

# Who's Who In Wisconsin Rapids

The Who's Who column will be run each Saturday in the Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune. It will include a brief sketch of the life of citizens who have helped make history for Wisconsin Rapids.

## Edgar George Doudna



EDGAR GEORGE DOUDNA

One of the best known educators in the state of Wisconsin is Edgar George Doudna, superintendent of the city schools of Wisconsin Rapids.

Mr. Doudna was born in the village of Viola, September 21, 1878. When he was one year old, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William F. Doudna moved from the little village of Viola to Richland Center, where they lived for a short time, and again changed their place of residence, moving on a farm near Richland Center.

When of sufficient age, Mr. Doudna attended the country school where he studied until sixteen years of age. Shortly after leaving school, he began his first school work, teaching for three years in the country schools of Richland county.

### Platteville Graduate

He next attended the state normal school at Platteville, from where he was graduated in June, 1900. After graduating from the normal, he served as principal for one year in a small high school at Boaz. After leaving that high school, he was teacher of science and mathematics for four years in the high school at Dodgeville.

From Dodgeville, Mr. Doudna went to Watertown to become principal of the high school, where he was in charge of the school for one year. He left the Watertown school at the end of one year's work and entered the high school at Richland Center where he served as its superintendent for eight years.

During the summers Mr. Doudna attended the summer school at the University of Wisconsin, graduating from a law and science course in the summer of 1914.

### Taught at Eau Claire

He left Richland Center in 1916 to become director of the high school teachers' course in the Eau Claire State Normal which opened that year. He remained in that position for two years, coming from Eau Claire to Wisconsin Rapids to become superintendent of our city schools.

Mr. Doudna is the author of the book "Our Wisconsin" a school history of the state and used in all the

schools throughout Wisconsin. He has also written a number of school articles for educational magazines on the subject of high school and grade English.

### Prominent In State

During the past year Mr. Doudna has been one of a state committee organizing a course of study in high schools to establish a definite, simple and practical course as a basis for English work, which has already been adopted in this state, Illinois and New Jersey.

While in residence in Richland Center Mr. Doudna was chairman of the advisory committee of Richland Center Municipal Theater, a public institution which opened March 10, 1916, and ever since its existence has been a paying investment. A full account of it is given in an article written by Walter A. Dyer, which appears in the World's Work of 1916.

### Head of City Superintendents

Mr. Doudna is president of the City Superintendents' Association of Wisconsin, vice-president of the State Association of Wisconsin, a member of the National Council of Teachers of English, a member of the Landmark Committee of the State Historical Society which put up marks on historical sites throughout the state.

During the late war he fully proved himself as a one hundred per cent. American doing his best in every possible way to help win the cause. He was one of the four minute men, speaking throughout the state on the Liberty Loan campaigns.

### Prominent In Lodges

He is an active member of the First Congregational Church of the city. In lodges he belongs to the Masonic Order, the Elks, and is a member of the Rotary Club.

On December 21, 1903, Edgar George Doudna was united in marriage to Miss Caroline Parnell of Dubuque, Ia. They are the parents of two children, their son William, 17 years old, and their daughter Dorothy, five years of age.

### Man Among Men

Wisconsin Rapids can consider herself fortunate in having a city superintendent of schools of the type of Mr. Doudna. Unlike many scholars and men in his profession Mr. Doudna is a man of genial nature, and of a most democratic turn of mind. In him is combined the fine qualities which a schoolmaster and leader should exemplify. In his frank way he has humanized the school system to a point which has brought admiration from the highest education authorities in the state. Because of his

high principles in education and sound pedagogical policies, Mr. Doudna is held in the highest regard by the people of the educational profession. To have a man of Mr. Doudna's understanding and experience in a city, is rare good fortune to that city. It is therefore a source of great satisfaction to record the fact that the people of this city appreciate his work to the fullest extent.