

## Mr. Walter Peoples, Principal 1933 to 1947

Withrow mourned for a great man and staunch friend when, on November 24, 1947, her principal, Mr. Walter Peoples, died. To him this Book is dedicated.

When Withrow opened in the fall of 1919, Mr. Peoples came from Madisonville School to be assistant principal of "East High", as our school was called at that time. It was fourteen years later, in 1933 that he was appointed Withrow's principal. From the first, his interest in every phase of the life of the school was keen. There was nothing, either in the academic field or in that of athletics, which was not his vital concern. During his early years at Withrow Mr. Peoples supervised the golf team and was never known to miss a football game. He was a constant seeker after all that was worthwhile in educational progress and encouraged pupils to be sincere students.

We are proud of the fact that Mr. Peoples was president, of the South Western Teachers' Association for the year 1946-1947, and of the way he presided at the convention.

We are proud of his many splendid achievements in the field of education, but we like also to think of the kindly, human side of his nature. In our memories of him, he appears often with a twinkle in his eyes and laughter on his lips. We quote an incomparable description of him from the issue of the Tower News which announced his appointment as principal: "He is stern, yet kind; pupils admire and respect him as their principal and feel free to associate with him as a friend."

The words with which he opened his principalship are typical of his attitude through all his years here: "Withrow begins the year of 1933-34 with the largest enrollment in her history, but all of us know that numbers alone cannot make a great school. There need be no long list of rules and regulations to have Withrow a good school. If the pupils are honest and industrious and if their conduct is guided by what they know to be right, we shall have a school of which to be proud."

May Withrow never fail his trust in her!