

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Dr. Cliff Crone

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
School Reorganization Oral History project

Interview # AI-A-L-2013-027

Clifford Crone, Superintendent of Indian Prairie School District # 204, worked on school consolidation and reorganization issues. He was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Agriculture in Illinois-School Consolidation* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Apr 24, 2013 Location: Naperville, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: Greg Cott, ALPL volunteer

Edited by: Betty Workman & Rozanne Flatt, ALPL volunteers

Total Pages: 13 pgs Total Time: 0.93 hrs

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on July 23, 2013.

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

© 2013 Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Abstract

Dr. Cliff Crone, School Reorganization, AI-A-L-2013-027

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Dr. Clifford Crone was born on a farm in Northern Illinois during the Depression. He graduated from Orangeville, Illinois and went on to Carthage College, (then in Carthage, Illinois) where he earned his BA. His majors were English and Spanish. He would also earn his MA from the University of Wisconsin. He started his teaching at Dakota, Illinois in a one room school, grades 1-8. After two years in the Army, Dr. Crone was hired to be a principal of a 4-year teacher Elementary School. Later, in the Freeport School District he taught junior high school English, and then became an administrator (Supervisor of rural schools/transportation) before becoming an Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum. He earned a PH.D from Colorado University in 1967, and following this, he left Freeport and went to Jacksonville as School Superintendent for eight years. Finally, he helped make the Indian Prairie School District into a leading Chicago Suburban District. Today a Middle School in District #204 is named after him – Crone Middle School.

This interview reviews his work in a one room school and in the closing of rural schools in Freeport, and his efforts of turning three small recently merged districts into a major suburban unit district.

Subject Headings/Key Words: School Reorganization; unit district; elementary/high school district; school referenda; one room schools; rural schools; school reorganization feasibility studies; school board elections; Waubensee, Illinois; school tuition; Indian Prairie School District #204; school boundaries; tax rates

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