



IMPROVEMENT IN TENURE OF OKLAHOMA SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

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(Abstract)

Public school systems improve only slowly when there is too frequent changing of their leadership. It is gratifying to note that during the past 19 years there has been a steady increase in the number of Oklahoma school executives returning to the same communities in which they worked the previous year.

If one contrasts the first five years, 1917 to 1921, with the last five, 1931 to 1935, it will be found that definite progress has been made toward greater stability of tenure. During the earlier period only 46 per cent of the administrators were working in the same communities they had served the previous year, whereas during the past five years the average has been 72 per cent.

*Current Farm Economics, Okla. Agric. Exp. Sta. (Dec., 1935).

Table I is based upon information contained in successive issues of the *Oklahoma Educational Directory* (State Department of Education).

Table I. Oklahoma school administrators serving same communities served the preceding year.

Year of Return	Total Superintendents and Principals	Supts. and Principals Who Returned	Per Cent Returning
1917	580	237	40
1918	205	104	50
1919	203	103	50
1920	786	328	44
1921	895	412	46
1922	1020	468	45
1923	966	438	45
1924	971	568	58
1925	983	523	53
1926	983	563	57
1927	1062	634	60
1928	1098	661	60
1929	1154	694	60
1930	1183	785	66
1931	1159	821	70
1932	1150	865	75
1933	1152	843	73
1934	1161	842	72
1935	1246	895	71

For all years excepting 1918 and 1919, the names of many high school principals are included. For those two years, however, the figures are for superintendents only. Principals promoted to superintendencies in the same community were tabulated as returning.

