



W. H. Shaw

J. R. Allen

T. H. Fort

3 New Schools Named For Shaw, Allen, Fort

By Ken Elkins

Ledger Staff Writer

The Muscogee School Board deviated from tradition Monday night and named the new high school under construction in North Columbus after a man still living — former superintendent William Henry Shaw.

Two other schools will be named after deceased men: a new junior high in East Columbus for former school board president and superior court judge Thomas Hicks Fort, and the current Northside Elementary for Mayor J. R. Allen.

The board has good reason for naming the North Columbus School for Shaw, Board President Phillip T. Schley said.

"He had a remarkable ability to foresee growth patterns in the county, Schley said. "In fact, the land on which the North High School is built was bought on the advice of Dr. Shaw." Then-superintendent Shaw negotiated for 10 years to buy the land in an area growing in population.

Shaw, now teaching education in Columbus College and writing a book on the history of Columbus Bank and Trust, said he was "honored" that the school board picked his name.

The 75-year-old Shaw was superinten-

dent of the independent city schools and later superintendent of the consolidated city-county system. He retired in 1973.

Shaw said Monday night that he was "reminiscing on the money we spent building schools" over his almost three decades as superintendent. The first was Johnson Elementary School, he recalled.

Allen, who died in the crash of a light plane near Rome, Ga., will have Northside named after him because his children were among its first students.

The Columbus Jaycees were instrumental in the naming, Schley said. They petitioned the school board to name a school after him.

The junior high school gets Fort's name as a thanks for his contributions to the school system, Schley said.

"He took the school district through an extremely difficult time, the Depression," Schley said.

While he was president of a city school board without money to pay teachers, Schley said, Fort borrowed money on his signature to balance the school budget.

Fort was on the school board from 1910 until his retirement in 1941. Later he was named to the local circuit of Superior Court. He died in 1965.

Board to Name 2 New Principals

By Ken Elkins

Ledger Staff Writer

Muscogee School Board members are ready to name principals tonight for two of three new schools under construction in the city.

The board meets at 7:30 at the Bradley Library.

Gordon Stallings swaps his principal's job at Baker High School to be principal at Schomburg North High School beginning next fall, if the board approves.

Dr. Jimmy Riddle will become principal at Eastern Junior High School off Floyd Road, if the board agrees with superintendent Braxton Nail's recommendation. Riddle is now an assistant principal at Carter High School.

Since the new South High School off Victory Drive

will take Spencer's name when it opens next fall, Spencer High School principal Franklin Douglass will be principal at the new school in South Columbus.

Stallings, 39, has been principal at Baker since 1974. He also was assistant principal at both Har-daway and Carver high schools before accepting the Baker post.

Riddle, 33, was summer school principal at Rothschild Junior High School last summer.

Neither North High School nor Eastern Junior High has been named officially. North and Eastern refer to the area of the city where each is located.

Of the three, South High School will probably be the last completed. Bids were awarded last for South High and problems with the soil in the Victory Drive area have delayed construction even more.

The school is about one-fourth completed, said assistant superintendent Nathan Patterson.

All three schools will open for classes in September 1978.

North High School is more than half finished. Eastern Junior High is almost half completed.

North High which will hold 1,500 students, will be the largest of the new schools. But it will be only average size when compared to the six other high schools.

South High School will have room for 1,200 students.

Eastern Junior High School will hold 850 students when completed, making it an average size junior high for the city.



The Columbus Enquirer

Monday, September 11, 1978

Staff Photo by Richard Thomason

With the Portrait of William Henry Shaw Are (L-R): Shaw's Grandson, Carlton Shaw; Shaw; and Maynard Ashworth

New High School Dedicated To Honor Former Educator

By Richard Gilbert
Enquirer Staff Writer

Local officials dedicated the new \$5 million William Henry Shaw High School yesterday afternoon in honor of Dr. William Henry Shaw, veteran educator and former superintendent of education for Muscogee County Schools.

The 1,500-student high school is located on 50 acres off Schomburg Road and was occupied last Tuesday by about 1,200 students. Designed by Pound, Flowers and Dedwylder Architects, the complex features a 20,000-seat stadium.

Former Ledger and Enquirer publisher Maynard Ashworth presented the dedication address in honor of Shaw. Ashworth said he has known Shaw since 1945, and called Shaw's name a "tracking beam" in education.

Ashworth said the goal of the Shaw High School is "that no graduate will return for 'repair' and will

achieve success in life, happiness and contentment." He called Shaw a mild-mannered man, gentle in approach and slow to anger, but firm when necessary.

Shaw's grandson, Carlton Reid Shaw Jr., unveiled a portrait of Shaw painted by G.C. Miller.

Shaw, his voice trembling with emotion, said, "The Board of Education members have been the best that could have been had. The present board carries on that tradition. Thank you to the citizens who never failed to pass a bond issue.

"Thank you to all those who have worked with me. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart."

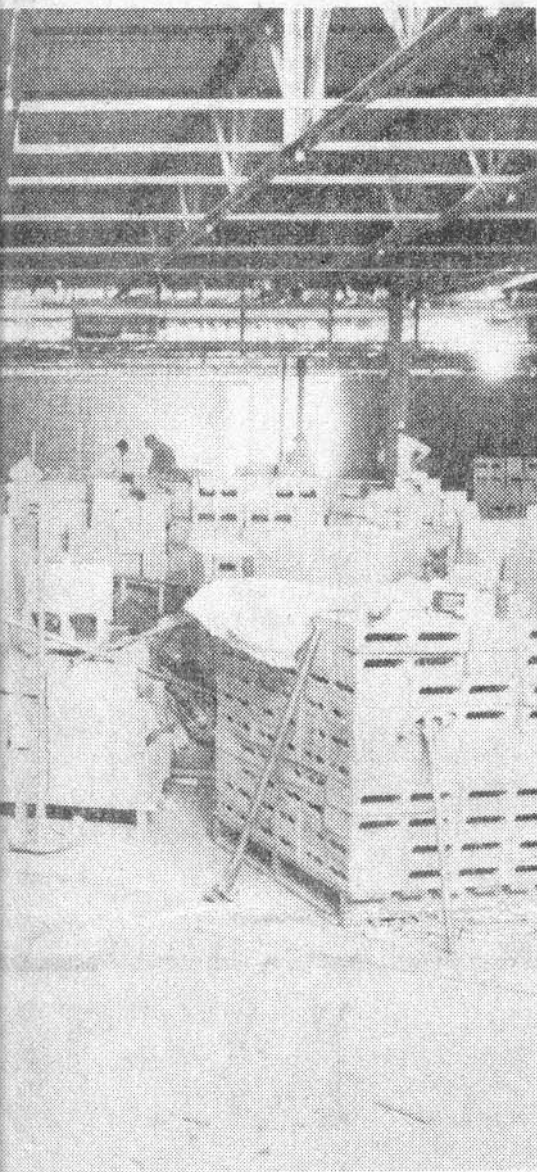
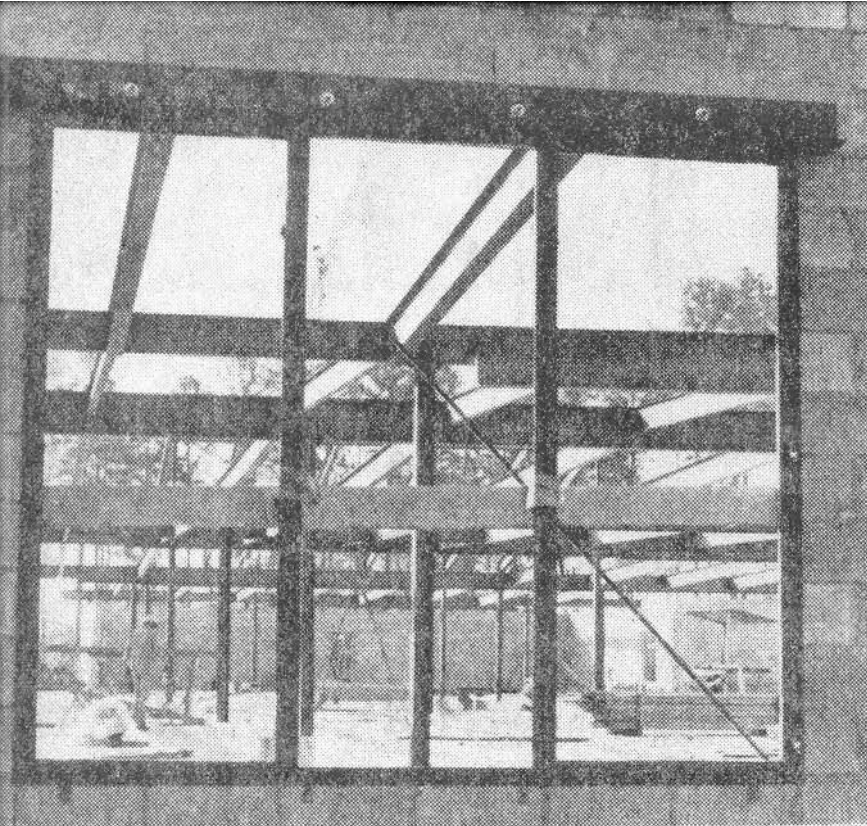
Shaw, a native of Durham, N.C., was educated there and in Auburn, Ala. In September 1945, he accepted the superintendency of the Columbus Public Schools and became Superintendent of Education for Muscogee County School District when the city and county systems merged in 1950.

Shaw retired as superintendent in 1973.



New Principals

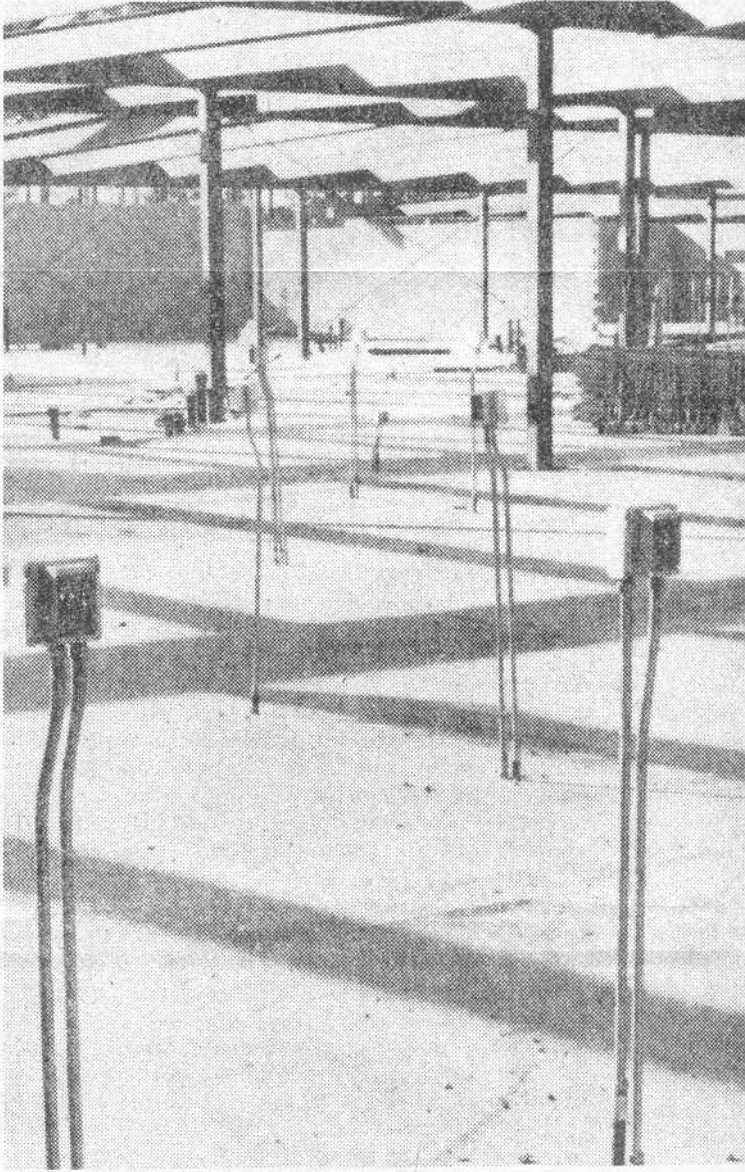
Gordon Stallings (L), principal of Baker High School, will become principal of Schomburg North High School next fall, and Dr. Jimmy Riddle (R) will become principal at Eastern Junior High School. Both appointments were announced recently by the Muscogee School Board.



Schools Building Patterns

A window at the new Spencer High School off Victory Drive probably will provide students an outlet used for daydreaming in the springtime. Unusual drive-through at Schomburg North High will shelter visitors. With the roof on at Schomburg, construction workers can do their building while staying out of the elements. And new electrical outlets at Spencer wait for walls, making interesting patterns in the shadows.

Staff Photos by Al Alexander
and Richard Thomason



Shaw

Continued From Page A-1

shifted," he said in 1973. "(Integration has) infused high achievers into schools where there had been a preponderance of low achievers."

He was instrumental in engineering a plan for desegregation, and by 1971, Muscogee's schools had become 12-percent integrated.

Shaw worked well with the different school boards, and together with various board members made extensive land purchases for the growth of what is now one of the largest school systems in Georgia. In his honor, Shaw High School was named.

One of his most notable accomplishments was his leadership of a citizens' group that bought the Miller dairy farm property as a site for Columbus College.

To ensure that the then city-owned land would be saved for the school, Shaw insisted on paying the \$1-a-month lease fee out of his own pocket.

His leadership at St. Luke's Methodist Church was well-noted. For 34 years he taught the young adults' Sunday school, which is now named after him.

First National Bank official James Holman, a former member of the class and close friend of Shaw's for many years, called him an "inspiration to all who knew him."

"There was an unusually close tie between him and the class," Holman said. "He was very devoted to the class, and the class was very devoted to him. He was always a great inspiration to me. He was a great Sunday school teacher, a great educator and a model that everyone should strive to emulate."

Shaw gathered a wealth of honors and titles during his work in education. He was a member of the fraternities Phi Beta Kappa, Kappa Delta Phi and Phi Delta Kappa, the last of which named him to its honor society.

He was a member of the National, Georgia and Muscogee associations of educators and past president of the Georgia Association.

He was past director of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the boards of the Infantry Museum, the YMCA, the American Red Cross, the Columbus School of Speech Correction, the Boy Scouts, the Three Arts League, the United Givers and United Cerebral Palsy campaign.

In January 1980, he received the Jim Woodruff Jr. Memorial Award, Columbus' highest civic honor, and was named the Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International.

Shaw is survived by two sons, Carlton Reed Shaw, of Columbus, and William H. Shaw Jr., of Dunwoody, Ga.; three sisters, Dora Shaw, Arlene Vickers and Ruth Clark, all of Durham, N.C.; and five grandchildren.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday in the St. Luke Methodist Church sanctuary, with burial in Parkhill Cemetery, according to Striffler-Hamby Mortuary.

The Shaw family requests that donations be made to the Muscogee School District's Shaw Scholarship Fund in lieu of flowers.

Columbus Enquirer

**Metro
Edition**

Columbus, Ga., Friday, January 22, 1982

Two Sections, 26 Pages

25 Cents

Shaw Left Indelible Mark on Schools

By Tom Hodges
Enquirer Staff Writer

The man who helped bring kindergarten, Columbus College and integration to city schools has died.

Dr. William Henry Shaw, 79, whose health gradually failed after a stroke in July 1980, died at 1 a.m. Thursday at St. Francis Hospital.

A Tarheel by birth, he was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Shaw. He taught in his native North Carolina and was principal in Durham County and Raleigh, before becoming superintendent of Sumter, S.C., schools.

He preceded Dr. Braxton Nail as Muscogee school superintendent, serving from 1945 until his retirement in 1973, when Shaw was

hailed as a pioneer in local public education.

"I remember him as a grand old gentleman whose vision and forethought laid many of the plans that are now an integral part of our school system," said school board President Jim Fay, who joined the board several months after Shaw retired.

When he first took over as superintendent, Columbus High School was the only accredited school in the system. Under his leadership, the entire Muscogee school system was fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. He was responsible for expanding the system's range to a full 12-year program and for raising teaching standards.

Shaw helped push through the consolidation of the city and county school systems in 1950.

Single-handedly, he established the first set of standards for kindergarten teachers, including required college training equal to that of elementary school teachers.

Through the turbulent 1960s, a time when social revolution and integration threatened to tear many Southern school systems apart, Shaw smoothly guided the city schools.

He responded curtly to detractors who claimed integration would lower the quality of education here.

"The quality of education has been

See SHAW, Page A-2



DR. SHAW

Columbus Schools Pioneer