"That They Might Become Successful"

Legendary educator George Wilson Clem was born on Pearl Street in Greeneville in 1908. A protégé of Quincey Marshall O'Keefe, former editor of The Greeneville Sun, he excelled academically from an early age, ultimately earning an M.A. from Ohio State. "The Professor", as he was called, returned to Greeneville to care for ailing parents and became the principal of Greeneville College High School. Under his direction, this two-year high school became a four-year high school. He created an in-service program for teachers, a physical education program, and a hot lunch program. After his tragically early death in 1938, the mayor of Greeneville and the Board of Aldermen renamed the school in his honor. This was done in 1939, when his wife Dorothy Clem was principal.