

## BASKETBALL 1919

**C**ONSIDERING the conditions prevailing and the small number of experienced men back from the team of 1918, the success of this year's basketball squad was phenomenal. We had no court to practice on and a decided absence of funds to rent one with, but the school board kindly came to our assistance and rented the Normal gym.

We started practice with a large number of candidates out for every position on the team. Captain Pease, the only regular back, with Moore and Orser, last year's subs, constituted the only experienced men with which to start the team. Under the able direction of our coaches Mooney and LeCronier, Francis and Calkins stepped into the places of the men of former years and played like regulars the whole season.

Our first game was with St. Louis on their floor which we won after a hard struggle 19-16. Moore's all-around ability easily made him the star.

Midland was defeated next on our floor 25-12. Calkins and Francis did the outstanding work.

We packed our suits up a week later and traveled to the home of one of Mt. Pleasant's greatest rivals, Alma High School, whom we defeated in a rough fast game 29-13. Close guarding of the Alma bunch by every member of our team gained the victory.

Clare gave us little trouble in spite of their small court as we won 44-6.

St. Louis came back for the return game and were defeated in a slow affair which proved only to be a good practice game for the squad. Score 44-7.

McBain came up here with a big conception of their basketball ability gained by frequent victories on their small court. We promptly sent them home with 60-31 score ringing in their ears.

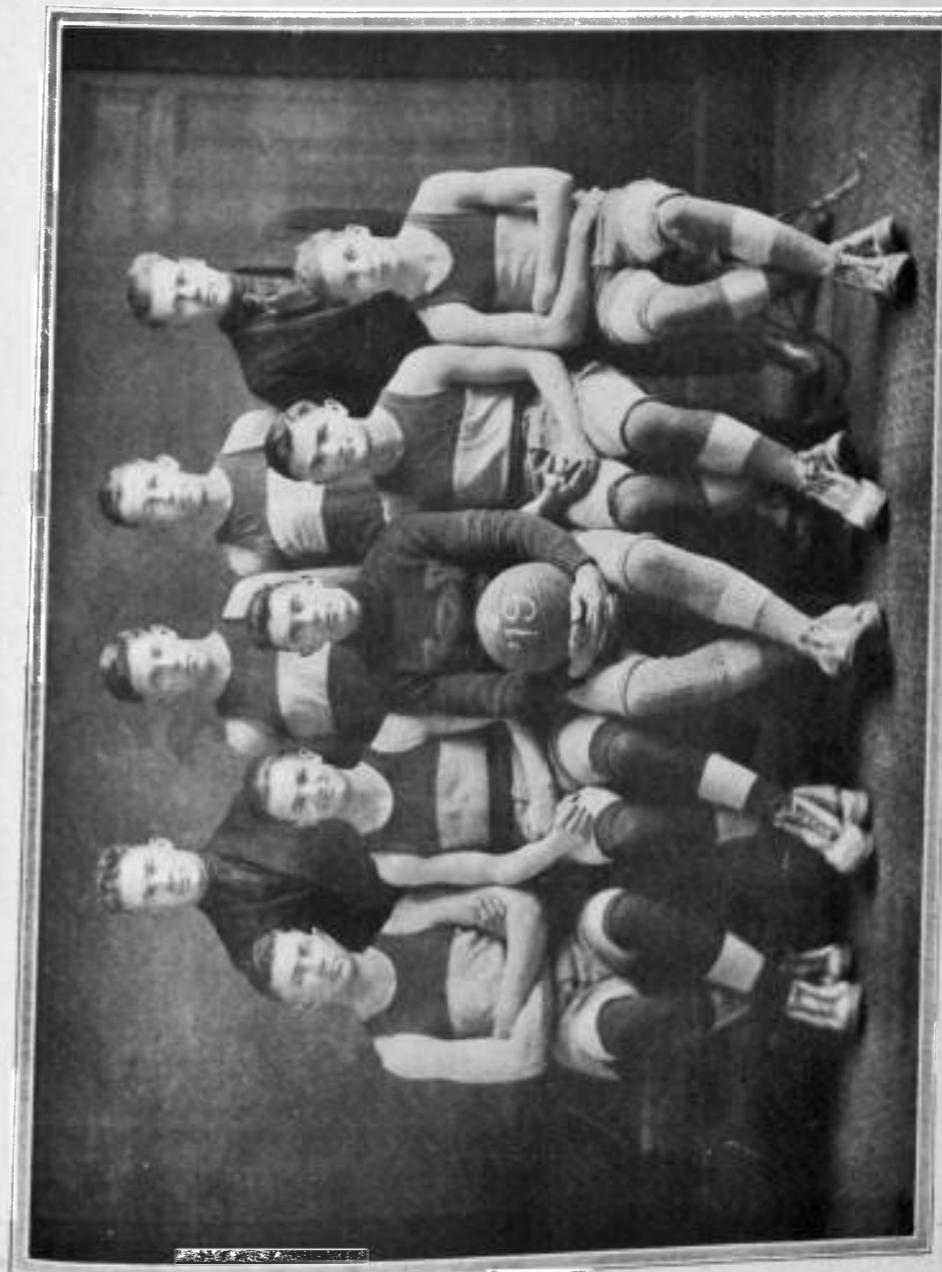
The local Indian school was defeated next by a score of 44-8.

The team underwent a slump a week later and lost to Midland on their floor 28-14. The Midland bunch showed great improvement over their early season form.

The season ended two weeks later when we went to the tournament at M. A. C. winning our first game with East Lansing 20-5 but meeting our second defeat of the season at the hands of St. Marys 9-8.

The season was as successful as any team that represented old M. P. H. S. on the court has passed through and beyond the credit to the players themselves, the coaches are next in line for an acknowledgement of their ability.

I want to add that if this High School is to have strong athletic teams every man from Freshie to Senior should be out for the teams. The Freshmen and Sophomores become discouraged because they do not cinch a position on a team their first or second year in school. If the athletic records could be found of the majority of the players that have represented this school, on any team, it would be discovered that most of the men made the teams during their third and fourth years in school. Stay out, if you quit, you surely won't make a team.



BASKET BALL TEAM