

## **W. E. JONES**

William Edwin Jones

*Project Consultant – Finney County*



WILLIAM EDWIN JONES

**WILLIAM EDWIN JONES**, son of William M. Jones (1839-1899) and Martha O. Wilkinson (1846-1913), was born on 2 Mar 1887 in Fowler, Benton County, Indiana. He was the youngest of ten children. His father died when William was just a young boy.

William attended the State Teachers College in Emporia, Kansas, and received his B. S. degree. Next, he attended Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, and received his M. A. degree. William began teaching in Indiana. In 1911, he left for Larned, Kansas, where he taught school, and was soon promoted to High School Principal. He then moved to Medicine Lodge, Kansas, to become the High School Principal, and from there, he went to Florence, Kansas, where he was the principal of the consolidated schools for four years. From there, William started a teaching position at the Emporia State Teachers College. In about 1928, he accepted a job in Garden City as a Junior High School Principal and became a Senior High School Principal soon after that. He continued to work for the school district for several years and was the Holcomb Consolidated School Principal just before his retirement.

William married **ANNA WILHELMINA ANDERSON**, daughter of Carl Justus Anderson (1855-1926) and Christina Carolina Johnson (1858-1898), on 28 Jul 1923 in Elgin, Kane County, Illinois.

Anna was born on 23 Sep 1889 in Cane County, Illinois. She graduated from nursing school in Chicago, Illinois. In 1917, Anna joined the United States Army. She was

stationed at the American Red Cross Military Hospital in Paris, France. A year later, while stationed in the Republic of Serbia, she spent time with doctors and other nurses helping the people of that area. After returning to the United States, Anna worked for the Red Cross in Benton County, Indiana, and a year later, the southern half of Minnesota. In 1920, she was living with her parents in Elgin, Illinois. After her marriage to Mr. Jones, she continued as a registered nurse in the state of Kansas.

William E. Jones died on 12 Aug 1949 in Garden City and buried there at the Valley View Cemetery. After William passed away, his wife, Anna, moved to be with their daughter, Sara Ann, in California. Anna died on 19 Dec 1977 in Santa Clara County, California, and buried alongside William at the Valley View Cemetery in Garden City, Kansas.

Two daughters were born into their marriage:

**SARA ANN JONES** was born on 30 Apr 1924 and was a graduate of Kansas University. She married Robert F. Yerkes, son of Raymond Yerkes and Nea Burke, in about 1943. They soon moved to California, where their daughter, Neanna Yerkes, was born on 27 Mar 1948. Robert died on 11 Aug 2008. Sara passed away on 28 Nov 2016. Both were buried at the Gate of Heaven Catholic Cemetery in Los Altos, Santa Clara County, California

**FREDA MARY JONES** was born on 28 Sep 1928 in Kansas. She married Roger Lee Annan on 5 Mar 1951 in Jackson County, Missouri. Roger was born on 4 Dec 1931. Roger and Freda moved to California while Roger was stationed there in the service. The marriage ended a couple of years later. Freda married Ellsworth Wheeler on 30 Aug 1973. Freda passed away on 12 Nov 2014 and buried at the Chapel of the Chimes Memorial Park in Hayward, Alameda County, California.

### INTERESTING NEWSPAPER ARTICLE

*The Sugar Beet (Garden City, Kansas Newspaper) – Friday, 11 Oct 1935*

MR. JONES CONDUCTS THE FIRST FIRE DRILL

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING VACATED IN 62 SECONDS; JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL IN 55 SECONDS

Mr. Jones, principal of the Garden City High School, conducted a fire drill on Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. Both the senior high and junior high buildings evacuated. He says that the groups did exceptionally well, considering this was the first fire drill.

The senior high and junior college students, about 550 in number, vacated their building in about one minute and two seconds. The junior-high students numbering about 430 left their

building in approximately 55 seconds.

Here are a few regulations that Mr. Jones has made for the fire drill:

Walk at all times during a fire drill; never run. Please do not talk or visit.

Leave the building at least 100 feet, and wait for the order to return. Upon orders to return to the building, go to the room from which you came.

Leave all books and wraps where they are when the siren sounds.

One continued ring of any bell or siren is the fire alarm.

In these drills, the students in each room were instructed to exit by a specific door. Mr. Jones states that this makes the drilling progress more rapid. He says that there will be more drills soon.

### Cemetery Headstones

#### WILLIAM & ANNA (ANDERSON) JONES



VALLEY VIEW CEMETERY  
Garden City, Finney County, Kansas  
*Photographs provided by Deb Pittillo*



## Newspaper Obituary

### WILLIAM EDWIN JONES

*The Hutchinson (Kansas) News – Saturday, 13 Aug 1949*

GARDEN CITY - W. E. Jones, 62, the former junior high and high school principal of Garden City, died in a local hospital Friday of a cerebral hemorrhage.

Mr. Jones had taught school and served as a school administrator for 38 years, came here from Larned. He was also the principal of the Holcomb Consolidated School for two years before his retirement.

Survivors include the widow; two daughters, Mrs. Robert Yerkes of Upland, California and Freda Jones of Garden City; one brother, Fred Jones of Wichita; and one sister, Miss Sara Jones of Fowler, Indiana.

The Funeral will be at 4 p.m. Monday at the Christian Church in Garden City.