

### **Lyndell F. Gooch**

Superintendent 1929-1941 and again 1943- possibly 44. Not much is known about Mr. Gooch personally; where he was born and raised, or why he was not Superintendent in 1942. During his period here- he was recognized as Professor L.F. Gooch; one can assume this title was about his leadership role as the school's superintendent, rather than the education level in which he attained. Mr. Gooch came to Wright City in 1929 and he is recognized for seeing the school shift to a full 12 grade school system and to 1<sup>st</sup> class. Mr. Gooch's tenure also saw the construction of the school building, located on I-70. This building was funded and managed through the Government's WPA program; construction started in 1938 and completed by the 1939/1940 school year. It is now Liberty Christian School. Besides his role as school administrator, Mr. Gooch taught social studies, political science, and mathematics, and in addition- he coached basketball for many years, both boys' and girls' teams. Mr. Gooch graduated from Kirksville State Teacher's College, Kirksville, Mo. (now Truman State) with a Bachelor of Science in Education. The records also state he garnered 12 hours from University of Missouri- Columbia, probably towards his master's degree. Prior to coming to Wright City, he also taught at Wellsville, Mo. and Reger, Mo. Today, Reger is part of the Milan School District, Milan, Mo. Professor Gooch has been credited as being the driving force in helping the Class of 1930 create the Wright City High School Alumni Association.