

Stanley R. Harris was born at Little Birch, Braxton County, West Virginia, May 18, 1908, the son of George R. and Nannie C. Harris. He was graduated from Sutton High School in June, 1927, attended Glenville State College for one year, received his A.B. degree from Marshall University in 1931, and his M.A. degree from West Virginia University in 1934. His first employment in schoolwork was at Wayne County High School, Wayne, West Virginia, where he taught biological science and mathematics for three years. In September 1934 he was employed as teacher of the same subjects in Vinson High School, Huntington, West Virginia. In July, 1935 he was employed as Principal of Romney High School, where he remained for six years, after which he came to the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind as Superintendent.

Harris has always been active in community activities, being especially interested in the welfare of young people. He served as scoutmaster for a number of years, for three years he attended the Boys' State Camp as a counselor, and for three summers as a director of 4-H camps sponsored by the West Virginia Extension Service.

He was married to Della W. Holbert June 9, 1935. They had four children: Bill, Mary, Margaret, and Martha. He has been an active member of the Romney Lions Club, having been president of the club in 1942. He became a member of the Masonic Lodge #18 in 1933.

As Superintendent of the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, he first attempted to raise the standards of the school by raising the requirements for teachers coming in to the system. This effort was thwarted by the war emergency, but he continued his efforts after the war was over. He was inducted into the armed forces of the United States March 6, 1945, having been given a leave of absence by the state board of education. He received his physical training and medical basic at Ft. Lewis, Washington. After a few weeks of further training at Camp Crowder, Missouri, he was sent to the Valley Forge General Hospital, Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, where he was a counselor in rehabilitation for blinded war veterans. He was mustered out of the Army in late September and returned to take over active duties as Superintendent on October 6, 1945, having spent about seven months in the armed forces.

Mr. Harris resigned as Superintendent in the summer of 1953 to become assistant registrar at West Virginia University. Presently (1970), he is a registrar at the University.