gutierrez, Raymundo
13. Maciel, Ricardo
14. Martinez, Victor
15. Noriega, Austreberta
16. Ortega, Alfredo
APPENDIX

Board of Trustees

1891

C. N. Buckler - President
G. E. Hubbard
H. B. Stevens
E. C. Pew
Judge Joseph Magoffin
Dr. C. T. Rice

Board Minutes, September 1891 to April 1902.

School Board

1950

Mr. J. F. Hulse - President
Mr. Calvert C. Tucker
Mrs. T. P. Clendenin
Mr. M. L. Hutchins
Mr. Ernest Valdez
Mr. Ted Andres
Mr. C. M. Irvin

Jones, Hardie, Grambling and Howell, School Board Attorneys

50

17. Ortiz, Dionicio
18. Ramirez, Natividad
19. Rios, Alicia
20. Sanchez, Pasqual
21. Vasquez, Dora
22. Vidal, Consuelo

Mrs. Elvira McLaughlin's Register

Graduating Class
Fall - 1950
High 7A

1. Aparicio, Rodolfo
2. Arenas, Juan
3. Contreras, Florentino
4. Contreras, Gloria
5. Gallahar, Mable Jean
6. Gonzales, Ricardo
7. Gonzales, Rose
8. Govea, Roberto
9. Hernandez, Maria Elena
10. Martinez, Ramon
11. Meza, Carlos
12. Parga, Jose
13. Pena, Roberto
14. Ramos, Manuel
15. Resendez, Rosa Maria
16. Rodriguez, Estela
Superintendents since 1891

Mr. W. H. Savage . . . . . 1890-1894
Mr. Gerrie Price Putnam . . . 1894-1908
Mr. J. M. Martin . . . . . 1908-1908
Mr. N. R. Crozier . . . . . 1909-1914
Mr. Richard J. Tighe . . . . 1914-1919
Mr. Allen Harrison Hughey . . 1919-1950


Principals of Franklin School

Miss Florence G. Thornton . . 1891-1897
Miss Mamie Sexton . . . . . 1897-1901
Miss Alice Fitzpatrick . . . 1901-1907
Miss Iran Barkley . . . . . 1907-1908
Mrs. Mamie Patterson . . . 1908-1909
Miss Ruth Evans . . . . . 1909-1910
Miss Maggie Maule . . . . . 1910-1911
Miss Eunice Reading . . . . 1911-1912
Miss Mable Glenn . . . . . 1912-1919
Miss Annie Grady . . . . . 1919-1948
Mr. Hibbard Polk . . . . . 1948-1949
Mr. C. S. Bean . . . . . 1949-1950

Board Meetings, 1891-1950
17. Ruiz, Margarita
18. Silva, Hector
19. Solis, Isabel
20. Turrieta,
21. Urias, Rodolfo
22. Vega, Alfonso
23. Villanueva, Antonio
24. Ybarra, Jose

Mr. O. F. Vollmer's Register

Course of Study
1891

First Grade. Spelling, Language, Reading
Arithmetic, General Work, Colors.

Second Grade. Advanced Spelling, Language,
Reading, Arithmetic, General Work, Colors.

Third Grade. Multiplication, Division Tables,
Geography, Spelling, Language, Reading,
General Work, Colors.

Fourth Grade. Advanced Multiplication, Division
Tables, Geography, Spelling, Language, Reading,
General Work, Colors.

Morrel, Elaine Lewis, The Rise and Growth of
Public Education In El Paso, Texas. Thesis.

Course of Study
1950

First Grade. Arithmetic, Art, Handwriting, Health,
Language, Music, Phonics, Physical Education,
Reading, Science, Social Studies.

Second Grade. Arithmetic, Art, Handwriting, Health,
Language, Music, Phonics, Physical Education,
Reading, Science, Social Studies, Spelling.


Brief Outline of the Course of Study in the Public Schools, El Paso, Texas, 1947. pp. 2-12.
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Evening Tribune, El Paso, Texas, March 8, 1893, 8:2.


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