

Original Cole School

Knave

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The original Cole School building was a two-story, wood-frame building fronting on 10th Street, between Union and Poplar Streets. It was named in honor of a prominent dentist, a member of the Board of Education, who resided in a large house at the corner of 10th and Adeline Streets. An attractive flower garden adorned the front of the building. Ample playgrounds, for girls and boys respectively, adjoined the building at the ends and rear, and the building itself had deep, covered rear porches where, in wet weather, instead of in the open yard, the pupils were assembled in preparation for inspection preparatory to marching to their classes to the martial beat of a drum corps. One who was there, E. T. Thurston tells the story: "The school accommodated 17 classes and the attendance roll was exceeded only by Professor Dunbar's Durant School. Prior to 1890, the rooms were heated by means of coal-burning stoves, each surmounted by an open vessel of water, and Principal Garlick personally supervised a system of air conditioning in each room, involving opening of windows, calisthenics and maintenance of a temperature of 68 degrees as indicated by a thermometer suspended over the center of the floor. The principles and practice of courtesy and cleanliness were taught and observed. Pupils were required to be neatly dressed, shoes shined and hands and faces clean; and, under direction of W. S. Foster, health officer, a corps of nurses, pioneering the field of school hygiene, undertook to qualify and encourage classroom teachers to detect and properly report evidences of a defective health among the pupils. Principal Garlick contrived to establish a co-operative system whereunder each pupil was considered a committee of one to see that property was not defaced and that the buildings and grounds were not littered with waste paper or food."

—The Knave