

By ARN McEWEN

There was a road, country style, and when the lad Jay Anderson started out in grade one, two miles a day he trudged to the little country school house that was built in 1884.

A. Jay Anderson was born on the family homestead located near the small town of Carroll, Man., and took his high school training at Brandon Collegiate Institute.

After graduation he returned to work on the farm for a while, then attended a short normal course at Manitoba conducted by the late J. W. Gordon. Mr. Gordon was then school inspector for that district.

The normal course completed, Mr. Anderson obtained a small country school in a newly settled part of Saskatchewan, about 50 miles west of Yorkton. In addition to his teaching duties he was also the school caretaker, all for a salary of \$1,200 a year (considered very good for a country school at that time).

When the school closed Mr. Anderson enrolled in the Normal School at Regina where his talent to do mathematics was quickly recognized. All the students in Normal School at that time having "conditions" in mathematics were given the benefit of his superior ability—"after fours" and on Saturday mornings.

All through his 33 years' teaching experience many, many various organizations have made him entirely responsible for their records or financial matters, relying entirely on his inherent honesty.

Matching his wizardry at figures is Mr. Anderson's affable nature (he finds it hard to say "no") and his neat and thorough manner of work is always in popular demand.

Mr. Anderson was principal, supervisor and teacher of all subjects in grades 9, 10 and 11 for two years at the Intermediate School in Clearwater village. There the students were required to write departmental examinations.

Following this he was principal of a similar school at Stockton for five years, and in 1931 he came to East Kildonan as principal at Salisbury School.

In 1940 he became assistant principal at Prince Edward School, a position he occupied until his appointment this year as principal. Prince Edward School has 18 rooms with an approximate enrollment of 612 pupils.

During the last war an appeal was made through the schools of Greater Winnipeg for principals to organize Army Cadet classes. These were meant to be basic military training, useful to the older boys if and when they joined the regular army.

In order to qualify Mr. Anderson spent several summers at the Fort Osborne and Minto Barracks where



A. J. ANDERSON
Principal, Prince Edward School

he studied signalling, squad drill, fire arms, map reading and physical training. From the results of his final examinations Mr. Anderson received the rank of lieutenant. After further courses held Saturday mornings and during school holidays he was promoted to the rank of captain.

Somehow Mr. Anderson has found time to take six summer courses at the University of Manitoba and has spent one winter attending night classes.

Mr. Anderson's main hobby, besides mathematics, is cars and tractors. He loves to tinker with them and he does all the necessary repairs on his own car. Outside of that he plays the piano.

He has this to say about TV programs: "Properly controlled by parents, television is good — but I recommend it only with this reservation."

He believes in all types of sports, but with him, education comes first. "The average man," he said, "must depend on the education he receives to make his living."

What about staggered hours, what did he think about it. "Definitely," he asserted, "I am not in favor of staggered hours. In my opinion it's harder on teachers, and the half day off for students just gives them more opportunities to run the streets."

To mention a few of his affiliations, Mr. Anderson was one of the original group to organize the Suburban Junior High Athletic Association in 1931, and has been treasurer in that organization for 24 years. He has been secretary-treasurer of the John Black Church Sunday School for about 15 years, and is a member of the church Session. This year he is president of the Inspectoral School District No. 12, and has been treasurer since 1952.

Mr. Anderson is married, has two children, is proud of his three grandchildren, and resides at 148 Leighton avenue.