

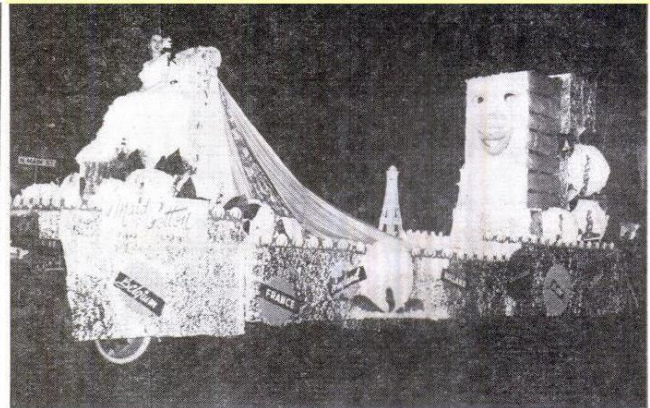
Faculty – Michael F. Abt.



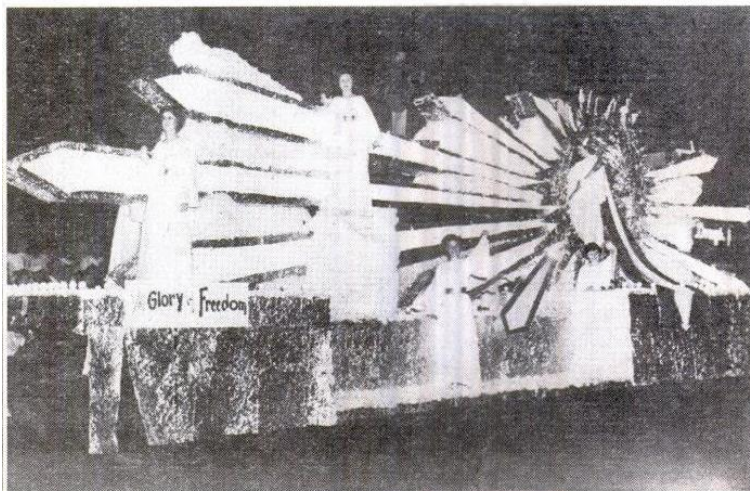
Head of Tech High's Commercial Art Department for 29 years before retiring in 1950 to devote full time to his work with the Memphis Cotton Carnival Association. When the Cotton Carnival was in its infancy in 1931, Mr. Abt took charge of the float design and sent the Carnival to national prominence.



Striking float with its king-sized turkey projects gay Thanksgiving Day note in an Abt-produced parade. Joy conveyed by such a float is accented by the fact that it is preceded by one of a more serious note, in this instance one depicting Armistice Day. A parade should contain elements that lead both to laughter and tears, Abt maintains.



Traditional topper among the floats in the Memphis Cotton Carnival parade is that used for the Queen of Cotton. Above is one of the most eye-filling of such Queen floats, which, you'll note, tosses out a salute to foreign countries.



Brilliant illumination has become a highlight of many floats conceived in Abt's fertile mind. Use of varicolored lights, plus tinsel, metal foil and cellophane, enables the projection of many striking effects.