

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Robert Clifton

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Agriculture in Illinois Oral History project

Interview # AI-A-L-2011-017

Robert Clifton, a western Illinois teacher and school administrator involved in school consolidations, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Agriculture in Illinois – School District Reorganization* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: April 29, 2011 Location: Macomb, IL

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL Volunteer

Transcription by: Julianne Graham, ALPL volunteer

Edited by: Susan Seiber and Rozanne Flatt, ALPL volunteers

Total Pages: 16 pgs Total Time: 1:12 / 1.2 hrs

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on Aug 5, 2011.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

© 2011 Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Abstract

Robert Clifton, Agriculture in Illinois, AI-A-L-2011-017

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Robert Clifton was born on November 7th, 1940 in Mt. Pleasant, Illinois and currently lives in Dallas City, IL where he graduated from high school in 1957. He attended Western Illinois University and Northwest Missouri State, graduating in 1967. He has served as a teacher, coach, and Superintendent at Dallas City. He also served as principal and executive secretary of a Catholic school system in Iowa. He has been an original board member of Illini West High School District since November 2006.

Clifton discussed school reorganization for several schools in western Illinois. He explains how three unit districts – Dallas City, LaHarpe and Carthage – successfully reorganized into three elementary districts and one high school district (Illini West). This was the first example of reorganization using the conversion method.

Subject Headings/Key Words: school reorganization; Committee of Ten; school referendums; Regional Office of Education, central Illinois; state incentives for education; school construction; planning for a new school; Illini West High School; Illini West Board of Education; obstacles to reorganization; 1985 School Reform Act

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

COPYRIGHT

The following material can be used for educational and other non-commercial purposes without the written permission of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library. “Fair use” criteria of Section 107 of the Copyright Act of 1976 must be followed. These materials are not to be deposited in other repositories, nor used for resale or commercial purposes without the authorization from the Audio-Visual Curator at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, 112 N. 6th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Telephone (217) 785-7955