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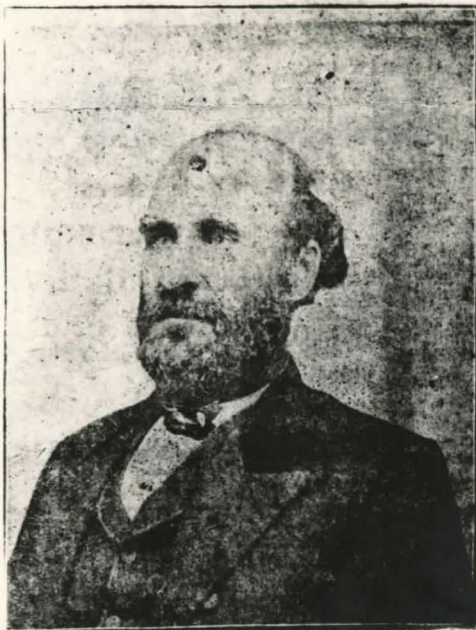


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J.G. Howard, First Trustee



Jeffersonville High School Plant, view from the sky

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE

HISTORY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN
" JEFFERSONVILLE, INDIANA

A Dissertation
submitted to the Faculty
of the Graduate School of the University of Louisville
in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree
of Master Of Arts

Department of Education

by

C. C. Callahan
"

C. C. Callahan

A HISTORY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN
JEFFERSONVILLE, INDIANA

Approved by Reading Committee
composed of the following members

J.J. Oppenheimer

Director

August 24, 1948

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13 Mar '53 MB

FOREWORD

As the traveller approaches Jeffersonville from the north by way of U. S. Highway Number Thirty-One, he may see at the city limits a marker bearing the following information:

"Jeffersonville was founded in 1802 and named in honor of Thomas Jefferson who planned the original town plat. It was made the county seat by William Henry Harrison, governor of the Indiana Territory."

A stranger visiting a city is usually attracted by those things along the lines of his own interests. The engineer would be interested in plats and sanitary conditions. The business man would be interested in the business section. The physician would notice health and sanitary conditions, and hospitals. The minister would be attracted by the various buildings devoted to religious worship. The educator would be interested in educational facilities.

In this work the writer, with the point of view of the educator, will endeavor to trace the development of free public education in Jeffersonville from its early beginnings. Attention will be given to backgrounds of private education, administrative and executive personnel so far as records are available, procurement of real estate and erection of school plants, and development of school curricula, and extra-curricular activities. To obtain this information, the writer proposes to search previously written history, school and court house records, and local newspaper files. Added information will be sought through interviews with reliable older citizens of this community.

CHAPTER ONE

HISTORY OF JEFFERSONVILLE

CHAPTER I

HISTORY OF JEFFERSONVILLE

Since the history of education for any municipality is closely related to the civic and political history of that community, it is thought advisable to give at this time a short history of Jeffersonville and the county and state in which it is located.¹

By virtue of the discoveries of LaSalle and earlier voyages of the Jesuit priests, France laid claim to all of the Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois country at the beginning of the seventeenth century. The Iroquois nation also claimed this land, but their wars against aggressive France gained nothing.

In the Treaty of Utrecht April 11, 1713, Louis XIV renounced, in favor of England, all claims except those to the St. Lawrence and Mississippi Valleys. Both nations claimed the region west of the Allegheny Mountains along the Ohio River and the resultant squabble was that war known as the French and Indian War (1754-1763). The Treaty of Paris ended this war and Indiana, together with all the other territory east of the Mississippi claimed by France, was ceded to England. This territory, of which Clark County was a part, thus passed to the rule of the British nation, to remain a colony until the war of the Revolution was terminated in the Treaty of Paris September 3, 1783.

In 1766 the British Parliament insisted upon the Ohio River as the southern, and the Mississippi River as the western boundaries of her possessions in this quarter. By this measure the entire north-west,

1. Lewis C. Baird: A History of Clark County. P. 23

or as much of it as afterwards became the North-West Territory, became nominally a part of the province of Quebec.

Virginia early laid claim to this same territory by virtue of her colonial charter and maintained this claim until October 20, 1783, when she ceded all the lands of this area to the United States of America.

The story of the conquest of this territory in the interest of Virginia, and the wresting of this land from the hands of the British does not serve the purpose of this work, except that we must remember that Indiana, and, of course, Clark County and Jeffersonville history was deeply influenced by these historical events.

After lengthy debates in Congress and many petitions for local autonomy, and committee suggestions as to government, along with wars and rumors of wars with the Indians, the Ordinance of 1787 was passed. In this ordinance were embodied many of the principles, (prohibition of slavery being a notable example) that later became parts of the constitutions of the states carved out of this territory.²

Twelve years after the ordinance was passed, the government made its first division of the North-West Territory. The act provided:³

"That from and after the fourth day of July next, all that part of the territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio River which lies to the westward of a line beginning at the Ohio, opposite to the mouth of the Kentucky River, and running thence to Fort Recovery, and thence north, until it shall intersect the territorial line between the United States and Canada, shall, for the purpose of territorial government, constitute a separate territory and shall be called the Indiana Territory."⁴

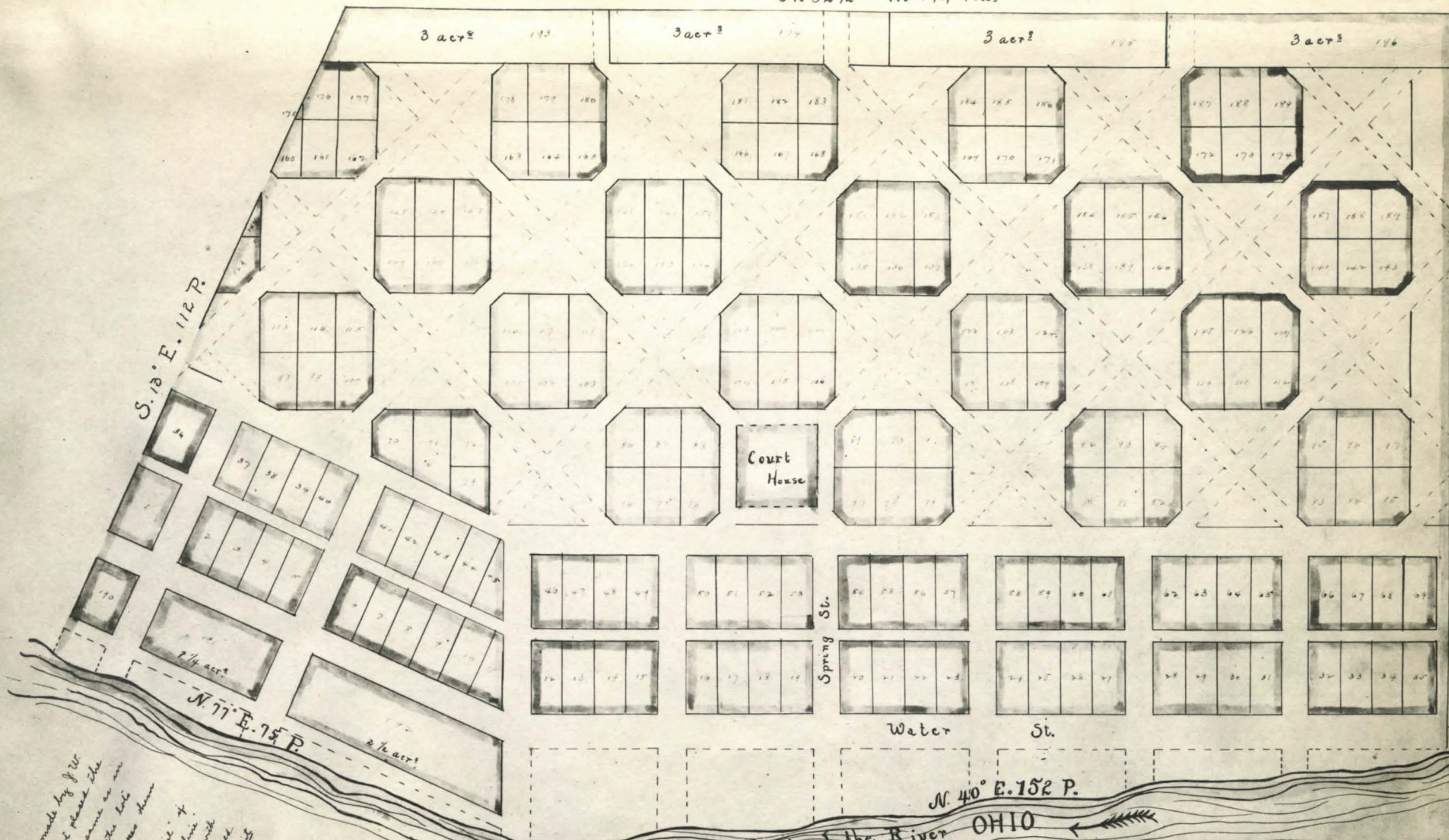
William Henry Harrison, the first territorial governor of the territory of Indiana, created Clark County by gubernatorial proclamation

2. History of the Ordinance of 1787. P.27

3. Ibid. P. 68.

4. Lewis C. Baird: A History of Clark County. P. 47.

N. 52 1/2° W. 174 Poles



This Plat is copied from a plat made by J. W. Ray from the original & has not passed the hands of the original surveyor. I have not passed the plat to any one for the reason that the land is of different sizes, and they make some error in the original of the town is plotted in accordance with the 'full note' of the survey as marked and bearing thereon. It will not be the same as the other errors for the same town.



J. W. R.
The map is not an official or legal copy it is only placed here for reference J. W. R.

North Bank of the River OHIO

Map of Jeffersonville as laid out after the plan



Dedicated to Messrs
Charles Reuff, John McCullouch
and John Beggs
Commissioners of Clark Co.
By the Draughtsman
Nov. 1877

MADE BY
J. W. R.

February 3, 1801. As organized at that time, it contained nearly all of about twenty-two counties of southern Indiana. It may be remembered, also, that this county included the entire grant of land made by Virginia to General Clark and his men January 2, 1781. It seems that Clarksville, laid out and platted as a part of this grant, should have been the county seat, but geographical limitations prevented and Springville, a community at that time near the present site of Charlestown, and which now does not exist, was chosen as county seat.⁵

In the meantime Jeffersonville had grown to be a scattered border of houses along the northern bank of the Ohio. The court at Springville ordered the first jail built in Jeffersonville and the contract was let August 4, 1802 to one William Goodwin for a consideration of nine hundred dollars. One June 23, 1802 a part of Tract Number One of Clark's Grant, consisting of one hundred fifty acres, was platted according to a plan submitted by Thomas Jefferson, (See accompanying plat) and offered for sale to the public. The Jefferson plan was not adhered to and the present plan for the city came into existence in 1817. Thus, by the time Indiana was admitted to the Union as a state, Jeffersonville was a thriving town fourteen years of age.

At first the government was vested in a Board of Trustees which appointed its own successors.⁶ Under this government it remained until January, 1839, when a resolution was introduced in the State Legislature by the then representative of Clark County, Dr. Nathaniel Field, authorizing its incorporation as a city. An act in conformity

5. Baird: History of Clark County. P. 49.

6. History of the Ohio Falls Counties. P. 436.

with this resolution was passed and, on his return to Jeffersonville, Dr. Field, as President of the Board of Trustees, called a meeting at which an election was ordered to be held in April for the choice of mayor and ten councilmen. The city was divided into five wards. The election resulted in the choice of Isaac Heiskill as mayor at a salary of \$50.00 per annum. The trustees turned their records over to the city authorities and as a power in the government they ceased to exist. At this time the population of Jeffersonville was five hundred and eighteen.

In 1802 Jeffersonville became the county seat for the first time by appointment of territorial governor Harrison. (See Foreword of this volume). Up to this time Springville had been the county seat. To the great disappointment of the people of the growing town, an act of the legislature in 1811 transferred the seat of justice to a point nearer the geographical center of the county, Charlestown being designated as the place for holding courts. In 1838 an effort was made to remove the county seat to Jeffersonville again but met with failure. The idea was dropped then for a whole generation, but the dream of Jeffersonville as a permanent county seat never died and, in the April election of 1878, it became a vital issue. As a result, Jeffersonville became the permanent seat for Clark County.⁷

Thus, we have briefly traced the development of Jeffersonville as a civil city. It remains for us to trace its development as a school city, and to this end we devote the following chapters.

7. History of the Ohio Falls Counties.

CHAPTER TWO

BACKGROUND OF PRIVATE EDUCATION

CHAPTER II

BACKGROUND OF PRIVATE EDUCATION

Jeffersonville, like many of the older cities of our country, is much older than the public school system, and for this reason it is thought advisable at this time to give some attention to the various efforts made by many respected people in the field of private education. These schools preceded public schools in the earlier efforts at educating the youth of Jeffersonville, and some operated even after public schools were organized and well under way. In either case they had a definite influence upon the public schools of Jeffersonville and the support of such schools by the people. A study of the early plan of Jeffersonville as conceived by Thomas Jefferson, (See plan in Chapter I of this work) reveals that, at that time, no consideration was given to public schools, private education, being the order of the day.

Prior to the establishment of public education in Jeffersonville, the only opportunity for the youth to receive an education was in private schools,¹ taught by persons who came principally from the East, and would teach from two to five months and then move to other places.

Among these early teachers was a Mr. Stewart and a Mr. Bushman, who believed in, "no lickin, no learnin".² They seemed to have rented parts of business buildings or private homes in various locations but the whereabouts of these schools cannot be ascertained. Their schools were for boys.

In the early forties a Miss Alice Morgan organized a school for

1. History of the Ohio Falls Cities and Their Counties. P. 445.
2. Ibid.

girls near the present site of the American Car and Foundry's Company plant in a building then known as the Jeffersonville Hotel. This was the beginning of her splendid career as a teacher which was to last nearly one half of a century.³

Soon after Miss Morgan's adventure in private education, a Mr. Godfrey Belding established a private school for boys on Maple Street between Spring and Wall Streets. The school was highly successful but went out of use during the decade of its inception and the building has given place to modern business structures.⁴

3. History of the Ohio Falls Cities and Their Counties.

4. Ibid.

The German and English School

An interesting deed¹ recording is to be found in the Recorder's Office in Jeffersonville which reads as follows:

"Leopold Zaff comes and warrants to Stephen Voit, Valentine Prinz, John Weaver, William Stauss, and Frederick Vogt, trustees of the German and English School of Jeffersonville and to their successors a part of lot 170."

The usual description places this position as running 215 feet along Watt Street and backward to the alley. It is further provided that:

"This property or the proceeds, if sold, shall be used in the city of Jeffersonville for the purpose of maintaining a German and English school according to the articles of association now made or hereafter to be made by the said German and English school society. It is further provided that if the number of the members of the Society shall at any time be reduced to less than five, then the property shall revert to the City of Jeffersonville, and the Mayor and Common Council shall act as trustees and the property shall be used for the benefit of the orphan children of Jeffersonville."

This deed was signed by Leopold Zaff September 1, 1860.

A building was erected immediately and a school was organized with a Mr. Laneheart as the principal. After a short time he was dismissed by the society and a Mr. Krupp took his place. An interview with Mr. C. E. Howard, veteran contractor reveals that about the beginning of the century the building was removed to another location and the building site was sold to private ownership and modern homes now occupy the original site.

An interview with Mr. Alvin Voit reveals that Mr. Laneheart, after being dismissed as principal of the German and English School Society, built his own school on the corner of Market and Locust Sts.

1. Book Number 50. P. 457.

Here his school flourished for several years and finally lost its patronage to the growing public school system.

The German and English pay school, as it was called, was the manifest evidence of the desire of the people of German and English origin to have their respective languages preserved as the speaking and writing language of their posterity. This desire by no means died with the coming of public education and older citizens of the community can remember that special teachers of the public school system were employed to go to all the buildings in the city to teach the German language to all children above the third grade. This practice continued until the beginning of the first World War, with German also being taught in the High School. The beginning of hostilities between this country and Germany, however, in 1917 caused a wave of antagonism against the teaching of German in the public schools, and so it was dropped never to be resumed again to the present date.

Lesser Efforts

Miss Bertha Poindexter, veteran librarian, and retired from the service of the Jeffersonville Library, gives us the following valuable information as a historical review of her education during the period of private school popularity:

Two ladies, Miss Curtiss and Miss Bullard, came from Vermont about the year 1866, rented or purchased two buildings on Walnut Street, between Maple and Chestnut Streets, and immediately back of the present location of the St. Luke's Reformed Church. One of the buildings was used as a dwelling and the other was converted into class rooms. For about three years these ladies conducted a special school of primary

level for girls, and enjoyed a general popularity and patronage. The tuition was moderate, and did not cater to special privileged groups of people. This school was made more attractive because of special programs and entertainment conducted in the evenings occasionally, to which both patrons and students were invited. Refreshments at the close of these evening entertainments was always an especially enjoyable feature.

Due perhaps to the growing sentiment in favor of public education, this school too passed out of service and the buildings were given to other uses. The building used by the teachers as a dwelling is still standing and still in use as a home, but the class room building was later used as stables for horses, and in a few years was wrecked. A private home now occupies the site.

Miss Poindexter also remembers Miss Morgan's School mentioned elsewhere in this chapter. She also came from the East and was of the opinion that the sexes should be kept separate in the school program.

About the year 1868, a Miss Bertie Prather established a school for both boys and girls in a brick cottage on the north side of Chestnut Street just west of the Graham Street intersection. It seems that only the younger children were admitted, perhaps no older than the fourth or fifth grades as measured by our present age levels. This school lasted only three or four years, and then discontinued. The building was later razed to give room for an industrial plant.

Miss Amanda Nicholson came from Ohio in the early part of the seventh decade of the century and accepted a position in one of the new public schools of the city. She later left the service of the

public schools and established her own private school on the south-east corner of Locust and Maple Streets. Here she operated a co-educational school of primary level for about three years, and then the school passed into history. The building was later wrecked; and the home of one of Jeffersonville's leading business men now occupies the site.

The foregoing notes from Miss Poindexter's personal experiences agree with other contributions from men and women of integrity such as Mr. C. E. Howard, Mr. Alvin Voit, Mr. John T. McIntyre, Mr. and Mrs. John Worrall, and Mrs. Hardin.

The following note from Mr. Baird's history is of much interest and seems to fit nicely into this story:²

In 1852 the Methodist Church purchased the Springs property, where formerly the beauty and society of the South were wont to disport itself, and where gambling and conviviality were the pastimes of gentlemen. The 'Palaces of Sin' were torn down or converted into school buildings, and quite a number of young ladies enrolled as students in the new "Seminary". It prospered but a short while and in 1857 the hotel which stood at the foot of Broadway, and was an adjunct to the Seminary was burned.

The "Seminary" mentioned above was not a school for the teaching of theology as the name would indicate but was perhaps an early effort at secondary education for women.

2. Lewis C. Baird: A History of Clark County. PP. 110-111.

Miss Loomis' School

Mr. Baird in his History of Clark County makes the following comment concerning one of Jeffersonville's most prominent private school workers.

"Miss Clara Loomis was the daughter of Dr. John Loomis who came from Massachusetts to Indiana in 1861 and began his practice as a Doctor of Medicine. She was interested in social and educational work, and her interest centered chiefly around the underprivileged, aged, and afflicted people of her community.

This interest was revealed by her success in helping to establish the Jeffersonville Hospital, and the Old Ladies' Home, the latter still being in use on West Market Street."¹

Miss Loomis began her private school career about the year 1870. She first gave her attention to underprivileged or retarded children, and to those who had difficulty in keeping pace with the classes in the public schools. Because of this latter service, her school was frequently referred to as the "Dummies' Retreat". Miss Loomis in a personal interview with the writer of this work, while she was still operating her school on the upper floor of a corner store, said that "dummies" certainly need a place in this city to which they can retreat and so she was happy to be able, in this way, to supply their needs.

Miss Clara Funk, retired teacher of the Jeffersonville School system, and a personal friend to Miss Loomis; remembers that Miss Loomis first taught in the public schools of Jeffersonville, but, finding the city system not adapted to the type of social service she desired to give, decided in favor of private effort. She used a two story frame building on the corner of Wall and Market Streets near her home. The lower floor was used as a business place and the

1. Lewis C. Baird: A History of Clark County. P. 600.

upper floor housed her school. Entrance was gained by an outside stairway. She was careful to follow the Indiana State Course of Study, and a student experienced little inconvenience in making transfers between her school and those of the City system. During the latter part of her work, she held pre-school age classes very much the same as the modern kindergarten. Miss Loomis was assisted in her work by her sister, Alice. Miss Alice gave special attention to art.

The school was open to both boys and girls and, in addition to the usual curricular subjects, much attention was given to good manners, excellent behavior and courteous conduct.

Because of the infirmities due to advanced age Miss Loomis retired from teaching and closed her private school about the year 1926, thus finishing a splendid career in helping young people to overcome the difficulties of life, and to solve their peculiar educational problems.

CHAPTER THREE

PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS OF THE PAST

CHAPTER III

PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS OF THE PAST

In dealing with the public school system of Jeffersonville the writer has discovered that, since the beginning of public education, all the buildings erected may be divided into two groups; those that have served and gone, and those that remain in service. In this chapter we shall endeavor to record the history of that group of buildings that no longer exist as schools. Like venerable battle ships that were erected and considered excellent at that time, but became obsolete with the passing of time and were 'decommissioned'. Some have sunk beneath the waves of changing times and passing years, while others have been converted to serve in other capacities.

The New Market Street School

Since the original plan of the city did not give place to erect public school buildings, it became necessary for the school trustees to purchase ground in the various parts of the city when a building for school purposes was needed in that locality. Accordingly, on June 15, 1866, the School Trustees (Anthony Field Jr., John T. Ingram, and Thomas S. Crone) purchased from Nathaniel D. Field and his wife, Mary D. Field, parts of lots 12, 13, 14, and 15 in the Block No. 34 on New Market Street, (now Court Avenue) for the purpose of erecting a new school building.¹

At the time of this purchase the location was somewhat out of town and looked upon as the "Commons" rather than a growing part of the city. A small, one-room brick building was erected and put into

1. Recorder's Records, Book No. 56. P. 481.

service immediately. Miss Bertha Poindexter remembers attending this school in 1867, evidently when it was new and remembers that a Mr. Maddox was the teacher.

It was devoted entirely to primary work as the city had not yet tried its hand at secondary education. After the Civil War, and colored people began to accumulate in this locality, education of the new colored citizens became a responsibility of the city government. In due time, as we shall see later, other buildings were provided for the white citizenship, and the New Market Street building was given over to the service of Negro Schools. In this capacity it served until near the close of the century. It was finally sold to private ownership after it was no longer needed for school purposes, and after changing ownership some two or three times it finally became the property of Mr. and Mrs. John Worrall, July 10, 1893. Mr. Worrall remodeled this building into the comfortable home where he and Mrs. Worrall now live.

The "Blue" School

As the century neared its mid-point in its panorama of important events the prejudice against public education began to wane and a growing sentiment in favor of a public system of schools began to be evident. Jeffersonville, on this point of progress was merely keeping pace with the times. In their battles with floods (1832)¹, cholera epidemics (1832)², and county seat locations³ the people of Jeffersonville had almost forgotten their constitutional right to free public education. Jonas G. Howard, a lawyer of the times, gives the following account of the plight of public education during the decade, 1830-1840.⁴

"At that time school-houses were not very plentiful. The only one that we had in Jeffersonville was a little old clerk's office. They had the court house bare then, but the county seat was at Charlestown. The first school I went to when I came here was to that little clerk's office."

The writer has not been able to ascertain where that "Little Clerk's Office" was located, and no living citizen interviewed to date remembers the place.

With the advent of the Decade, 1850-1860, demand on the part of the people for public education began to bear fruit, and in 1852 the Public School system of Jeffersonville was established. A special edition of a local newspaper published August 1897 gives the following account of this beginning:

"In 1852 the public school system of Jeffersonville was established, the first school being erected during the same year at the corner of Maple and Watt Streets. The first Board of School Trustees was elected in 1853 and consisted of J. G. Howard, T. E. Veatch, and W. L. Meriweather. Up to the beginning of the war the growth of the system was steady and

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1. Lewis C. Baird: A History of Clark County. P. 92.
 2. Ibid.
 3. Ibid.
 4. Ibid. P. 95.

satisfactory. The military occupation of the city during that war, however, all but paralyzed the system."⁵

The writer has not been able to find in what way the city obtained the lot upon which to build this first school building. Mr. Alvin Voit, who purchased the obsolete property in 1890 obtained title to a lot extending 213 feet on Watt Street and 105 feet on Maple Street.

The building constructed here was a two-story brick building with one room down stairs and one on the second floor. Who the first principal of this building was cannot be learned. Miss Bertha Poin-dexter remembers attending this school in 1869 when a Mrs. Baldwin was teaching down stairs and Miss Amanda Nickelson was teaching upstairs, but she does not remember which was principal. Mrs. Hay, retired teacher living in Clarksville, remembers attending this school in 1873.

The official name of this building seems to have been originally the Maple Street School. Mr. Henry Temple, veteran teacher still in service in the Jeffersonville High School, contributed the following interesting anecdote concerning the name, "Blue School".

"Early in the life of the building, which was a brick structure, the school trustees let a contract to some painters to white-wash the exterior walls. Being somewhat careless or inexperienced in the use of blueing as a bleaching agency, too much of the element was added to the white-wash and this resulted in a definitely blue color. Being too conservative to discard this over-blued mixture, they used it with the result that the building became blue instead of white. From that time onward the building was commonly called the "Blue School".

When the Civil War was over and Negro citizens became more numerous, this building became the home of the second Negro school of Jeffersonville. It served in this capacity until it was supplanted by other structures and was sold to Mr. Alvin Voit in 1890. Mr. Voit graciously permitted the school to continue for one year after his purchase and

5. Evening News, August 25, 1897.

so the colored school continued until the spring of 1891. Mr. Voit, in the meantime, built a cottage on one corner of the lot facing Watt Street, and, being recently married took his bride to their new home.

After being abandoned by the schools the building was changed from the, "noisy mansion", of school days to the humble service of a carpenter shop, and served in this capacity for several years. Later a part of the lot was sold to Dr. Baldwin, now a practicing physician in Jeffersonville, and here, contractor, Clarence E. Howard built a handsome new two-story home. About the same time Mr. Voit built another home on the corner, where he now lives, as a retired musician. Thus, the famous corner that once endured the sound of many youthful voices and the pattering of many feet, both white and black, and was the scene of the labors of many worthy teachers, has been converted into the scene of three quiet homes of present day citizens. Nothing remains to suggest that it was once the scene of a school except the stone tablet that bore the name of the school which now serves as a footing for the chimney of the house built by Dr. Baldwin.



Old School On Mulberry Street
built 1852

The Mulberry Street School

The Mulberry Street School was a two-room structure after the same plan as the Maple Street School. Miss Bertha Poindexter remembers the building and states that it was erected during the same period of expansion as the Maple Street or "Blue School". This statement is supported by the statement also of Mr. C. E. Howard, Jeffersonville contractor of more than forty years. A paper entitled "Jeffersonville High School History" written by Miss Ada Frank in 1916 states that the Mulberry Street School was located "near the foot of Chestnut Street". Here, according to the same paper, in answer to a persistent public demand the first High School as a part of the Public School System of Jeffersonville was organized in 1868. This school was organized by a Professor Armstrong, and a note in the Jeffersonville High School paper¹ states that superintendence of this school was a direct responsibility of the School Trustees. This school was short-lived, however, and it was reorganized at the end of two years under the principalship of a Mr. H. B. Parsons of Louisville, and given a new home in the newly erected building on East Chestnut Street.

The Mulberry Street School was also the home of the first Negro High School of Jeffersonville. As other buildings were erected to house the city white schools, the Mulberry Street Building was given to the service of colored schools. According to a historical sketch in the colored school publication² the first Negro High School was organized in 1882, and found a home in the upper room of this building.

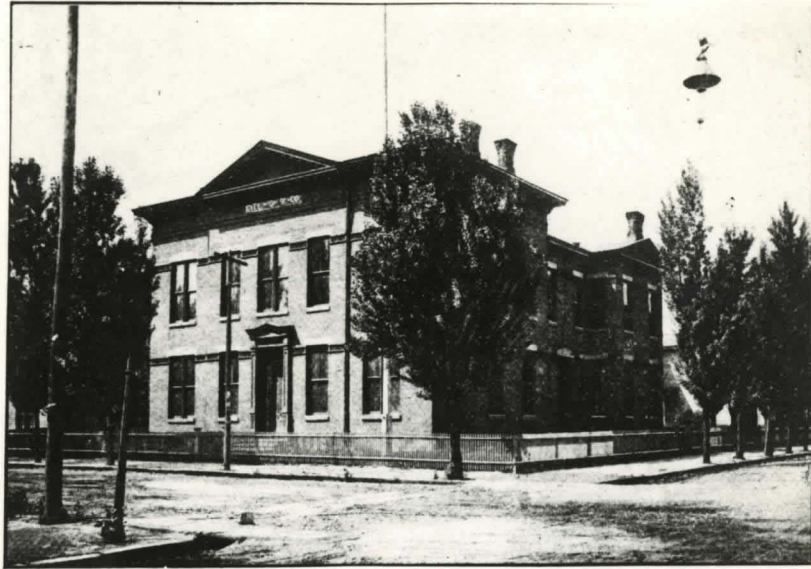
1. The Hyphen. April 6, 1924.

2. Taylor High Tribune, 50th Anniversary Edition. P. 1. May 1942.

This plan continued until 1891 when the first school building in Jeffersonville solely for the convenience of Negro students was erected.

About this time, the battle to erect a bridge across the Ohio was gradually being won and in 1895 the Big Four Bridge was completed.³ In order to provide room for the Jeffersonville approach to this bridge several buildings along Mulberry Street were razed. One of these buildings was the Mulberry Street School, and so another venerable school building full of years of service passed out of existence.

3. Lewis C. Baird: A History of Clark County. P. 368.



HIGH SCHOOL.

Pearl Street School
built 1884



CHESTNUT STREET SCHOOL.

built 1867

Pearl Street School

The latest building of the Jeffersonville School system to pass out of use was the Pearl Street School, located on the south-west corner of the intersection of Pearl and Chestnut Streets. Ground for this building was purchased from James H. McCampbell and Leatiatia S. McCampbell, his wife, by the Board of School Trustees consisting of Orlando O. Stealey, John H. Ingram, and George Pfau. The purchase was made May 8, 1882, and cost \$2362.50.¹ On this plot of ground measuring 105 feet along Pearl Street and 132 feet along Chestnut Street, the third building was erected to be occupied by the Jeffersonville High School. Mr. C. E. Howard remembers that a contractor named M. D. Stamper was entrusted to erect the building. It was a two-floor plan. The ground floor was given over to the seventh and eighth grades and a department al system was set up near the close of the century. The upper floor was composed of a large assembly room with several class rooms.

Mr. Howard remembers that about the time of the building of this school building a terrible fire destroyed a large school building in Cleveland, Ohio, and because of a lack of fire protection several children lost their lives. This tragedy caused a nation-wide demand that school buildings be equipped with fire escapes and other known safety arrangements. Accordingly, this new high school was so equipped and other buildings of the city were remodeled to conform to these standards.

It was in this building that the controversy as to Negroes

1. Deed Records. Book 72. P. 360/

attending the same high school as white youth arose and was settled temporarily by assigning the colored youth a "Jim Crow" section in the rear of the study hall.² This arrangement lasted only for a short time; less than a year, and the Colored High School was organized and housed in the old Mulberry Street School.

The reason for the short life of the "Jim Crow" arrangement may be seen in the following human interest story contributed by Miss Clara Funk:

Robert Frank Taylor, a very genteel and capable colored boy, was definitely at the head of the class and was very likely to win an honored position on the program of spring graduation because of excellent scholastic attainment. Some white patrons, no doubt overburdened with prejudice born of slavery days, vowed that such humiliation should not befall any member of the white race. So, to prevent such a calamity, the Colored High School was organized and Robert Frank Taylor took the honors in the spring graduation of a class of three colored youth.

Mr. Taylor was immediately placed upon the colored school faculty and in 1886 became the principal of the colored high school, a position he was to hold for forty years.³

The Pearl Street School building was the home of the Jeffersonville High School and also the seventh and eighth grades of the city until January 1911 when the new building on East Court Avenue was ready for service. The High School was then removed to this location, leaving the Pearl Street building for the service of the two upper grades of the primary schools of the city. A departmental system was continued here until the year 1931 when a new annex to the High School building on East Court Avenue was erected. The Departmental School was then discontinued and the Junior High School came into being including the same two upper grades. The Junior High School was

2. See page 18 of this thesis.

3. See page 31 of this thesis.

then comfortably and conveniently placed in the enlarged High School building with the Senior High School and this arrangement continues at present.

The Pearl Street Building, once the pride of the city, and scene of much educational interest, thus was abandoned. It thus stood vacant until 1933 when it was razed to provide material for a W.P.A. project of improving the Clark County Court House on East Court Avenue. The School City still owns the vacant lot but it is being offered for sale this year (1946).

Lesser Lights

In addition to the other public school buildings of the past already mentioned we must not forget to mention some buildings seemingly of minor importance, yet they served a genuine need in their day. On the 500 block and on the south side of Chestnut Street stands a modest duplex apartment house owned by Mrs. Herbert Reynolds. Many years ago when the City of Jeffersonville was still young and its public school system still younger, this building housed the Jeffersonville Fire Department. Older citizens recall the installation of the "trained horse" drawn fire engine and when the alarm was sounded, how the citizens collected to observe the performance of these wonderful "nags". The upper floor of this building was equipped for school purposes and was commonly called the "Engine House School".

Miss Bertha Poindexter remembers that a lady named Lou Lawes was the first teacher and retained her position several years. She was succeeded as teacher by Miss Lizzie Hertsch. How long she held this position cannot be ascertained. This school seemed to have come into use during the period that saw the rise of the "Blue School" and the Mulberry Street School. It seems to have been more or less an emergency institution to receive the "overflow" of grade students from other buildings. That it was not devoted entirely to white students is revealed by the testimony of Mrs. Mary Yates, veteran colored playground director, who remembers attending school at this place during her early childhood. Soon after the new Chestnut Street

School was built, the "Engine House School" was discontinued.

Going upstream from the City of Jeffersonville the traveller approaches a higher eminence of ground that has been inhabited perhaps longer than Jeffersonville itself. For many years this community, known as Port Fulton, maintained its own separate town government. The only school supported by this community was a modest one room brick building. This seems to have been built during the early sixties. It was sufficient to accommodate the grade school program but when the new building was erected about 1880--this much used building, immediately north of the present Park Place Methodist Church, was given over to the use of the Colored Schools. As much it was supervised by the Principal of the New School. Mr. Orlando Ross, one time principal of the Port Fulton School, remembers having to make daily trips to this school for the purpose of supervision. With the passing of time this building was abandoned for school purposes and sold into private ownership. Mr. Dewey Stoner, the last and present owner, has remodeled it into a comfortable home.

When the present Chestnut Street School was erected it was thought sufficient to house the schools of this area for years to come. This idea, however, proved to be much in error because a housing shortage began to be keenly felt by the beginning of the "eighties". In 1882 the city decided to erect a new High School building and for one year, during this construction (1881-'82), the overcrowded condition of the Chestnut Street building was relieved somewhat by establishing a temporary school in the Odd Fellows' Building on the southeast corner of Wall and Market Streets. Mr.

Frank Same, aged citizen who was in school at that time, remembers this unique emergency arrangement and contributes the above bit of information.

One section of the city included in the city limits in 1928 is well known as Ingramville. This section, until the above mentioned date, was a part of Jeffersonville Township but for a period of time had no school building of its own. For the convenience of the students, the county Superintendent of Schools obtained permission to transfer students to the newly built Spring Hill School. This being unsatisfactory, the township trustee, Fry L. Curry rented a one-room building on the corner of the "Middle Road" and Morningside Drive in 1911. A Miss Nellie LaFever was the first teacher assigned to this school. Many students, seeing the advantage of the graded system of the city schools, refused to leave the Spring Hill School and go to this one-room building where all eight grades were under one teacher. The next year, however, another teacher was added, and the controversy came to an end.

In 1915 the first two rooms of the present building on French Street were erected and the above-mentioned building, rented from a Mr. Ingram, was abandoned for school purposes, and has since been converted into a comfortable home.

CHAPTER FOUR

IN THE LIVING PRESENT

CHAPTER IV

IN THE LIVING PRESENT

Our attention now turns from recognition of the venerable past to the living present. With rare exception the good citizens of Jeffersonville in the past accepted each new school building with enthusiasm and made it the scene of activity of the best educational organization to be had up to date. However, looking back upon such organizations from the view point of a later date often provokes the expression of a different opinion. One William Lee, a former president of the Board of Education of Jeffersonville, writing an article for the Twenty-sixth Report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in 1878 makes the following comment:¹

"While Jeffersonville may be numbered among the oldest cities of Indiana, there is little worthy of particular mention connected with its early educational interests. It had no permanent academies or seminaries, wherein were taught the higher branches of the English education. It had only such common schools as were ordinarily taught the more common branches of an elementary education. The schools organized under our common public school system had but a feeble, sickly existence without reputation or influence for good. They were patronized by very few of our citizens who could afford to provide for the education of their children at private expense. This condition lingered along until the enactment of the law of 1865.

Under the law of 1865 our system of public schools was vitalized into rugged life and health. Although the foundation for free education had been laid deep and strong in the constitution of our state, little had been done by the legislature previous to that time to provide for its development. From this time a new interest in the public mind of our city was awakened in the interest of public education. A growing demand for greater school facilities, for the better school accommodation of the children of the people, and a higher standard of qualification for teachers began to manifest itself. Our school authorities were awakened to new life and energy in the cause. The old foggy prejudice and opposition to taxation for school purposes were swept away and the demand of the people, that better accommodations in the school buildings, and the employment of more teachers,

1. 26th Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of Indiana. Ninth Biennial Report for the year ending Aug. 31, 1878. PP. 347-350.

and that such additional expense be met purely by taxation were enforced.

At this time the School Board of the City was composed of Hon. Jonas G. Howard, President, Dr. N. Field, Secretary, and Col. John N. Ingram, Treasurer. They were up to the spirit of the times, and responding to the people's demands, In 1869-1870 a large and elegant school building was erected; and under the provision of section 147 of the law of 1865 as amended in 1869, a high school was organized with Professor H. B. Parsons of Louisville as principal and Professor Winn and Miss Amanda Nicholson as his assistants. The high school went into operation on the first Monday of September, 1870."

The Chestnut Street School

This account thus reveals the beginning of our High School and also the erection of the oldest school building still in service in our city. Records in the recorder's office¹ disclose that William Keigwin and his wife Elizabeth Keigwin of Lion County, Texas sold to the School City of Jeffersonville lot number 168 on Chestnut Street for the purpose of the Public Schools of the city. The purchase was made on June 28, 1869. The price was two thousand dollars.

Although a rather crude type of secondary education was organized at the Mulberry Street Building,² the Jeffersonville High School is generally thought of as having its first home in the Chestnut Street Building.

This building was also the home of a separate female High School up to the year 1874.³ It cannot be ascertained just how distinct this separation was but available information indicates that it was merely a plan of segregation of the sexes in the same building. Miss Bertha Poindexter remembers that boys and girls had separate study rooms on each side of the building and recited

1. Book No. 60. P. 183.

2. See page 18 of this work.

3. History of the Ohio Falls Cities and Their Counties. P. 443.

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**LEE WACHTEL
MUNICIPAL REFERENCE LIBRARIAN**

November 16, 1946

Mr. C. C. Callahan, Dean
City Public High School
Jeffersonville, Indiana

Dear Mr. Callahan:

Your letter of November 14, 1946 addressed to the Mayor's office has been referred to this library. The incident you refer to in your letter was the Collinwood School Fire which occurred on March 4, 1908. At that time Collinwood was a separate municipality bordering upon the city of Cleveland. Since then it has been incorporated into the city of Cleveland and is now an integral part of the city. The Lake View School in Collinwood took fire, and in the ensuing panic the children piled up at the exits, and 162 pupils and 2 teachers lost their lives. This tragedy had at least the salutary effect of making school boards and public officials conscious of the necessity for fire proof school buildings. Most cities in the United States shortly after this tragedy amended their building codes to prevent the occurrence of similar tragedies. I trust this answers your question.

Sincerely yours,



Lee Wachtel,
Librarian

LW:IK

together in a row of recitation rooms located between the study rooms.

When the new High School Building⁴ was erected in 1884 on the corner of Pearl and Chestnut Streets, the High School was moved to this new building and the Chestnut Street Building was given over entirely to the accommodation of the first six grades of the common schools of this area.

In 1908 a terrible tragedy occurred in a small municipality near Cleveland, Ohio, in which a large number of students lost their lives, in a panic caused by a school building taking fire. [The letter on the following page is the answer to an inquiry by the writer addressed to the Mayor of Cleveland). This event aroused citizens of the entire nation and resulted in a nation-wide safety inspection of school buildings. Captain Lewis C. Baird headed a crusade in Jeffersonville which was successful, and, in answer to a demand on the part of the citizenship, Clarence E. Howard, a competent building contractor, was employed to make all the school buildings fire safe that were then in use.

Chestnut Street School was one of the buildings so revised. Outside doors were made to swing outward, fire escapes were installed for upper floors, narrow halls were widened, and all unnecessary obstructions and fire hazards were removed. About this time the Indiana State Legislature passed a law, demanding that all public buildings have exit doors to swing outward; a citizen of Indianapolis, Indiana, invented and patented panic release locks for exit doors and these were in due time installed in compliance with state safety rules.

Immediately following the first World War (1920) an annex was

4. See picture and story of Pearl Street School

added to the building, and in this were installed sanitary plumbing and toilets, and a modern heating plant. Drinking fountains were made available on every floor. At present the building is in excellent repair, and is the scene of a happy and profitable education life for youth up to and including the sixth grade under the leadership of Mr. Snodgrass and his efficient assistants.

Following is the present faculty roll and grades taught:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Maud Coleman..... | Third Grade |
| Joyce Johnson..... | First and Second Grades |
| Grace Loftus..... | Fifth Grade |
| Maud Nieland..... | Second Grade |
| Margaret Poindexter..... | Fourth Grade |
| Field Snodgrass..... | Principal and Sixth Grade |
| Margaret Walk..... | First and Second Grade |

Not only does this building with its mark of youthful occupancy remind the visitor of the numbers of students that have gone in and out its doors, but also each room and desk suggest to the home coming visitor the personality of a devoted teacher or principal that gave their talent and energy to the shaping of the young life of this area. Mr. Field Snodgrass, the present principal, contributes the following list of teachers and principals who have served well and passed on to other positions, to retirement or to their reward of the hereafter.

So to those who are in the middle and latter area of life, as they read this work the following list becomes a "Hall of Fame" to bring back many pleasant memories of a by-gone day.

J. O. Oglesby
Kate Pawson
Emma Piers
Margaret Poindexter
Alice E. Pollock
Laura Jacob Reschar
Minnie Reynolds
Mattie May Rogers

Emma Rose
Lorena Ross
Mrs. Ruddle
Sallie Runyan
Lydia E. Rutledge
Anna Heaton Scott
Alma Shrader
Kate Sigmund
Cora F. Stark
Kate A. Thickett
Estella S. Tibbets
Belle Toombs
Kate Veasey
Mae Veasey
Mary Voigt
Kate Walkup
Etna Ware
Fannie Watts
Bertha Williams
C. A. Wilson
Katie Wilson
L. Ingram Wilson

Since Chestnut Street School building was erected for the new home of the Jeffersonville High School, the principals of the High School were in direct control of the graded schools also. This arrangement continued until 1883 when the High School moved to its new home on the corner of Pearl and Chestnut Streets. The following list of principals therefore begins at that date.

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Dates of Tenure</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| E. S. Hopkins..... | 1882-1883 |
| Miss Belle Toombs..... | 1883-1886 |
| F. L. Mulky..... | 1886-1888 |
| F. E. Andrews..... | 1888-1892 |
| O. L. Sewell..... | 1892-1895 |
| W. H. Stout..... | 1895-1897 |
| F. E. Andrews..... | 1897-1904 |
| James H. Scott..... | 1904-1913 |
| J. F. Harriman..... | 1913-1916 |
| John S. Potter..... | 1916-1917 |
| Henry Temple..... | 1917-1918 |
| George W. Shelton..... | 1918-1919 |
| E. G. McCullum..... | 1919-April 1, 1920 |
| Henry Temple..... | April 1, 1920-Close of School |
| Joseph Hanna..... | 1920-1923 |
| George Shelton..... | 1923-Never assumed office |
| Field Snodgrass..... | 1923-Incumbent |

Taylor High School

In 1878 there were four or five colored youth who aspired to become students in the High School of Jeffersonville. Mrs. F. W. Hay, veteran teacher and retired, now living in Clarksville, Indiana, remembers that quite a controversy was raised because of this intermingling of races in the school room. So a "Jim Crow" section was fenced off in the rear of the study room of the High School Building on the corner of Pearl and Chestnut Streets. The controversy was thus settled and the studies went on as usual.

This quiet was not to continue, however, and before this mixed class came to graduation the year, 1882 saw the beginning of the High School Department of the Colored School System. A special edition of the Colored High School Annual gives the following historical account of the career of this school.¹

The first school in Jeffersonville, Indiana for negroes was established in 1872 with Mr. J. H. Ballard as its principal. In the year, 1882 Mr. Ballard resigned and J. E. Porter succeeded him. During the year of 1882 the high school department was added. The first graduates of the Jeffersonville High School (colored) were Eliza F. Parks, Sarah Thelkins, and R. F. Taylor.

Mr. Taylor and Miss Parks were elected teachers of the elementary department of the colored school immediately after their graduation in 1882.

In 1884 Mr. J. E. Porter resigned and was succeeded by Mr. W. L. Gibson, who in 1886 resigned and was succeeded by one of the school's first graduates, Mr. R. F. Taylor. He held this position until his death in the year 1926. During the early years of Mr. Taylor's principalship, a new school building was erected in 1891 and the building still stands as a learning place for the colored children of Jeffersonville.

At the commencement exercises in 1924 Professor E. G. McCullum, Superintendent of the Jeffersonville City Schools, realizing the long and efficient service rendered by Mr. R. F. Taylor, to the educational development of the colored

1. Taylor High Tribune, 50th Anniversary Edition, May 194 P. 1.

people of Jeffersonville, suggested that the school be renamed in honor of him. Immediately, a group of women headed by Mrs. J. C. Oglesby drew up a program for this occasion and at a great home-coming of its patrons, a large number of its alumni from various sections of the country in the summer of 1924 named it Taylor High School.

Upon the death of Mr. Taylor, its principal for forty years, Mr. T. C. Johnson became principal of the school and held the position until the winter of 1928 when he resigned to take a teaching position in Indianapolis. He was succeeded by Mr. Joseph Biggs.

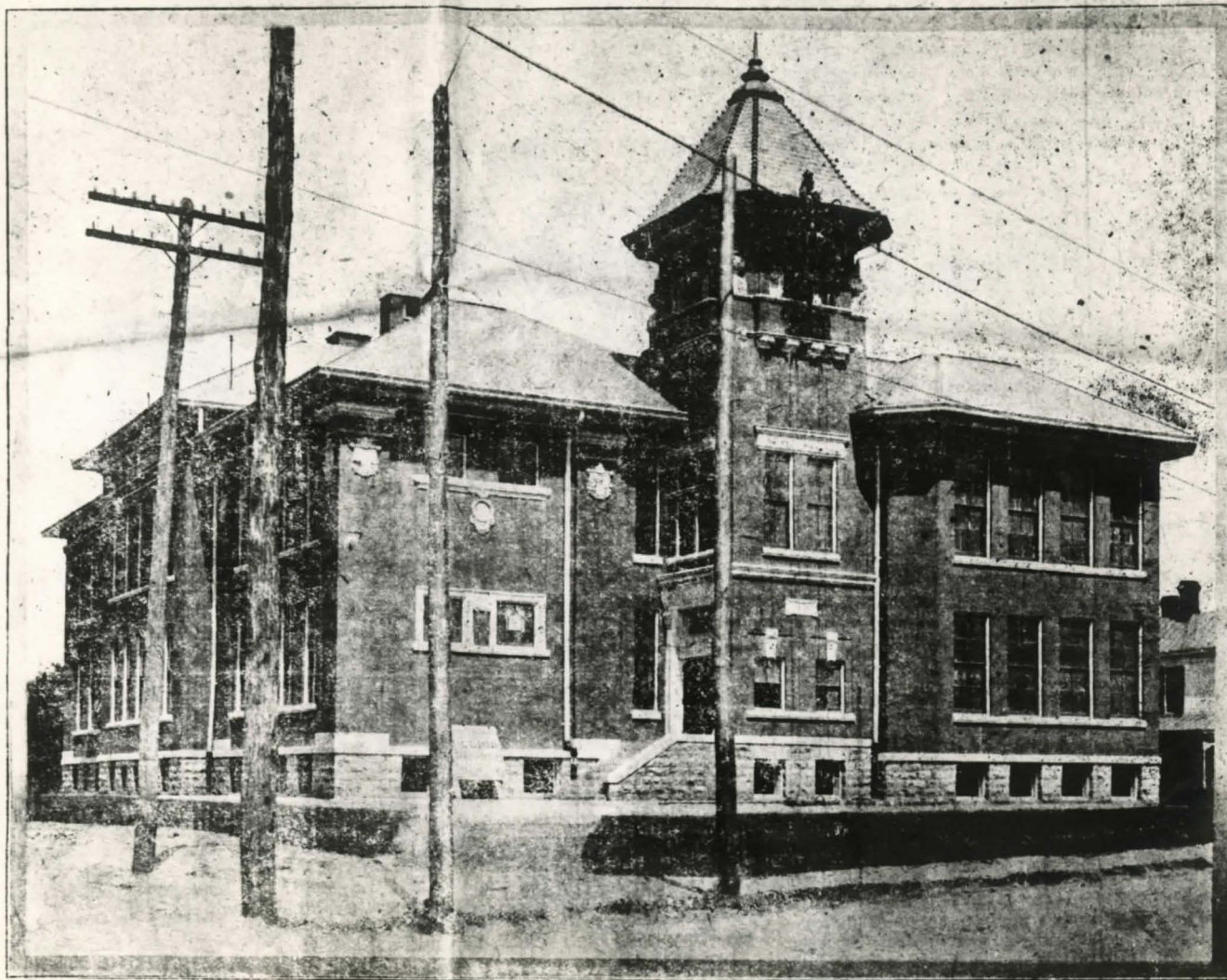
Here, Mr. Biggs held the principalship for thirteen years, until 1939 when he was succeeded by Mr. Corden Porter who holds this office at present.

This same school publication² lists the names of two hundred and thirty two young colored men and women who have been graduated from the Colored High School from the time of its establishment up to the year 1942. Many of these have been returned to the system as teachers, and others became teachers in other systems.

Taylor High School Building is evidently the only structure erected for the convenience of negro youth. Before its erection negro schools were organized in buildings previously occupied and vacated by white schools. Mrs. Ramey Yates, elderly colored playground supervisor, relates that the colored people fought and worked a long time to get this building and now take a just pride in its possession and use by the colored schools.

The building is not completely modern and is rapidly being outgrown by the increasing negro population. A growing sympathy is being manifest in the interest of better facilities for negro schools and the not too distant future will probably see a new modern school building to delight the hearts of negro young people and their parents of Jeffersonville.

2. Taylor High Tribune. 50th Anniversary Edition, May 194 . PP 3-4.



Spring Hill school Building, Built 1903

Spring Hill School

The advent of the Twentieth Century brought new worries to the School Trustees of Jeffersonville. The original pleasure resort, purchased by the Methodist Church¹ and originally including a large portion of the Spring Hill real estate, was gradually being sold into private ownership, new homes were accumulating, and, of course, new school accommodations was the next demand to be made by the people. To meet this demand the School City, in 1903, purchased three lots on the north east corner of Missouri Avenue and Thirteenth Streets. This tract measures 90 feet on Thirteenth Street and 144 feet on Missouri Avenue. At the same time lots four, five, six, and a part of lot seven fronting on Spring Street were purchased from a William McKnight and a Mr. Reed. Deeds for these pieces of property are now on file in the Superintendent's office. The accompanying plat, copied from an abstract of the property will give some idea as to the shape, size, and location of the ground. This plat measuring 154 feet along Spring Street and 251 feet along Thirteenth Street was to be the site of the new Spring Hill School. The alley originally separating the Lindley purchase on two sides was abandoned in the interest of unity.

The school trustees at this time were W. A. Davis, T. W. Perry, and A. A. Swartz. They employed Arthur Loemis of Louisville, an architect, to plan and supervise the building. Clarence E. Howard, a local contractor, was given the contract for construction. Mr. Howard remembers with just pride that this was one of the most modern school buildings in the country at the time of building.

1. See page 10 of this work.

The following story copied from the Evening News of that date gives an idea of the enthusiasm with which the new building was accepted when it was ready for service in the autumn of 1904.²

This afternoon the new school house on Spring Hill is thrown open for inspection from 2 to 5 o'clock. Visitors will be puring through the building in a constant stream. The teachers who are assigned to the school and the officials of Jeffersonville's School System are in attendance to receive the visitors, and to point out to them all the advantages of this school, which is the acme of perfection in school buildings as far as this city is concerned.

The new building is handsome, commodious and convenient. Architecturally it is an ornament to the part of the city that is graced by its presence. From the point of view of the use to which it is to be put it looks as though it could not be improved. There are eight class rooms, but at the present time only five, which are capable of accommodating 240 pupils, are furnished for use,--the additional ones to be thrown into service as the growth of the school population demands it. There are two floors besides the basement and the building is practically fire proof. Its safety in this respect is due to the fact that there will be no fire on the premises. Heating is carried out on what is known as the "indirect steam heating" plan. In the basement, which is absolutely fire proof are two big boilers where the steam is generated and it is so contrived that the steam is distributed throughout the building and then condensed and returned to the boilers to be reconverted into steam to make the rounds of the system again and again. In connection with the heating system is the ventilating system. Hot and cold air are admitted to each room by registers, and by this means the building will be kept not only warm, but pure as far as air supply goes.

The front of the school building is adorned with the names of sundry Indiana authors and men of note, and the slab bearing the date, 1903, bears also the names of the school trustees who provided for the erection of the building. Mr. Perry was succeeded in office by J. Ira Dorsey and the school comes into use during his term of office.

Prof. C. M. Marble is the superintendent of the city schools and the force of the new school, whose opening is celebrated today is as follows: Prof. Zenos Scott, principal, and to assist in the grades: Miss Emma Leeper, first grade; Miss Lillie Goudy, second and third grades; Miss Cord Warder, fourth and fifth grades; Miss Kate Wicht, Sixth; Miss Kate Pawson, seventh and eighth.

2. Evening News, September 8, 1904. Front Page.

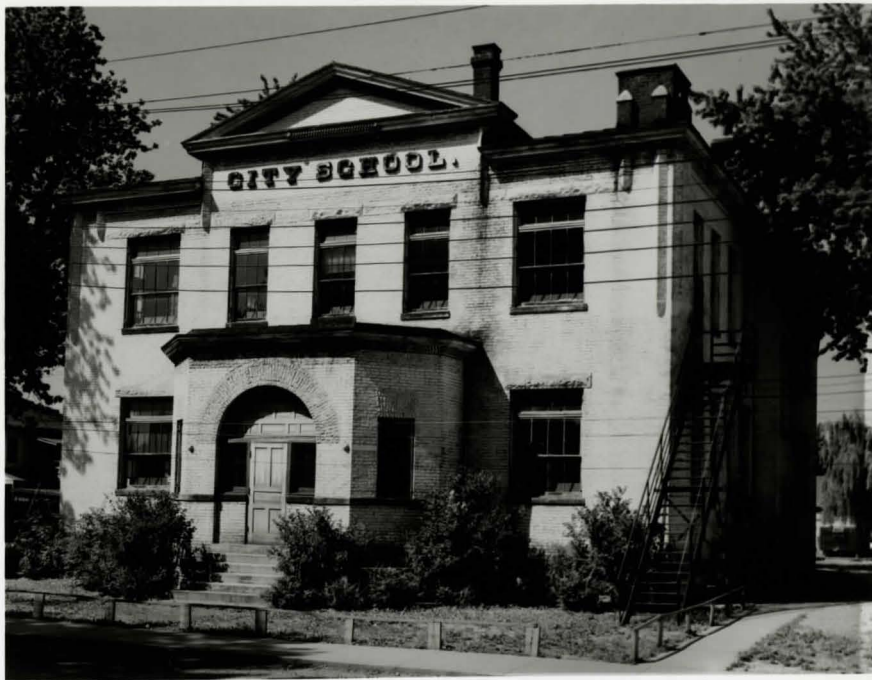
Since the building of the Spring Hill School many of the city's well known educators have served in the various positions of the school. Following is a list of principals and the dates of their respective service periods according to school records:

Zenos Scott.....1904-1907
Henry Temple.....1907-1911
George Rickard.....1911-1914
Robin Baggerley.....1914-1916
Albert Herbst.....1916-1917
Mr. Grantham.....1917-1918
Earl Crum.....1918-1920
Henry Temple.....1920-1921
Theodore Clapp.....1921-1923
James Scott.....1923-1940
Marion B. Carr.....1940-

The Spring Hill School is at present in charge of Marion B. Carr who came to the position of principal in 1940, and has charge of the sixth grade. He is assisted by the following staff of teachers:

Aletha Duley.....Fifth Grade
Pearl Moser.....Fourth Grade
Mary Machand.....Third Grade
Louise Hobson.....Second Grade
Ruth Ritchie.....First Grade

During the years that have elapsed between the assignment of the first faculty under the leadership of Mr. Zenos Scott, and the last faculty under the leadership of Mr. Marion Carr, many other teachers have served well and the following list of names may be found in the Spring Hill "Hall of Fame" for that period: Mary Walkup, Percie Poindexter, Maud Coleman, Faye Seitz, Susie Thro, Belle Eaken, Emma Ruehl, Rose Abel, Hollis Meloy, Evelyn Coleman, Miriam Royce, Margaret Poindexter, Grace Allen, Mary Knuckles, Eleanor Dickey, Katherine Scott, Stella Norris, Anna Biser, Mary Zwickel, Elsie Shelton, Hollis Conrad, Louetta Bowyer, Margaret Walk.



Taylor High School Building Buil't 1891



JEFFERSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL *Built 1911*

High School

The Jeffersonville High School, during its development, seems to have made a specialty of out-growing its buildings. First organized as a two-year institution, housed in the old Mulberry Street Building, it soon moved to its new quarters in the Chestnut Street Building.¹ In due course of time it outgrew this building and was moved to a new location on the corner of Pearl and Market Streets.² It enjoyed a long and happy period of growth here, but, during the first decade of the century, the school began to be too crowded and the school trustees were forced to seek new quarters.

The Jeffersonville Association, an organization of men devoted to the development of Jeffersonville, in the year 1853 platted a new enlargement to the City of Jeffersonville along New Market Street (Court Avenue) eastward from Spring Street. One block between New Market and Franklin Streets, north and south, and Meigs and Mechanic Streets, east and west, was reserved as a public reserve.³ This was perhaps due to the fact that the site was low and swampy and at that time, unfit for home building.

In the year 1909 this block was deeded to the School City for the purpose of erecting a new school building. The site, as noted in the deed was 441.4 feet along New Market Street and 184 feet deep to Franklin Street. The deed does not mention any financial consideration but stipulates that in case the property is abandoned as a school building site it is to revert back to civil city ownership.

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1. See page 27 of this thesis.
 2. See page 20 of this thesis.
 3. Plat book No. 3. P. 17. Recorder's Office.

The deed was signed by the Mayor, Edward N. Flynn and the City Clerk, Albert L. Anderson, in the presence of notary public Elmer M. Frank on the third day of August 1909. It bears the Recorder's stamp of the same date,⁴ and was duly entered for taxation on the same date.

It now became the duty and privilege of the school trustees to construct the new building to which the city was by this time looking forward with eager expectancy. A document, now on file in the superintendent's office, was drawn up bearing the pretentious title; "A Program of Competition for the Selection of an Architect for a High School Building for Jeffersonville, Indiana". A committee of the School Board was appointed to receive the bids some time before the close of the year, (1909).

It is interesting to read the list of requirements for the building, to which each architect must cater in making his bid. Following are the most important:⁵

The building is to be planned to suit the size of the lot and located thereon in the most advantageous manner, with accommodations for the following:

Auditorium seating 800 including balcony, thirteen rooms of which nine or ten will be used for recitation purposes. One will be used for physical laboratory, one for chemical laboratory, one for drawing room and one for domestic science. Provide two study rooms to accommodate one hundred and fifty students each, one for boys and one for girls. Provide a library, superintendent and principal's room, manual training rooms, shower baths, gymnasium, and heating apparatus, also small lecture room if possible.

The necessary accessories to above will be provided for according to the judgment of the designer, such as cloak rooms, janitor's rooms, general and private toilet rooms, lockers and teacher's rooms.

Provide proper entrances and large commodious halls and stairways.

4. Recorder's Office. Book 100. P. 233.

5. Specifications for Jeffersonville High School Building.

With respect to cost we have the following statement from the same document:

"It is desired that the cost of the building, including architect's fee, plumbing and gas piping, electric conduits, and wiring, heating and ventilating apparatus, but exclusive of light fixtures, shall not exceed \$65,000.00. Therefore, strict economy of design will be observed."

In due time the several architects entering the competition submitted their respective bids and required drawings to the committee and near the close of the year 1909, Mr. Arthur Loomis of Louisville was selected to submit plans and supervise the construction of the building.

With the advent following year (1910) the building was under way, and at mid year 1911 it was completed and occupied under the supervision of Principal Emmett Taylor.

As we read the above list of requirements and observe the building as was finally completed we are impressed with the deviation from these requirements which was obviously necessary to stay within the cost of \$65,000.00. There were no lecture rooms. The gymnasium was a small undersized affair with floor below the grade level and no seating capacity except a make-shift balcony and some bleachers adjacent the playing floor. This gymnasium and shower room are now beneath the present band room. The study room was much smaller than the proposed eight hundred seat capacity, and boys and girls were not separated. There was no special library room, but rather a study room and library combined.

At the middle of the year 1911 the Jeffersonville High School left the building on Pearl and Chestnut Streets which it had outgrown and moved into its new quarters on Franklin Square. Mr. Emmett Taylor

had the honor of being the first principal in this new location.

Principal and teachers were very happy because of this new breathing space but this was to be very short-lived. The First World War with its resultant influx of workers for the Quartermaster Depot and other industries of this area caused the school population to increase very rapidly. The building of the new Silver Creek High School in 1925 and the resultant withdrawal of students that formerly came here from that Township, relieved the crowded condition, but for a short time. The need for added room at the High School building, and also a desire to have the Junior High School (Departmental School) under the same roof with the Senior High School molded the public mind in the interest of a new annex to the High School building.

School officials yielding to this demand let the contract for a new annex in 1930. This annex was built on the west end of the previous structure and contains ten class rooms, on two floors, a gymnasium with toilets, lockers and showers. The Junior High School occupied the new annex in 1931 with Herman B. Vorgang as principal. The city was very happy and proud of the new building, especially the new gymnasium. The athletic activities immediately transferred from the Colgate gymnasium into the new building, and the next spring 1932, we were honored with having the sectional basketball tournament, the first to be had on our very own floor.

The growth of the school and a more athletic minded public soon began to create a demand for a new gymnasium. In spite of the fact that many citizens felt that enough money had been spent on athletic

equipment, the School Trustees entered into a contract in 1936, with the government sponsored Public Works Administration to build a gymnasium of the fieldhouse type and accordingly the work was begun that year. The flood of 1937, the greatest in the history of our community, slowed up the work but did not stop it, and the fieldhouse, located on the east side of the original building was completed, (Indiana Project 364D. P.W.A.) and occupied in the fall of 1937. The school authorities responsible for building the fieldhouse were:

John Seitz, Secretary
Charles Machand, President
Joseph Schwaninger, Treasurer
E. G. McCullum, School Superintendent

The contract was let to Buesching Bros. Construction Company and the architect was D. Daniel Zimmerman. The total cost of the building was \$125,000, the United States government paying \$55,000 and the school city paying \$70,000.

Up to this time the school city owned only one half of the block bounded by Meigs Avenue and Mechanic Streets, east and west and by Court Avenue and Seventh Streets north and south. In the year 1942 all the private property north of Franklin Alley was purchased and the buildings removed to make room for future expansion of the High School plant. (One cottage was used for one year as a sewing room.)

The year 1942 saw our country enter the Second World War. Much training of young and middle aged men needed to be done to equip them to enter the war industries. The Quartermaster Depot, the Indiana Arsenal, (then under the supervision of the Dupont and Goodyear Corporations), and the Jeffersonville Boat and Machine Company (then operated by the United States Navy) all were in need

of trained men. Our school officials responded to the demand and in cooperation with the United States Government an up-to-date machine shop, facing Meigs Avenue was built in 1941. In order to build this structure the city supplied \$15,000.00 to buy the ground, pour the concrete floor, and buy plumbing and lighting fixtures. Here the National Youth Administration sponsoring the building and the Government War Training Organizations did a commendable piece of work.

With the close of the war and the consequent slowing down of the demand for war training, the School City obtained complete ownership of the building and equipment. It is now one of the school's valued assets and houses the metal-work branch of the Industrial Arts Department as well as the Vocational Education Program. Adult evening classes in machine shop, welding and mechanical drawing are still being held.

But the school was still growing, and a serious need for new class rooms was being felt. The private cottages were removed from the ground recently purchased and the plans were drawn for a new building north of Franklin Street. A special government function (Federal Works Administration) because of our crowded condition due to the influx of war worker families gave the city a grant of \$135,000 and in 1943 the annex across the alley was built. This building is modern in every sense of the word. The rooms furnish space for the Physical Science Departments (Physics and Chemistry), the Biology Department, Commercial Department, a modern cafeteria and rooms for class recitation. It has its own heating plant, storage rooms and toilets.

This last building brought the High School plant up to its present status. The adjoining areal view of Franklin gives us an idea of the size of this plant and the arrangement of its various building. It is truly a "Battlewagon", ready to do battle against the forces of Illiteracy and Ignorance, and of which Jeffersonville citizens are justly proud.

The school, at present is under the leadership of Principal E. W. Theiss and the following faculty members:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Robert Akers..... | Commerce, History, Football Coach |
| Glenn Allen..... | Science |
| Edna Biddle..... | English, Mathematics. |
| Lucille Basenbach..... | English, Mathematics |
| John Brogan..... | Physical Education |
| Elizabeth Brushfield..... | Mathematics, English |
| C. C. Callahan..... | Industrial Arts |
| Dorothy P. Cain..... | Health, Science |
| Robert Detamore..... | Social Studies |
| Kenneth Davis..... | Health, Safety, Basketball Coach |
| Edith P. Girth..... | Social Studies |
| Ross Graham..... | Mathematics, Science |
| Samuel Giltner..... | Geography, History |
| Harry Himebaugh..... | Music |
| Dorothy Hoehn..... | Commerce |
| Mary A. Holloway..... | Mathematics |
| Margaret Hayes..... | Librarian |
| Goldie P. Ising..... | Mathematics |
| Ramona Kuhn..... | Art |
| Dorothy Kimbley..... | Home Economics |
| Edwin Lyskowinski..... | Health, Safety, Basketball Coach |
| Glen McCarty..... | Science, History |
| Mabel Makowsky..... | |
| Mary A. Middleton..... | Physical Education |
| Helen D. Nolte..... | English |
| Anna C. Nahstoll..... | English |
| Percie Poindexter..... | Geography, History |
| Mary P. Raber..... | English |
| Maryllyn Reich..... | |
| Eugenia Richardson..... | |
| Ruth E. Robertson..... | |
| Ruth S. Rose..... | |
| James Sullender..... | |
| Alma Shrader..... | Commerce |
| Margaret Sweeney..... | English |
| Henry Temple..... | |

Melvin Vandermeer.....
Lola Van Allen.....Home Economics
Arden L. Vance.....Music
William Watkins.....
Chris White.....

In searching the year books published since 1921 we have found the following list of teachers that have served Jeffersonville High School. While reading this list many will have pleasant memories of hours spent in the classes conducted by these teachers. They have served well and some are still serving while others have retired, moved to other jobs, or passed from this life. We hope the following list will serve to honor those who have given to "Jeff Hi" the best of their efforts and talents.

Mary K. Voigt.....Principal, 1923-1931
Mildred Hauss.....English, 1923-1925
Edith M. Pangburn.....Social Studies, 1921-
Ada Frank.....Latin, 1923-1935
Emory Theiss.....Bible, English, Coach, 1923-
Eugenia Lemmon.....French, History, 1923-1929
Russell Sage.....Commerce, 1923-1924
Ruth Hasely.....Science, 1923-1924
Goldie Fertig.....Mathematics
C. C. Callahan.....Industrial Arts, 1921-
Marie Deibel.....Domestic Science, 1923-1925
David LaDuke.....Science, 1921-1926
Clara Funk.....English
Henry Temple.....Mathematics
Helen Armstrong.....Music, Art, 1923
Eva Ludwig.....Physical Education, 1925
Frances T. McQuiddy.....English, French, 1924
Caroline Gould.....Music, Art, 1924-1925
Floris Ellis.....Commerce, 1925-1932
Helen Howard.....Science, 1926
Robert Daugherty.....English, History, Coach, 1926-1927
Katherine Hines.....English, 1926-
Gladys Deatherage.....Music, 1926-1927
Hattie Clark.....Phys. Education, 1926-1929 or 1930
Florence Jenkins.....Domestic Science, 1926-1927
Christine Bolds.....Art, 1926-1930
Ross Graham.....Science, Mathematics, 1927-
Marjorie Phillips.....History, 1928-1929 or 1930
Dorothy Kimbley.....Domestic Science, 1928-
Cathryn Trautman.....Music, 1928-1931

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Jean Culbertson..... | English, 1930-1932 |
| Frank Overturf..... | History, 1930- |
| Gene Plasterer..... | Chemistry, 1930 |
| Adele Ladoran..... | Physical Culture, 1930 |
| Sue F. Perry..... | French, 1930-1933 |
| J. D. McCoy..... | English, 1930 |
| C. B. Seidel..... | History, 1930 |
| Ruth Gift..... | Art, 1931-1933 |
| Margaret Sweeney..... | English, 1931 |
| Miriam Danner..... | Physical Education, 1931- |
| L. S. Rose..... | Chemistry, 1931 |
| John A. Bird..... | History, English, 1931 |
| J. P. Francois..... | Physical Education, 1931-1935 |
| Herman B. Vorgang..... | Principal, 1932- |
| A. C. Wood..... | Chemistry, 1932-1934 |
| Anne C. Mahstoll..... | English, 1932- |
| Genevieve Schhesser..... | Music, 1932 |
| Leone Voigt..... | History, 1933 |
| Ernest Smith..... | Music, 1933 |
| Theodore Clapp..... | Citizenship |
| Lenora Balow..... | French, 1933- |
| Paul Cockrill..... | Commerce, 1933- |
| Frances Allhands..... | Art, 1934 |
| Edythe Wilson..... | Commerce, 1935 |
| William Schleicher..... | Chemistry, 1935 |
| Frank Barnes..... | Physical Education, 1936 |
| Evelyn Grim..... | Latin, English, 1936- |
| | 1937 & 1938 Missing |
| Elmer Hoehn..... | Commerce, 1939- |
| Mae Hollingsworth..... | Physical Education, 1939- |
| Gordon Raney..... | Safety, Comm. Geography, 1939 |
| Frances Cory..... | Music, 1939- |
| Burnell Mummert..... | Study Hall, 1939- |

Names listed according to year when they first appeared in the Annual to 1940.

High School Principals

On Friday, July 3, 1868 a historic meet ing of the Jeffersonville Board of School Trustees was held in the office of Dr. Field, then president of the board. According to ~~minutes~~ minutes of that meeting those present were Dr. Field, John W. Ingram and Thomas S. Crowe. The important business item read as follows:

"It was resolved to revive the High School suspended several years ago for the want of funds to sustain it, and to carry it on as long as the tuition fund will permit."

Mr. Armstrong of Kentucky, a regular graduate of Georgetown College was elected to take charge of it.

The reader may infer from this paragraph that an attempt to conduct a high school had been made previous to this time, but had not met with success, and also that Jeffersonville High School passed its first two years of existence in the Old Mulberry School Building.

In the year 1870 the new \$28,500 school building on Chestnut Street was occupied.

In the year 1882 the Board of Trustees accepted the new High School Building on Pearl and Chestnut Streets.

The year 1911 saw the High School moved to East Court Avenue.

Following is a list of men and women who have served in the capacity of Principal during the life of Jeffersonville High School

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Dates of Tenure</u> |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Charles D. Armstrong..... | 1868-1870 |
| H. B. Parsons..... | 1870-1873 |
| O. H. Smith..... | 1873-1874 |
| J. H. Payns..... | 1874-1877 |
| R. L. Butler..... | 1877-1884 |
| Miss Frances G. Simpson..... | 1884-1887 |
| C. M. Marble..... | 1887-1904 |
| F. E. Andrews..... | 1904-1910 |
| Emmett Taylor..... | 1910-1917 |
| Mary K. Voigt..... | 1917-1931 |
| Herman B. Vorgang..... | 1931-1938 |
| E. G. McCullum..... | 1938-1939 |
| Emory W. Theiss..... | 1939-Incumbent |



ROSE HILL SCHOOL, JEFFERSONVILLE, IND. *Built 1874*

F. A. MASON, PUB.

Rose Hill School

Jeffersonville, still less than a century old, was a rapidly growing "youngster" in the family of Indiana cities. In the early seventies another murmuring for additional school housing began to be heard. As the demand increased in persistence the need was discovered to be genuine and a new school building became the outstanding project of the school officials. The school board at this time was composed of Jonas G. Howard, the first man to be elected as school trustee in Jeffersonville, and with him were John W. Ingram, and Charles Rossler. The following statement concerning this building is of interest here.¹

The growing population of our city and the growing popularity of our public schools made it necessary again to increase our school accommodations to meet the public demands, and in 1874 another large three-story brick building, with school room ample for the accommodation of from five to six hundred children, was erected in the western part of the city.

This notice of course refers to the Rose Hill Building. Many older residents remember it as the Prison Hill School because of the nearness to the Indiana Reformatory. The urgent need of additional housing facilities at the time is indicated by the fact that a part of the building was completed and occupied before the remainder was completed.

The writer has not been able to find any record of the transfer of real estate to supply a site for this building. However, an old map of the city drawn by a man named Milne in 1839 shows one half of this block to be a public park.²

-
1. Ninth Biennial Report of the Supt. of Public Instruction to the Governor. P. 349.
 2. Plat Book No. 3. P. 17.

It is quite probable then that the school officials decided to erect the new building on ground already owned by the city.

The Rose Hill School Building, in original design was quite similar to the Chestnut Street Building, and thus it remained until 1908 when an order issued by the State Department of Inspection demanded some changes in the interest of fire safety. Important demands of this order, still on file in the office of the city Superintendent, are as follows:

"A door is to be provided between the northwest and south west rooms on the second and third floors to permit access to new fire escapes. Loose plastering is to be removed and new plastering or metal ceiling is to be put on. The Superintendent's office, now in the hall is to be torn out, thus removing fire hazard. The air shaft is to be cleared of paper. Some badly cracked stoves are to be discarded and large zinc mats are to be provided for all stoves."

The requirements of this order were carried out at once as it allowed only a twenty day period of time to complete the work.

The Rose Hill Building, as already noted was at first heated by a stove in each room. No water was piped into the building and outdoor toilets were provided. In 1920 complete modernization was effected.

At first all eight of the primary grades were housed in this building. Later on, however, when the departmental system was organized and housed in the Pearl Street Building, Rose Hill School housed only the first six grades and so it remains at the present time.

When the Rose Hill School first occupied the new building in 1874, Mr. W. B. Goodwin was principal.³ The writer is unable to find the length of this tenure but a history of the times⁴ published in 1882 states that he was still principal at that time.

3. History of the Ohio Falls Cities and Their Counties. P. 443.

4. Ibid.

M. Cleary
C. W. S. S. S.
G. L. V. S. S.
V. S. S. S.

Jack P. S. S.
Mary S. S.
H. S. S.
C. S. S.

Edward S. S.
L. S. S.
C. S. S.
H. S. S.

M. S. S.
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C. S. S.

D. S. S.
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H. S. S.

1912

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Mr. Goodwin was succeeded by a Mr. Olcott, Mr. W. G. Owsall of Cleveland, Ohio who was a student at Rose Hill School during this period remembers that Mr. Olcott succeeded Mr. Goodwin when the latter left the teaching profession to practice law. Mr. Olcott was succeeded by Mr. Charles Fox in 1889. Mrs. Wilmer Fox, a daughter-in-law to Mr. Fox remembers that Mr. Fox held the principalship for twenty-five years thus ending his tenure in 1914. Mr. Fox was the first principal to die while in office. During his tenure the school grew in numbers and prospered materially.

An interesting anecdote connected with his principalship came to light when the writer interviewed Mr. Charles Fox, a local attorney and grandson of Professor Fox.

The faculty of Rose Hill school decided to buy a piano, and the question of raising funds to finance the enterprise became of paramount importance. The novel idea of an autograph quilt seemed to offer a solution. The ladies prepared an old fashioned "nine patch" quilt with intervening white squares. Space for names to be stitched in these white squares was sold at 10¢ per name. The accompanying picture of the quilt, now an heirloom in the possession of Mrs. Wilmer Fox, reveals the "Hall of Fame" result of the effort. Miss Ida Schell, a member of the present faculty, says, "we sat out under the shade of a tree in the front yard and had a great time during spare moments working the names on the quilt." When completed the faculty had the money for the piano and the quilt was presented as a gift to Mr. Fox.

Mr. Fox passed away in 1914 and the vacancy was filled by another very worthy school executive, Robin M. Baggerly. For another twenty-five years the school prospered under his capable leadership, but in

1939 he likewise was claimed by death during that school year and Miss Ida Schell was appointed acting principal until the close of the school year.

For the school year 1939-1940 William Paul Moser was elected principal. The school launched out again under this new leadership, hopeful that the principal problem was again solved and the school was headed again into smooth waters. However, it was not to be so. In 1942 Mr. Moser was called into the service of his country and became a member of the armed force of the Second World War.

Samuel Giltner of New Washington was appointed principal to fill the temporary vacancy occasioned by Mr. Moser's leaving for the armed forces and held the position until the beginning of the school year of 1945-1946. Mr. Giltner, knowing that Mr. Moser was soon to return, accepted a position in the Junior High School at the beginning of this school year, and again Miss Schell held the position of principal until Mr. Moser's return in October 1945.

Thus ends the list of principals that have graced the Rose Hill School with their presence and benefitted her with their talent. To assist these principals in making Rose Hill School a successful institution the School Trustees from time to time have succeeded in obtaining many worthy teachers for the various grades. The writer has not been able to procure the dates of service or length of tenure of all the teachers but the following list of names will serve to bring back many pleasant memories of the splendid teachers who served Rose Hill School students of the present and past generations. Since there was quite a shifting of position during the early school life of Jeffersonville the reader need not be surprised to find names that will

appear again as members of other school faculties.

Addison, Frances
Barker, Florence
Biesel, Addie
Biesel, Mary
Bizer, Anna
Board, Clara
Board, Eva
Board, Lena
Bolly, Hazel
Brooks, Frances
Cain, Katherine
Cameron, Fannie
Cameron, Ollie
Campbell, Alieida
Campbell, Alice
Clayton, Nellie
Clegg, Maud
Coleman, Maud
Collier, Marine
Craig, Maud
Dickey, Eleanor
Dunham, Ethel
Eaken, Belle
French, Mattie
Giltner, Sam
Graham, Margaret
Gray, Neldean
Guard, Cora
Harper, Corrine
Hines, Katherine
Hobbs, Anna
Holmes, Nona
Howell, Aileen
Howell, Martha
Humphreys, Virginia
Jacobs, Laura
Kalmbach, Matilda
Keeper, Luella
Lewis,
Loftus, Grace
McKee, Josephine
McMurray, Madge
Martin, Emma
Mayfield, Lenora
Miller, Eina
Miller, Elizabeth
Minor, Olive
Montgomery, Sadie
Moser, Pearl
Moser, Mary
Nahstoll, George

Ross, Aileen
Runyon, Sallie
Rutledge, Lizzie
Schell, Ida
Schwaninger, Emma
Shelton, Elsie
Snodgrass, Anna
Stemler, Gladys
Sterry, Emma
Walkup, Mayme
Weber, Edith
Williams, Bertha
Wilson, Katherine

The present faculty consists of:

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| W. Paul Moser, Principal..... | Sixth Grade |
| Ida J. Schell..... | Fifth Grade |
| Maxine Collier..... | Fourth Grade |
| Virginia Humphreys..... | Third Grade |
| Mrs. Edna Miller Lyons..... | Second Grade |
| Mrs. Elisabeth Voigt Weber..... | Second Grade |
| Nellie Clayton..... | First Grade |
| Frances Allhands..... | Art Supervisor |
| Ruth Barnhill..... | Music Supervisor |

Summary of Principals and dates of tenure:

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| W. B. Goodwin..... | 1874-1884 |
| Virgil McKnight..... | 1884-1889 |
| Charles Fox..... | 1889-1914 |
| Robin M. Baggerly..... | 1914-1939 |
| Ida Schell..... | 1939-Till close of year |
| William Paul Moser..... | 1940-1942 |
| Samuel Giltner..... | 1942-1945 |
| Ida Schell..... | 1945-Two months |
| William Paul Moser..... | 1945 |



Port Fulton School Building built 1880

Port Fulton School

An act of annexation passed by the Common Council of the City of Jeffersonville in 1918 formally opened the door for Port Fulton to become a part of Jeffersonville.¹ A lack of unity on the part of Port Fulton citizens prevented the consummation of this movement until the year 1925. The town of Port Fulton then became a part of Jeffersonville.²

By this action, Jeffersonville received two additional school buildings,--one an old brick building north of the present Park Place Methodist Church, and the other the present Port Fulton School.

Immediately after gaining possession of these buildings, the Jeffersonville Board of Education then composed of Ella Coats, Walter Lemmon, and W. J. Schwaninger, adopted a resolution presented by the school attorney to sell the old building since it was considered no longer fit for school purposes.³ The town of Port Fulton had received this property from James E. Johnson and Sophia H. Johnson, his wife on March 26, 1850.⁴ This real estate was duly appraised in compliance with the law in Chapter 61 of the Acts of 1911 and sold to the Falls Cities Realty and Investment Company, for \$296.00. A deed to this parcel of ground 50 feet by 110 feet was duly executed on Mar. 17, 1926, and so this venerable building that was once the pride of the community and used by both white and colored grade schools passed into private ownership and is now the property of Dewey Stoner.

On record in the Clark County Recorder's office is a deed whereby Edward J. Howard and his wife Laura B. Howard transferred the Town

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1. City Clerk's Records.
 2. School Board Minutes December 8, 1925.
 3. Ibid.
 4. Book No. 40, Recorder's Office. P. 228-229
 5. See Page 24 of this thesis.

of Port Fulton for school purposes, lots 181 and 182 for a consideration of \$300.00.⁶ Here in the year 1880 the four room Port Fulton School was built.⁷

Since this was the only school building in operation for white children, all eight grades of the primary school were housed here. As seen elsewhere colored students were housed in the old building. In addition to this, Mrs. Allen Jacobs remembers that a High School was operated here beginning in 1894, and ending 1897.

In 1917 the building was badly damaged by fire, the origin of which was never determined, and the schools took up temporary quarters in a neighborhood store building owned by a Mr. Cohen. This arrangement lasted about five months.

Immediately on becoming a part of the city, Port Fulton as a school corporation ceased to exist. Robert Schiller, treasurer of the Board of School Trustees presented his bank book to the Clark County State Bank for balancing. The book on April first showed total credits in the amount of \$1,433.86. On August 3, of the same year this balance was transferred by check to the Jeffersonville School Board, and so the Board of School Trustees of the town of Port Fulton, passed into history.

Minutes of a special meeting of the Jeffersonville Board of School Trustees reads thus:⁸

This meeting was held in conjunction with the Board of Education of Port Fulton. The chief purpose of the meeting was to agree upon a method for transferring the affairs of the Port Fulton Board to the Jeffersonville School City. It was decided after some discussion that Port Fulton pay all obligations except a note at the Clark County State Bank up until and including March 31, turning over their books properly closed, and cash on hand to the Jeffersonville School Board.

6. Book 73. P. 386. Plat Book 4. P. 22.

7. Date of building from School Superintendent's Office Records.

8. School Board Minutes March 31, 1926. P. 230.

The Jeffersonville Board agreed to pay the debt at the Clark County State Bank provided the State Board of Accounts authorize and approve this method of transfer.

The Port Fulton Board certified the debt as a note personally secured by the members in the amount of \$2,693.85 with interest a 6% payable January 25, 1926, and July 24 of the same year. The amount of interest accrued up until and including March 31, 1925 was \$29.19 making a total obligation of \$2,723.04.

It was further agreed that the teachers continue the remainder of the year under their present contracts with the Port Fulton Board. Also, it was agreed that there be no changes made in the method of conducting the school and no change made in the present arrangement of transfers.

It was observed by the Board that the Port Fulton School contains four rooms with an average of thirty-four pupils per room. The building is heated by a hot air system and is equipped with electric lights. It has no modern toilet facilities or drinking water except pumps. The roof is in bad condition, containing many leaks. Blackboards are also in bad condition. Fire escapes need painting, and all doors need panic release bolts. The desks are in bad condition, especially in the seventh and eighth grade rooms.

During the remainder of the school year Port Fulton went on as though nothing had happened. The next year, however, the seventh and eighth grades of the student personnel were transferred to the Departmental Building on Pearl Street, and Port Fulton School adopted the same type of program as the rest of the city system.

At a special session of the School Trustees of Jeffersonville already noted elsewhere in this thesis,⁹ a resolution was made part of which provided two additional class rooms, indoor toilets, a boiler and fuel room together with the necessary architects fees, attorney's fees, plumbing and heating incidental thereto. The estimated cost was \$20,000. Final arrangements provided that building was to be of brick and wood to conform to the existing building.

Ambitions expressed in this resolution were realized and construction was completed in 1931. William C. Findt, an architect

9. See page 39 of this thesis.

of New Albany was employed to draw plans and specifications of the building. His fee was three percent of the cost of said buildings and accessories and an additional two percent for supervision. The Voigt Corporation was employed as general contractor.

During its long career Port Fulton School has been guided by many conscientious principals. After much interview and time-consuming effort the following list of principals and time of office has been arranged. The author submits these based on the best memory of conscientious citizens and teachers and reserves to the reader the right to disagree.

| | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Molly Vanpelt..... | 1880-1885 |
| Charles Fox..... | 1885-1889 |
| E. S. Hopkins..... | 1889-1891 |
| Alfred Cannon..... | 1891-1893 |
| John Clark..... | 1893-1894 |
| Orlando Ross..... | 1894-1896 |
| Alfred Cannon..... | 1896-1897 |
| Charles Stolzer..... | 1897-1898 |
| James H. Scott..... | 1898-1900 |
| J. V. Clark..... | 1900-1902 |
| W. Worrall..... | 1902-1904 |
| George Rickard..... | 1904-1911 |
| Homer Todd..... | 1911-1916 |
| Mary Watt..... | 1916-1920 |
| Cora Walker..... | 1920-1921 |
| John R. Beard..... | 1921-1924 |
| Charles Crone..... | 1924-1925 |
| Harlan Vogt..... | 1925- |

The writer is indebted to a number of older citizens who have been able to recall the following list of teachers who have served Port Fulton in the past.

Ada Mackelhenry
Alice Hoover
Mattie Frederick
Jesse Gaither
Mary Taylor
Drucilla Cook
Effie Houser
Elizabeth Lawrence

Molly Buckley
Margaret Poindexter
Edith Spangler
Mary Rose
Frances Cory
Max Morrillion
Frances Allhands
Frances Beard
Mrs. John R. Beard
Hazel O'Bryant
Aileen Pawlik
Helen Dobbins
Inez Dobbins
Aletha Duley
Minta Sims
Grace Harrington
Molly Kultz
Hawkins
John Wallace
Mrs. Brouillard
Anna Miller
Julia Ingren
Mrs. Albert Rabb
Grace McKinzie
Emma Martin
Ada Folkir

At the time of this writing the faculty members are as follows:

S. Harlan Vogt.....6th Grade
Inez Dobbins.....5th Grade
Doris Zollner.....4th Grade
Jacie Bickel.....3rd Grade
Pauline Bunch.....2nd Grade
Frances Beard.....1st Grade



Ingramville School Building built 1917

Ingramville School

Thus far we have endeavored to trace the growth of the city of Jeffersonville as reflected in the expansion of her school system. As the population increased and new homes were built, there came the resultant demand for new school buildings. The city, under the leadership of the school trustees used every effort to meet this demand, and the preceding pages bear record of the success of their efforts.

At this time we are concerned with another phase of educational expansion. In due time Jeffersonville used all her growing space and began to be "cramped" for growing room. In 1926 the town of Ingramville was annexed to and became a part of the City of Jeffersonville.¹ The legal procedure to accomplish this result and the difficulties encountered do not concern us at this time. Let it be sufficient to know that Jeffersonville, through the transaction, came into possession of another school. So it is to the development of this school we now turn our attention.

As a part of Jeffersonville Township Ingramville at first had such a scattered population that no localized school building was needed. Some of the students were transferred to the city school at Spring Hill. Others went to the Port Fulton School while some went to the township schools located on the Middle Road and the Plank Road (now Highway No. 62).

The first local school building was erected by Trustee Frye Currey in the year 1911. We have given attention to this building

1. Record in City Clerk's Office.

elsewhere in this work.² Miss Nellie LaFever was in charge of this school and John Marshall was later elected to assist her. This arrangement proved unsatisfactory, and the people again demanded better school housing. A petition was circulated by some public spirited citizens, and the result was that in 1914 Trustee Frank White presented the community with a new two-room school building.

A deed, executed August 12, 1915, by William T. Ingram and his wife, Anna L. Ingram transferring to Jeffersonville Township lots 15, 16, 17, and 18 in block number 11 of Fulton Grove Subdivision is listed in the county record er's records.³

The contract price of the four lots was \$150.00. This small price was a special concession by Mr. Ingram to encourage the development of a local school. This tract, remaining to this day, gives the Ingramville School the honor of possessing the largest playground in the city. Mr. Jacob Schiller was given the contract to erect the new building.⁴

Miss LaFever and Mr. Marshall were given positions in the new building. A third teacher, a Miss Sylvester was added to teach Home Economics. Mr. Marshall remembers he gave the boys some lessons in Agriculture.

In 1917, two more rooms were added and also a centralized heating plant. Mr. Frank Stemler remembers this event but no records are available giving details.

Following is a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the School City of Jeffersonville⁵ on May 13, 1930:

Be it resolved that an extraordinary emergency exists, and that appropriation and expenditure of funds in addition to the amount already appropriated for Current Expense be

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2. See page 25 of this thesis.
 3. Book 105. P. 541.
 4. Original contract is in Supt. Files.
 5. Minutes. P. 310.

made in the following amounts and for the following purposes:

The construction of additional class rooms to the Ingramville Grade School Building and indoor toilets, together with necessary architect's fees, attorney's fees, plumbing and heating incidental thereto, in the amount of \$12,000.

The specifications later called for two class rooms and an increase in width of two others. Work was to be of wood construction and to conform in design and structure to the then existing building.

The resolution and later contract were signed by Board members, Walter Lemmon, Lawrence Zimmer, and Ella Coats.

Thus this latest modernization gave Ingramville two new rooms, a remodeled assembly room with stage accessories, indoor toilets, electric lights and a modern heating plant.

The following principals have had charge of the schools from the beginning as a township effort.

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Nellie LaFever..... | 1911-1914 |
| Andrew Young..... | 1914-1915 |
| Albert Herbst..... | 1915-1917 |
| Claud Whalen..... | 1917-1924* |
| Robert Johnson..... | 1924-1926 |
| Carroll Wells..... | 1926-1933 |
| Orlen Richert..... | 1933- |

Mr. Richert is the present principal and is assisted by the following teachers:

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Mr. Richert..... | 6th Grade |
| Ruth Rysn..... | 5th Grade |
| Virginia Long..... | 4th Grade |
| Virginia Moser..... | 3rd Grade |
| Edith Gwartney..... | 2nd Grade |
| Fern Knuckles..... | 1st Grade |

Other teachers who have served in the past are:

Pearl Brook
Stella Norris
Lorena Ross
Zelda Sylvester
John Marshall
Forrest Young

*These dates are in question by some.

Nellean Gray
Georgia Jacobs
Edith Pangburn
Aletha Duley
Margaret Sweeney
Virginia Humphreys
Alice Danner
Elizabeth Crone
Neva Edwards
Elizabeth Richards
Ruth Cain
Edna Biddle
Mae Tyler
Maud Miller

Some among those interviewed say that a Mr. Crone was at one time principal at Ingramville, but no dependable evidence of dates can be obtained.

CHAPTER FIVE

THE CURRICULUM

CHAPTER V

THE CURRICULUM

Grade Schools

Thus far we have given attention to school buildings and the various schools housed therein. We shall now consider the various studies and activities to which these schools gave their attention and energies.

Characteristic of the age to which they belonged the earlier grade schools gave a major part of their time to the three "R's", namely, Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic. As a result a high degree of excellence was attained in these subjects.

It is well for us at this time to take note of a rather unique grading system that was adopted by the school city with the completion of the Chestnut Street Building in 1871. In a writing already referred to we find the following statement.¹

"Although a partial grading of our schools previous to this time had been effected, the completion of this building (Chestnut Street School) for the first time afforded sufficient school room to enable our school authorities to thoroughly establish the graded system in our public schools, and on the first day of January 1871, our schools were graded into an eight year course, beginning with the primary as number eight and rising each year, one in grade to number one, from which, if entitled under our rule of rigid oral and written examinations, the pupils are transferred to the high school."

How long this arrangement lasted cannot be ascertained, but in an old grade book bearing records for the year 1881-1882 may be found grades in Spelling, Numbers, Reading, and German. This is from the record of Lydia Rutledge of Rose Hill School and is for

1. Twenty-sixth report of the Supt. of Public Instruction of the State of Indiana for the year ending August 31, 1877; Ninth Biennial Report to the Governor. P. 348.

the first year, Grade A. A similar report made by Florence Barker, a teacher in the Chestnut Street School gives grades in the same subjects with the exception that instead of Numbers she captions it Arithmetic.

An inspection of secondary grade records reveals that the Course of Study was the same with the exception that Writing was added. The third grade added Sentence Study and Drawing. The fourth grade Course of Study was expanded to include Geography, and the fifth grade added Grammar. A record written by a Chestnut Street teacher, Miss Belle Toombs, a teacher of the sixth grade shows that her pupils studied Spelling, Grammar, Arithmetic, Geography, Writing, Drawing, Reading, and German. A record written by a seventh grade teacher of Rose Hill School, Frank C. Simpson, shows that no change was made in subject matter. The eighth grade course of study, according to a record written by Clara Loomis, a teacher at Chestnut Street School, was expanded to include History and Composition.

The reader will note from the above review that the students completing the courses of the grade schools in 1882 had studied

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| Spelling..... | 8 years |
| Reading..... | 8 years |
| Arithmetic..... | 8 years |
| German..... | 8 years |
| Writing..... | 7 years |
| Drawing..... | 6 years |
| Grammar..... | 6 years |
| Geography..... | 5 years |
| History..... | 1 year |
| Composition..... | 1 year |

We also see that the unique method of grading referred to above was abandoned before 1881 and the grades changed to advance from grade one up to eight and then into High School.

A review of the Courses of Study ten years later (1890-1891) reveal that no changes were made during that decade, but during the succeeding ten years up to 1901 the cards for the various grades of the common branches carried marks for Conduct or Deportment. Physiology and Music were also introduced in the seventh and eighth grades.

The grade book for 1907-1908, the last records of this nature available, shows no difference in curriculum when compared to that of 1901-1902.

One of the interesting features of these old study courses was the study of German. In early days, the citizenship of Jeffersonville included nearly fifty percent of people of German origin. They, of course, hoped to have their posterity learn to speak the German language. As noted elsewhere² a private school was once organized for the purpose of giving both the English and German languages a chance to survive. When that school was discontinued the sentiment for the German language did not pass with it. To satisfy this demand it was arranged for teachers versed in the German language to visit all the public schools periodically and teach German to any child of third grade standing or above, whose parents wished them to speak German. Miss Kalmbach did this work for many years in the grades and George Nahstoll taught German in the High School.

Another interesting revelation is that, when comparing records of 1881 to 1907 pupils requesting the study of German had advanced from 110 in number to 140 even though the population had more than trebled. However, German continued to be taught until the year 1917 when it was discontinued due to war sentiment and has never been resumed to this day.

2. See page 8 of this thesis.

High School

Let us now turn to the progress and development of the High School Curriculum over the same period of time, (1881-1882).

Upon entering High School, beginners were given Algebra, Reading, Latin, German and Physiology. The second year continued Algebra, Reading, Latin, and German but to these were added Composition, Botany, Geometry, and Physical Geography. The third year continued Geometry, Reading, Physical Geography, Latin, Botany, German, Composition, but dropped Algebra and added Grammar. The fourth year continued Grammar, Composition, and Physical Geography. Geometry, Reading, Latin, Botany, and German were discontinued and mental philosophy and astronomy were added.

In more concise form the Course of Study was as follows:

| <u>First</u> | <u>Second</u> | <u>Third</u> | <u>Fourth</u> |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Algebra | Algebra | Geometry | Astronomy |
| German | Reading | Reading | Phys. Geography |
| Reading | Phys. Geography | Phys. Geography | Arithmetic |
| Latin | Latin | Latin | Composition |
| Physiology | German | Grammar | Mental Philosophy |
| | Composition | Composition | Chemistry |
| | Botany | Botany | Grammar |
| | Geometry | German | |

By the end of the next ten years the Courses of Study had somewhat changed. The High School grade book for that year (1890-1891) gave marks in the following subjects:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Latin | U. S. Constitution |
| German | Grammar |
| Mathematics | Composition |
| Natural Science | Writing |
| Rhetoric | Spelling |
| Literature | Mental Arithmetic |
| History | |

It is interesting to note that these same subjects comprised the Courses of Study for the other three years of high school work.

The next six years brought quite a few changes. A special edition of the local newspaper gives the following studies:³

First Year

| First Term | | Second Term | |
|---------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| Algebra | Algebra | Algebra | Algebra |
| English | English | Rhetoric | Rhetoric |
| Mental Arith. | Mental Arith. | English | Latin |
| Phys. Geog. | Phys. Geog. | Phys. Geog. | Phys. Geog. |

Second Year

| | | | |
|---------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| Algebra | Algebra | Geometry | Geometry |
| Rhetoric | Rhetoric | Physics | Physics |
| Physics | Physics | Am. Literature | Am. Lit. |
| Plant Biology | Latin | Botany | Latin |

Third Year

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Geometry | Geometry | English Lit. | English Lit. |
| Geology | Latin | Gen. History | Gen. History |
| Am. Literature | Am. Literature | Bookkeeping | Latin |
| Gen. History | Gen. History | | |

Fourth Year

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------|---|
| Mental Philos. | Mental Philosophy | Common branches, each pupil to elect courses. |
| Civil Gov. | Civil Government | |
| Trigonometry | Trigonometry | |
| English | English | |

This list is in general agreement with the teachers' grade books for the same year. It is interesting to note that the studies centered around English and Latin as core subjects.

This is the last course of study registered in official grade books available for this work. When the new high school building was built in 1911 on East Court Avenue, a gymnasium was included in the specifications, and both girls and boys were to have its use. The writer is in possession of a letter addressed to Mr. John Cienger,

3. Jeffersonville Journal, August 1897. Special Edition.

President of the School Board, written by one Lev Brunner who graduated from Jeffersonville High School in 1901, and at the time of writing (1911) was attending a Physical Culture School in Boston, Massachusetts. She claimed to be a specialist in the Swedish system of Gymnastics and for this reason was applying for a position as Physical Education Director in the new building. She evidently did not get the position as her name does not appear in subsequent teacher lists.

The new building also included a Manual Training Shop for the benefit of the boys. The writer has been teacher of Wood Shop for twenty-eight years.

During the First World War the study of German was dropped from the Course of Study and has not been resumed.

In 1920, Bible study was added to the curriculum and at first was taught by the various ministers of the community. In 1921, however, Mr. Emory Theiss of Kankakee, Illinois, came to Jeffersonville and accepted the position of Bible teacher and Athletic Coach. The Ministerial Association and the City School Board cooperated in paying his salary.

During the Second World War the new Metal Shop was constructed by the United States Government for the purpose of training war workers. This building and equipment later acquired by the city schools make it possible to have a Vocational Metal course and also Metal Shop to the Industrial Arts Department.

In 1921 the subject of Mechanical Drawing was added to the Industrial Arts Department and since that time students have been able to earn one unit of credit in that subject. Two foreign languages,

French and Spanish, have also been added to the Courses of Study since 1917.

Agriculture was taught during the period from 1911 to 1916 but was dropped and has never been resumed.

Home Economics was also added when the present high school building provided room, and it is still a flourishing department.

At present the students of Jeffersonville High School have the choice of eight curricula, each of which offers major courses for graduation. Following is the list of subjects organized under these eight heads.

| <u>9th Grade</u> | <u>10th Grade</u> | <u>11th Grade</u> | <u>12th Grade</u> |
|---|---|---|---|
| | <u>Academic</u> | | |
| Eng. I-II Math. AI-AII Science I-II Safety-Health Phys. Ed. (2-3) | Engl. III-IV Soc. St. I-II Math. I-II For. Lang. I-II Phys. Ed. (3-2) | Eng. V-VI Soc. St. III-IV Math. III-IV For. Lang. III-IV | Eng. XI-(El.) Soc.St. V-VII Science (El.) Elective |
| | <u>Scientific</u> | | |
| Eng. I-II Math. AI-AII Science I-II Safety-Health Phys. Ed. (2-3) | Eng. III-IV Soc.St. I-II Math. I-II Ind. Arts I-II Phys. Ed. (3-2) | Eng. V-VI Soc.St. III-IV Math. III-IV Science III-IV | Eng. XI-El. Soc.St. V-VII Math. V-VI Science V-VI |
| | <u>Commercial</u> | | |
| Eng. I-II Math. AI-AII Science I-II Safety-Health Phys. Ed. (2-3) | Eng. III-IV Soc. St. I-II Commerce I-II Elective Phys. Ed. (3-2) | Eng. V-VI Soc. St. III-IV Comm. XI-XII Elective | Eng. XI-El. Soc. St. V-VII Comm. (El.) Elective |
| | <u>Industrial Arts</u> | | |
| Eng. I-II Math. AI-AII Science I-II Safety-Health Phys. Ed. (2-3) | Eng. III-IV Soc. St. I-II Ind. Arts I-II Elective Phys. Ed. (3-2) | Eng. V-VI Soc. St. III-IV Ind. Arts III-IV Elective | Eng. XI-El. Soc. St. V-VII Ind. Arts V-VI Elective |

Vocational

Eng. I-II
Math. AI-AII
Science I-II
Safety-Health
Phys. Ed. (2-3)

Eng. III-IV
Soc. St. III-IV
Ind. Arts I-II
Math. I-II
Phys. Ed. (3-2)

Eng. V-VI
Shop I-II
Shop RI-RII

Eng. XI-El.
Soc. St. V-VII
Shop III-IV
Shop RIII-RIV

Home Economics

Eng. I-II
Math. AI-AII
Science I-II
Safety-Health
Phys. Ed. (2-3)

Eng. III-IV
Soc. St. I-II
Home Ec. I-II
Elective
Phys. Ed. (3-2)

Eng. V-VI
Soc. St. III-IV
Home Ec. V-VI
Elective

Eng. XI-El.
Soc. St. V-VII
Home Ec. VII-VIII
Elective

Art

Eng. I-II
Math. AI-AII
Science I-II
Safety-Health
Phys. Ed. (2-3)

Eng. III-IV
Soc. St. I-II
Art I-II
Elective
Phys. Ed. (3-2)

Eng. V-VI
Soc. St. III-IV
Art III-IV
Elective

Eng. XI-El.
Soc. St. V-VII
Art V-VI
Elective

Music

Eng. I-II
Math. AI-AII
Science I-II
Safety-Health
Phys. Ed. (2-3)

Eng. III-IV
Soc. St. I-II
Music I-II
Elective
Phys. Ed. (3-2)
B. or C. or C.

Eng. V-VI
Soc. St. III-IV
Music III-IV
Elective
B. or O. or C.

Eng. XI-El.
Soc. St. V-VII
Music V-VI
Elective
B. or O. or C.

For students of Jeffersonville Junior High School level, the program of studies has expanded to include several subjects not found in the older Courses of Study. Following is a copy of this program of studies as practiced at the time of this writing.

| <u>Grade 7B</u> | <u>Grade 7A</u> | <u>Grade 8B</u> | <u>Grade 8A</u> |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| English (5) | English (5) | English (5) | English (5) |
| Arithmetic (5) | Arithmetic (5) | Arithmetic (5) | Arithmetic (5) |
| Soc. Studies (5) | Soc. Studies (5) | Soc. Studies (5) | Soc. Studies (5) |
| Science (5) | Science (5) | Science (5) | Science (5) |
| Prac. Arts (3) | Art (2) | Prac. Arts (2) | Art (3) |
| Phys. Ed. (2) | Phys. Ed. (3) | Phys. Ed. (3) | Phys. Ed. (2) |
| Study (3) | Study (2) | Study (3) | Study (2) |
| Music (2) | Music (3) | Music (2) | Music (3) |

Civics is considered an integral part of the course in Social Studies. The last six weeks of the 7A grade and last six weeks of the 8A grade will be devoted to the study of Civics alone, a total of

approximately 60 periods. The adopted Textbook-Fundamentals of Citizenship should be divided approximately evenly between the two half grades.

In 7B-8A Music the pupil may choose each semester either vocal or instrumental music.

CHAPTER VI

EXTRA CURRICULAR AND AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES

CHAPTER VI

EXTRA CURRICULAR AND AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES

Argufiers and R.S.V.P.

In the early schools extra-curricular activities were rather scarce. Several older residents remembers they were frowned upon as a waste of time. During the first quarter of the century the general public still had a definite taste for oratory and would gather in large numbers to hear a revivalist in the churches or a politician with a message whether it be good or bad. Due to this public interest in good speeches and the desire of students to become proficient in this art, debating societies were a common thing among the high schools of Indiana.

In Jeffersonville High School the art of debating was fostered by two organizations; the Argufiers, organized when the new high school building on East Court Avenue was put to use (1911) and was for boys only. For the girls the R.S.V.P. (Repondez sil vous plait) was organized about the same time. Each group was sponsored by a faculty member and each had its own group of officers. An interesting spring feature was a debate between the two groups and the defeated team was responsible to treat the winner to an evening's entertainment, usually a party or a banquet.

The writer of this paper was sponsor of the boys' organization for several years and had the pleasure of attending these spring events. Earliest records available show that in 1923 the Argufiers had forty-two members, and Clarence Smith was president.¹ During the same school

1. Topic-1923.

year the R.S.V.P. boasted twenty-six members with Louise Baird of Clarksville as president and Miss Goldie Fertig as sponsor.

In 1926 the two organizations were merged with the Honor English Club of 1925 and went under the latter name.² There were fifty-two members, Lois Williams was president, and Mr. David LaDuke, Henry Temple and Clara Funk were faculty members serving as co-sponsors.

In 1932 the Argufiers organization was reactivated after a period of inactivity that prevailed since 1927. Lucien Gruber was chosen president and David Hendron vice-president. Miss Ruth Rose was the faculty sponsor.³ At this time the club was still a merger of both girls and boys who were interested in debating. No record of their activities is available for 1933, but in 1934, Caroline Scott was president and Margie Glaser was vice-president.⁴

So far as the writer is able to discern this merger marks the end of the two debating societies that came into being with the turn of the century. Many successful business and professional men of this community remember with due reverence the experience gained in participation in this society's activities and feel that it contributed a large part to the success of some worthy professional men of our community.

Art Club

The Art Club was organized in 1941 as an adjunct to the Art Department of our high school.⁵ Only members of the art department could be members. As special activities they have made posters and banquet favors and place cards for the various civic organization functions of the community. The major function of the club, however, was to raise funds to purchase art supplies.

-
2. Topic-1925.
 3. Topic-1932.
 4. Topic-1934.
 5. Topic-1941.

The Beaux Art Ball is an annual event sponsored by the Art Club. This effort meets with unusual success each season, drawing large crowds of students for an evening's gaiety. By the time the school year is finished each year the Art Club usually has from three to four hundred dollars to contribute toward the financing of the Art Department for the following year.

The Art Club is a living organization today and is under the leadership of Ronnie Roberts, president, Carolyn Wilcoxson, vice-president, and Nancy Kraft, secretary. Miss Ramona Kuhn, head of the Art Department is sponsor.

In 1944 the S.F.M. (Societas Filiorum Mrisarum) was organized with a purpose similar to the Art Club.⁶ During one season (1946-47) the members of this organization, lead by their sponsor operated the concessions during the basketball season. The Camera Club is a specialized branch of this club.

There is every evidence that this organization will absorb the Art Club after this year (1947-1948) and the latter will then cease to exist as an organization.

Athletic Association (Boys)

It is impossible to determine just when the Boys' Athletic Organization came into being. Tall stories have been circulating in Jeffersonville for quite a while,--stories of outstanding achievements by certain extraordinary football teams and their exploits; of predatory raids to the discomfiture of neighboring teams and school property, and these indicate that Jeffersonville High School did have athletic activities

6. Topic-1944.

from the remote beginnings of her career. An issue of the school paper carries an interesting history of early athletics. From this article we quote the following:⁷

Since the beginning of the twentieth century sports have been the highlight of activities in Jeffersonville High School. As far back as 1902, Jeff was represented by a track team. Some of the early lettermen were Jonas Howard, Edgar Poindexter, Edwin Lancaster, and Hiram Heaton. The first track fields were located at Howard and Read Woods and Greenwood Park.

Later, when the school was moved to its present site, the path was the ground on which the fieldhouse now stands. Lafe Grover, mile runner in 1910, was perhaps the fastest track man at Jeff High.

Football began around 1905 at the old Howard and Read Woods, then the present site of the government barracks at Tenth Street and Cherry Drive. During the next five or ten years, Jeff possessed the strongest squad in the Falls Cities, gaining victories over many professional teams. The Pennsylvania Station now stands where in the early days of the game Quick Ball Park was located. In recent years the games have been played at the Playsquare, Pennsylvania Ball Park, and Buerk Field in New Albany. Among the first gridiron players were Bob Monroe, Frank Lindley, William String, Homer Ingram, Albert Worthington, Jack Seitz, and Carl Leppert.

Except for a few changes in rules, the game was much as it is now. Then a touchdown was valued as five points, and the ball could not be passed for an extra point--but rather it had to be kicked.

About the same time football and track began in the school, baseball also became a popular sport. During the course of forty years, however, baseball has been suspended several times from Jeff High's sport schedule. Junie Andres, a former Jeff hitter, starred at Indiana University and on the Louisville Colonel teams before his induction into the navy. Right above the Jeff Baking Company was one of the early diamonds. The nearby swamps were often the cause for delaying a game as the ball would have to be fished out before continuing play.

Interscholastic boxing was introduced in the school for the first time in 1926. J. C. Wilson, Donald Bartle, Charles Rough, and J. B. Murphy were among those first boxers. These boys fought five bouts against the St. Xavier Pugilists. J. C. Wilson took honors for the events, but the two teams broke even in five scheduled bouts.

Mr. Zeno Scott, a former principal of Spring Hill School, brought basketball into high school in 1906. The game was rough at first--often described as "football on the hardwood." There were no definite "out of bound" rules and fouling was very seldom charged on a player. If two members reached the ball at the same time, the player having the power to break

7. Hyphen-April 6, 1944.

the ball away from his opponent was the possessor. However, if after five seconds, they were still fighting for possession, the ball was considered a toss.

In the beginning the boys played at Speith Hall, which is above Bensinger store at Chestnut and Spring. The court was smaller and there were no out of bounds. If the ball hit a fan, it was considered "in play" when it came back on the floor.

Later the teams used the Armory (where the 1-2-3 Bowling Alley is located) for their games. When the Court Avenue School was built, the gym was under the present band room. The dugout was originally constructed for a swimming pool. Crowds were getting larger and basketball was becoming the most popular sport.

Up to the year 1921 no faculty member vested with coaching authority was employed. Coaching, as it was, was usually done by some outside man with ability but not a part of the high school faculty. In order for school control to prevail, a male member of the faculty was directed to accompany teams on their playing trips. The writer of this paper served in that capacity in 1920-1921.

It is well to keep in mind that the Indiana High School Athletic Association organized December 5, 1903, at a called meeting of interested high school principals at Anderson, Indiana,⁸ enrolled only fifteen schools, and most of these from the northern part of the state. The Association has since that time grown to include eight hundred and thirteen schools.⁹

Just when Jeffersonville High School was added to this association cannot be ascertained, but in 1921, Mr. Emory Theiss, the present principal of the high school was employed as the first official coach of our school. The local association, since the beginning of its membership with the state organization, has sponsored Football, Track, Basketball, and Baseball. One needs only to observe the activities

8. Indiana High School Athletic Association Handbook-1946. P. 96.

9. Ibid. P. 97.

for a year to know that basketball claims the major part of school interest and public support.

At first the team played the season's games in a make-shift gymnasium now buried beneath the present Band and Orchestra Studio. If a game promised to be a drawing card, it was taken to the Knights of Pythias Armory on Pearl Street. When Colgate and Company purchased the deserted reformatory building in July, 1924, and converted it into an industrial plant, they made one of the large rooms into a gymnasium. Blocks of bleachers were built on either end, and rows of seats placed along the sides. Here for seven years the high school teams played their season's games and here Jeffersonville High School was host to its first sectional tournament in 1927.

In 1931 the new annex to the high school building was completed and the high school had its very own gymnasium for the first time. Here the high school was host to its second sectional tournament in the spring of 1932. The results of this effort were evidently successful for in the spring 1935 the first regional tournament was given to Jeffersonville. It is well to remember also that this was the first and only year in the history of the school that the Jeffersonville High School basketball team fought its way to the state finals in Indianapolis.

In 1946 funds were accumulated through money-raising campaigns of civic organizations and by private donations, and with these funds Memorial Park, in the eastern part of the city, was purchased. Here the fall football season games were first played that year. By the following year (1947) the fence was completed around the field, new bleachers were set up and the 1947-48 season of football was a

pronounced success in the way of finance.

At the time of this writing, (spring of 1948) the Boys' Athletic Association is engaging in Basketball, Football, Baseball, and Track events. Mr. Ed Denton is the head coach. Mr. Brogan has charge of Physical Education and Track, and Robert Akers and Kenneth Davis have charge of Baseball. All coaching positions carry also a teaching obligation.

Following is a list of coaches and tenure of each:

| | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Emory Theiss..... | 1921-1929 |
| Frank Overturf..... | 1929-1930 |
| Janis Francis..... | 1930-1935 |
| Frank Barnes..... | 1935-1940 |
| Edwin Lyskowski..... | 1940-1947 |
| Edward Denton..... | 1947- |

Jeffersonville fans will remember with some feeling of shame that Jeffersonville High School was thrown out of the Indiana High School Athletic Association in 1930 because of violation of rules.

The year 1947-1948 saw the Jeffersonville High School awarded both sectional and regional tournaments, but were eliminated from the state championship contest by New Albany High School in the closing game of the sectional tournament.

Girls' Athletic Association

This organization first made its appearance in 1932.¹⁰ Miss Miriam Danner, Physical Director for girls at that time was sponsor. The purpose of the organization was to promote athletics for girls.

The purpose of the Girls' Athletic Association is to encourage athletic activities and to develop good sportsmanship.

The membership of this club shall be open to all girls in high

10. Topic-1932.

school earning the required number of points each year and voted into the organization by a majority of the old members. Members shall not exceed 40.

The officers of the club are president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, sports writer and recorder.

The meetings of the club shall be held every Friday afternoon immediately after school. Any member with more than three unexcused absences from these weekly meetings will be dropped from the membership list. Excuses for absence from a meeting may be obtained only from the club sponsor but absences from school automatically excuses one from a meeting.

Funds are raised for the club through dues from each member, selling Christmas cards, the annual faculty-senior basketball game, and the annual G. A. A. Sweater Dance. This money is used for the purchase of equipment used by G.A.A., for all awards given G.A.A. members and for awards given each member of girls' intramurals basketball champion and runner-up. Purchases must be authorized by the club and this authority shall consist of majority vote at any meeting.

Each year along with the regular athletic activities which are required for individual awards, the G.A.A. sponsors girls' intramurals in basketball. The teams, representing each class in senior high may be composed of girls who are interested in playing on a team and need not be a member of G.A.A. Each team is organized with its captain as the leader. A double elimination tournament is run and both the members of the winning team and the members of the runner-up team are given awards.

Awards will be given according to the following points earned:

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| 500 points..... | G.A.A. emblem |
| 1000 points..... | Sweatshirt |
| 1500 points..... | G.A.A. pin |
| 2000 points..... | Sweater |
| 2500 points..... | Medal |

Jeffersonville High School Band

As the visitor observes the performance of the well trained band during our basketball season, and is thrilled by its music he may be inclined to wonder about the remote beginnings and development of this type of activity in our school.

Mr. Alvin Voit, retired musician and former music teacher, tells of organizing an instrumental group in 1890. This group today would probably be classified as an orchestra rather than a band, but it did serve to make the school instrument conscious and paved the way for future development of a band. Band participation now may result in one unit of credit in our school system but it was not always so.

For many years instrumental and vocal music came under the same leadership, but in 1931 when the western annex to the High School Building was erected and Junior High School was organized and housed there, the instrumental division was organized under the leadership of Ernest Smith.

An edition of the school paper carries the following story:¹¹

"As far back as 1907 there were small instrumental organizations in this High School. Scholastic credit was given the students, even though they had to practice after school and at nights. In later years, however, the musical department now containing a Choral Club received a special hour for rehearsals.

The first orchestra was under the direction of L. E. Richards. The exact date of this organization cannot be ascertained."

In 1921 an orchestra was organized under the guidance of Miss

11. Hyphen, April 6, 1914. Topic 1931.

Helen Armstrong. By 1923 this organization included twenty-four members.¹²

Miss Carolyn Gould was elected to the music department in 1924 and continued the orchestra work that Miss Armstrong had started. The orchestra at this time had sixteen instruments.

Instrumental activity seems to have suffered a lapse during the year closing in the spring of 1925, as no instrumental activity is mentioned.¹³ A Miss Gould seems to have centered her attention upon Glee Club activities.

The Jeffersonville High School Band was revived in 1926. No leader is mentioned in the yearbook,¹⁴ but it may be assumed that Miss Gould was still director. An orchestra is also mentioned.

In 1927 a Mrs. Deatherage was elected to the place vacated by Miss Gould. She continued the Band and Orchestra activities. Mrs. Deatherage left the school service after one year of work and was succeeded by Miss Trautman.

In 1928 Miss Trautman reorganized the Band and Orchestra and her work went successfully onward through the year of 1930-1931.¹⁵

In 1931 Ernest Smith reorganized the Band and Orchestra and organized the parents of members into a Band and Orchestra Association in 1932.¹⁶ This continued until Mr. Smith was called into the Naval Service in 1941 when Arden Vance accepted the position. The orchestra as an independent organization ceased to exist, but the musicians found opportunity to serve and procured band instruments.

The High School Orchestra was first organized among Junior High School members interested in instrumental music in 1939.¹⁷

12. Topic 1923.

13. Topic 1925.

14. Topic 1926.

15. Topics 1928-1931.

16. Topics 1930-1932.

17. Hyphen-1939.

This beginning organized by Mr. Ernest Smith paved the way for a growing interest and an increasing participation on the part of Junior High School students. At present, students from these grades may be seen holding responsible positions on the regular High School Band.

Booster's Club

The very energetic organization known as the Boosters' Club was organized in 1937¹⁸ and was sponsored by the Coach Frank Bernes and a teacher Theodore Clapp. The flood of 1937 allowed extra-curricular activities in the high school system to almost a stand-still. School activities were discontinued for several weeks and when they were resumed a "speeded up" program was adopted to have schools close as nearly as possible on scheduled time. When school reopened after the flood, the Boosters' Club came into being.¹⁹ It was organized to revive the drooping spirits of the high school athletes, and did a splendid piece of work to that end.

After doing this important bit of service the club entered into a period of inactivity but was again revived in 1942.²⁰ They found a new line of activity in helping manage the crowds at athletic games, ushering and caring for the concessions service. In the days when elaborate decorations were the order of the day during sectional tournaments, the Boosters' Club did this piece of work.

Chemistry Club

In the autumn of 1923 Miss Ruth Hasely joined the High School faculty as teacher of Chemistry and on September 28 of that year the Chemistry Club was organized under her supervision.

18. Topic 1937.

19. Ibid.

20. Topic 1942.

There were thirty-six members under the leadership of Giles Seward as president.

The club had for its purpose the investigation and report of recent research and discovery in the field of Chemistry.

This club enjoyed substantial life and activities through the year 1923-1924, and its report for 1924-1925 lists forty-nine members under the leadership of president Marvin McNoughton.²¹

The yearbook for 1925-1926 reports thirty-three members lead by president, G ladys Dugan with Miss Howard as sponsor.

The Chemistry Club idea seems to have lost its popularity during this year as no further mention of it is found in succeeding yearbooks and no club by that name exists at the present time.

Civics Club

A Civics Club was organized in 1944 under the sponsorship of Miss Edith Pangburn, a civics teacher.²² As its name indicates, the members gave attention to recent or current developments in civic affairs.

In 1946 this club under the same sponsorship, had for a special project the fashioning of a service flag honoring students and ex-students inducted into the armed services of our country. This flag, now one of our treasured possessions, is on exhibit in the hall of the main floor of the High School Building.

Commercial Club

A club open only to juniors and Seniors of the Commercial Curriculum was organized in 1933 and was called the Commercial Club.²³ Thomas Williams was chosen for president and Trini Manners, vice president.

21. Topic 1924.
22. Topic 1945.
23. Topic 1933.

Paul Cockerill, a commercial teacher was organizer and sponsor.

Records for 1934 show the club still to be alive and active under the leadership of Faye Stanforth, president, and Mildred Waisner, vice president. Mr. Cockerill continued as sponsor.²⁴

No more mention of the Commercial Club is found in the year books until 1938. It seemed to be in a state of declining activity and from that time onward ceased to exist.

Clef Club

The Clef Club was organized in 1944.²⁵ No statement of purpose or official leadership is mentioned in the early records of the club activities.

The record for 1945 mentions that the club is open to seniors only,²⁶ and Bill Ogden was the president and Claire Ingram was vice president.

As the name indicates, this club was connected with the instrumental department of the high school. Members must be graduating seniors.

Each member is given a sweater with the school letter at graduation. This award is given by the organization of band parents. At the time of this writing (1948), this organization has fourteen members under the leadership of Allen Baldwin, president, Rose Vissing, vice president, Richard Scott, secretary, and Evelyn Jones, secretary.

Glee Clubs

A Glee Club was organized in 1925.²⁷ This was composed of both boys and girls and was sponsored by Miss Carolyn Gould, then head of the Music Department.

Records from the same source⁸ reveal that in 1926²⁸ the club divided into Boys' Glee Club and Girls' Glee Club. No faculty sponsor is

-
24. Topic 1934.
 25. Topic 1944.
 26. Topic 1945.
 27. Topic 1925.
 28. Topic 1926.

mentioned but as Miss Gould was still head of the Music Department, it may be assumed she was still sponsor.

The year, 1927²⁹ saw Miss Gould leave the high school faculty and Miss Deatherage take her place. She organized a Band and Orchestra. She also continued the two Glee Clubs, one for boys and one for girls.

Miss Deatherage was succeeded by Catheryn Trautman in 1928,³⁰ but the Band, Orchestra and the two Glee Club organizations were continued as in the previous year according to the 1928 year book.

These organizations continued in this manner under the same leadership through and until the spring of 1932. In the autumn of that year, Miss Genevieve Schlosser was employed to head the vocal music work and Mr. Ernest Smith was employed to teach instrumental music.³¹ This arrangement still prevailed in 1934.³²

The two Glee Clubs pursued parallel courses throughout the tenure of Miss Schlosser which closed in 1937, when she was succeeded by Miss Frances Cory.³³

At this time the vocal part of the music program began to make change; the program of separation of the sexes was continued, but more or less for practice purposes and a mixed chorus made its appearance in 1939. This plan has carried on with various modifications, until the present time.

Girls' Literary Club

A Literary Club for girls was organized in 1923 with sixty-six members; Martha Long was president.³⁴ Records do not mention who were eligible, but in 1924 the club was divided into two parts, one for Juniors and Seniors and another for Sophomores and Freshmen.³⁵ Both

29. Topic 1929.
30. Topic 1928.
31. Topic 1933.
32. Topic 1934.
33. Topic 1937.
34. Topic 1924.
35. Topic 1925.

clubs were sponsored by Miss Lemmon. Helen Lancaster was president of the club for upper classmen and Edythe Wilson lead the lower classmen as president. Both clubs were for girls only.

In 1925 the club for upper classes seems to have been replaced by the Honor English Club,³⁶ an organization for both boys and girls. Robert Kraijnak was chosen president by the thirty-four members and Ada Frank was sponsor. The same year saw the Freshmen exeluded from the lower class club, and it also admitted boys. Lois Williams was president and Mildred Hauss was sponsor.

Hi-Y Club

In 1922 Mr. R. J. Duke, a Y.M.C.A . secretary working out of Indianapolis came to Jeffersonville and proposed the organization of a Hi-Y Club. Upper class high school boys were eligible with a possible Junior Organization of the lower class members.

Under his guidance Jeffersonville High School organized a Hi-Y Club with George Beeson as its first president and J. C. Williams as vice-president. C. C. Callahan, writer of this paper, was chosen as faculty sponsor, and held that position until 1940 when he was succeeded by Elmer Hoehn, a commercial teacher.

The Hi-Y Club is perhaps the oldest club in our school today, and has enjoyed a continued robust existance throughout its career.

In 1924 the club had enlarged to 22 members under the leadership of president Marvin McHoughton.³⁷ McHoughton was re-elected as president in 1925,³⁸ and Garland Graham in 1926.³⁹

The club enjoyed substantial service in the school through this period and enrolled many boys who are now holding positions of respect

36. Topic 1925.

37. Topic 1924.

38. Topic 1925.

39. Topic 1926.

and honor. A roll call of past members would reveal men of every profession and trade and are, at present, scattered throughout the country.

In 1930 the Jeffersonville club was invited to take part in athletic activities at the Louisville Y.M.C.A. They furnished teams for Hockey, Water Pole and Basketball. The Basket ball team was champion for three consecutive seasons.

In 1941 a special project of the Hi-Y Club was to give the High School a flag pole. A 96 cubic foot concrete base was poured and the 65 foot pole was erected with appropriate ceremonies. The writer of this paper designed the pattern and club president, Eugene Long, cast the bronze plaque found bedded in the concrete base.⁴⁰

The Hi-Y Club in 1942 procured a small printing press and did custom printing for the various activities of the school.

In addition to this service feature the club has always furnished special leadership for special school functions, has sponsored Father and Son banquets, helped clean up the school after the 1937 flood and sent representatives to Hi-Y conventions in other cities.

During the present school year 1947-1948, the club was host to a district convention at our own High School Building. R. J. Duke, the "patron saint" of the club was an honored guest on this occasion and delivered a short address. The present president is Ralph Schowe and Robert Detamore, a Social Studies teacher, is sponsor.

The Hi-Y Club of our school gives every evidence of being a vital force in the future of the school and promises to continue its advocacy of: "Clean Speech, Clean Sports, Clean Scholarship, and Clean Living".

40. Hyphen, April 8, 1944.

In doing this they promise to back it up by continuing to "create, maintain, and extend throughout the school and community high standards of Christian character".

Girls Reserve

Playing opposite the boys of the Hi-Y Club in school service is a girls' organization known as the Girls' Reserve. However, this club was not organized until 1926.⁴¹ In that year the Girls' Reserve came into being in our school. Ada Frank, a Latin teacher, was the sponsor, Helen Kern was president, and Helen Howard, Music Supervisor, was co-sponsor. The club had 59 members that year.

The second year of its career was under the guidance of the same sponsors, with Ann Myers as president and Leone Voigt, vice president.⁴²

In 1932 a Senior Girls' Reserve and Junior Girls' Reserve are mentioned, both under the guidance of Miss Ada Frank.

In 1944 the Girls' Reserve was reorganized by Margaret Fantone and renamed Tri-Y.⁴³ After getting a good start and smooth-working organization Miss Fantone passed the task of guidance onward to Mary Ellen Court.

The Girls' Reserve and Tri-Y, like the Hi-Y Club, strive to promote the general welfare of the school through the development of personal integrity on the part of its members, and promote a broad and wholesome school spirit through leadership and example.

At present, 1948, the Tri-Y is guided by Miss Richardson as sponsor and Pat Houser as president. The club has forty-five members.

41. Topic 1927.

42. Topic 1928.

43. Topic 1946.

Press Association

The Jeffersonville High School Press Association was organized in 1931⁴⁴ under the guidance of Margaret Sweeney, a teacher of English, as sponsor. The official staff of students were Frances Greark, Charles Fair, William Voigt, and Thomas Williams. Their first effort of publication was a column of school notes in the local newspaper.

In 1932 the organization was somewhat the same, drawing its membership from two English V Classes.⁴⁵ A column of news notes was printed in the Saturday edition of the Jeffersonville Evening News.

The year 1932 saw the establishment of Junior and Senior High Schools in the same building on East Court Avenue. The beginning of a school paper was one of the outcomes of this new arrangement. Students were invited to submit names for the paper and a committee was assigned to choose the best. The name Hyphen, submitted by a Junior High School student, Catherine Smith, was chosen. This development also made possible the organization of a local chapter of an international honorary society known as the Quill and Scroll.⁴⁶ This chapter received its charter April 15, 1933.

The Quill and Scroll is still a very much alive organization and does valuable service in editing and publishing the school paper, the Hyphen.

During the second year of the publication of the Hyphen a class in Journalism, taught by Miss Sweeney, was added to the school curriculum.

44. Topic 1933.

45. Topic 1932.

46. Topic 1932.

AUXILIARY ORGANIZATIONS

Band and Orchestra Association

A local newspaper carried the following story into the homes of Jeffersonville citizens on the afternoon of April 12, 1934:¹

"Mr. Ernest Smith and Miss Genevieve Schlosser, music directors of the Junior and Senior High Schools say:

'A very forward step in the music of the schools of Jeffersonville was made Wednesday afternoon, April 11, when thirty mothers and others interested in music met at the High School and formed a Band and Orchestra Association for the Junior and Senior High Schools. This step was the first of its kind in Southern Indiana and is following the larger schools of the state which have built up excellent bands and orchestras.

A very able leadership was selected for this organization: President, Mrs. H. H. Reeder, Vice-president, Mrs. J. C. Cook, Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Percie Poindexter, and Mrs. George Groher, Mrs. William Schimpff, and Mrs. Clara White as the other members of the Executive Board."

Thus the Band and Orchestra Association came into being. An issue of the Evening News a few weeks later² tells of a music festival sponsored by this newly created organization to be held on the night of May 24. Featured at this festival were several well trained musical units from various schools of the locality. A special attraction was the trio of Chicago Breakfast Club fame, Sam, Gil, and Louie,--all former students of Jeffersonville High School.

As time has passed onward the Band and Orchestra Association has sponsored efforts to raise funds for the purchase of special musical instruments, and other equipment.

As stated in the constitution anyone of good character interested in promoting music in the schools may become a member. Viewed from a standpoint of its purpose,--to promote musical interest in the schools we must say it has served its purpose well. The association is still

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1. The Evening News, April 12, 1934.
 2. The Evening News, May 10, 1934.

active and each year finds something worthy to do to help strengthen students' interest in band and orchestra work.

In 1945 the Red and White Orchestra ceased to exist, and the organization assumed the name, "Band Parents' Organization". During the basketball season of 1947-1948 this organization had charge of concessions in the Fieldhouse. The funds thus earned are used to buy equipment for the High School Band.

The organization at present has about members under the leadership of Arden Vance who has been band director since 1945.

Parent-Teachers Association

In an old minutes book of the Current Events Club of Jeffersonville there is an account of the club sponsoring the Parent-Teacher Association movement in Jeffersonville.⁵ Mrs. O. P. Graham was general chairman to arrange for organization in each of the five schools on the same day. The story says:

Much interest and enthusiasm were evident at the different school buildings when the mothers met with the teachers to organize the first Parent-Teacher Association. There were one hundred eighty-six parents and teachers present at the several meetings and all were heartily in favor of the organization and willing and anxious to work.

The same record reveals that the following presidents were elected for the various schools:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| High School..... | Mrs. Nathan Sparks |
| Junior High School..... | Mrs. Charles Wilson |
| Chestnut Street School..... | Mrs. James Morris |
| Rose Hill School..... | Mrs. Harry Hensel |
| Spring Hill School..... | Mrs. Walter McCulloch |

According to this record Spring Hill School being the only school with all eight grades, had the largest enrollment numbering fifty-nine.

5. Minutes, February 1912.

As this movement gained strength in the city, it was thought wise to have a coordinating organization, and so a local council was formed. The writer has not been able to determine the date of the formation of this body, but Mrs. Henry Reeder was the first president. However, Mrs. Wilmer Fox contributes an old program of a district convention held in Jeffersonville in 1926.

Mrs. Fox who was district chairman at the time of this convention presided. It was an all day meeting on March 26 during which local as well as state officials gave interesting talks. Following are some of the speakers and their subjects:

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Rural Education..... | W. W. Black |
| Doing Our Part..... | Mrs. G. G. Derbyshire Pres. Indiana P.T.A. |
| Words of Welcome..... | Mrs. Wilmer Fox District Chairman |
| Child Welfare..... | Mrs. A. T. Shrader Child Welfare Chairman |

A Social Hour was followed by a six o'clock dinner at St. Luke's Church. An evening program was also enjoyed.

The Parent Teachers Associations are still a part of our school life in Jeffersonville and each year they extend their influence for good into the general school progress. One of their very worthy services is maintaining a Student Aid Fund. The writer, serving as Dean of Boys, recently had occasion to note the real service of this effort when the Association volunteered to furnish money to finance transportation to and from school for a deserving boy whose family was in financial difficulty.

At the beginning of each semester of school the P.T.A. furnishes a committee to buy and sell books for the accommodation of students.

Varsity "J" Men's Club

A letter written by Mr. David Grandall and now in the possession of the writer of this thesis gives the following interesting history of this very active and worthwhile organization:

The Varsity J Club was organized on April 12, 1944 at Rauth's Restaurant in the Clark Hotel with a total of twenty charter members. The following members were elected as the first officers:

Sam Rauth, President
Jonas Howard, Vice President
William D. Benner, Secretary & Treasurer
Ralph McCullough, Sergeant-at-Arms

The purpose of the Club is to educate and assist the children of school age of Clark County, Indiana through the following means:

1. To promote a closer bond of good fellowship and more compact relationship between the former students of Jeffersonville High School awarded a "J" and the representatives of the various athletic teams of said school, its faculty, coaches, and future "J" men.
2. To encourage the highest degree of sportsmanship and citizenship among the various athletic representatives of the schools of said county.
3. To cooperate with other organizations in promoting not only the welfare of the athletic teams of said County, but the best interests of the schools in general.
4. To create athletic interest in Grade, Suburban, and Township schools of said County.
5. To lend aid in securing an athletic field adequate to permit participation in general of outdoor sports.

On August 16, 1946 the Club was incorporated as a non-profit organization under the name of "Varsity J Men's Club of Jeffersonville, Ind."

Since its organization the Club has awarded trophies each year to the most outstanding athletes in Basketball and Football at Jeffersonville High School.

It has contributed financially to the various grade schools for the purpose of purchasing athletic equipment.

The Club made a cash contribution to the Memorial Park Fund for the purpose of building tennis courts, and has purchased a Public Address System to be used for announcing athletic events of the Jeffersonville High School.

The Varsity J Club has promoted and sponsored a Junior High School Basketball Tournament at the Fieldhouse each year which has been very successful in stimulating interest in Basketball in the eighth grades throughout the city.

The Club has a total membership at the present time of 110 members, and its present officers are:

D. Marra, President
R. Knight, Vice President
D. Grandall, Secretary
C. Reynolds, Treasurer
C. Reschar, Director
W. Brummett, Director
P. Northam, Director
K. Davis, Sergeant-at-Arms

Student Council

The earliest record the writer is able to find concerning student participation in school management, is for the year 1933.⁴ This account tells of the first Student Council organization in December 1933. The group was composed of one member from each home room, and Richard Crickmer was chosen president with Lindley Brubeck as vice-president. No mention is made of a sponsor.

The effort seems to have proven to be ineffective as no mention is made of continued activity of the council for the next five years.

The year 1938 saw a revival of the council,⁵ but this time again the effort seems to have failed.

A revival of the council organization was effected in 1945⁶ but again no permanent results were accomplished.

In the autumn of 1947 the Principal asked for the appointment of members to a Student Council. Twelve students were to be chosen, consisting of the class president and two other members from each class. Popular election was recommended but not demanded and in one case the class president appointed the two other members. The full quota of members was never obtained, and the body finally contained only nine members. Following is a list of those nine members:

-
4. Topic 1934.
 5. Topic 1938.
 6. Topic 1945.

Betty Bane.....Senior
Arthur Bedell.....Junior
Paul Bridges.....Sophomore
Betty Houser.....Sophomore
Betty Kaelin.....Freshman
Robert Kissinger....Junior
Robert Mayer.....Senior
Patricia Schauer....Junior
Wanda Strother.....Sophomore

No organization of this body was ever effected, and the principal service rendered by them was counselling with a faculty committee concerning certain school problems.

During the school year, 1947-1948, the principal appointed a committee of teachers to evaluate the standards of ethical behavior among students during school hours, and at special school functions. As a part of the work of this committee they undertook the reorganization of the Student Council. The plan is still incomplete, but during the closing weeks of this year, 1947-1948, a campaign of advertising and discussion was carried out. The present Student Council members, assisted by some members of the Speech Class went to the various home rooms during the week of May 10-14 and gave a discussion of the needs of a Student Council and what that council can do to promote the best interests of Jeffersonville High School. "Student Council" was also the subject of discussion broadcast by Miss Basenbach's speech class over station WGRC in Louisville on the seventh day of May, 1948.

The home room speakers were:

Betty Bane
Thomas Cannon
Betty Kaelen
Jacques Landis
Ida Lou Mitchell
Helen Nachand
Donald Same
Patty Schauer
Wanda Strother

The plan, as outlined at present, for this third attempt at Student Council calls for the election of two representatives from each of the eight high school classes and two each of the seventh and eighth grades of Junior High School. A committee of five faculty members is to be appointed by the "Ethics Committee" subject to the approval of the principal to serve as an advisory committee. A constitution and by-laws are to be formulated and adopted soon after school opens in September, 1948.

The five teachers recommended to the principal to serve in the advisory capacity are:

Miss Mary Middleton
Miss Dorothy Heehn
Mr. John Brogan
Mr. Christ White
Mr. Ernest Smith

The principal gave his approval of the above committee on May 20, 1948 and also asked the Ethics Committee to continue to function for another year. The personnel of this committee is as follows:

C. C. Callahan.....Dean of Boys, Chairman
Margaret Sweeney.....Dean of Girls, Secretary
Ernest Smith.....Jr. High School Teacher
Glen Allen.....Biology Teacher
Ruth Robertson.....Latin Teacher
Robert Detamore.....Social Studies
Percie Poindexter.....Jr. High School Principal
Mary A. Holloway.....Jr. High School Math Teacher

With this set up we believe we have stable ground work laid for a safe and wholesome program of student participation in school affairs.

The National Honor Society

Founded in 1922 by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. Governed by a National Council of nine members.

Purpose: The National Honor Society was started to stimulate

scholarship in the secondary schools of the country and to endeavor to place secondary education on higher levels.

Its aims and goals for secondary education:

1. A enthusiasm for good scholarship throughout the school.
2. An encouragement of a desire for students to render service to the school and in the community.
3. A plan for self-evaluation of the student of the potential elements of leadership qualities within him.
4. A stimulus to the student to observe and practice those acts of others that develop strength of character.
5. An encouragement to the student to continue his learning and his education.

The chapter for Jeffersonville High School was installed here on February 10, 1947. The ceremony was conducted by Atherton High School of Louisville, Kentucky. The charter members were:

Mary Ellen Cortner
David R. Driscoll
Marilyn Gessner
Virginia Heinrich
Willa Heyn
Anne Ingram
Betty Johnson
Wilma Kendall
Janet McCarty
Mary Lou McCleary
Jean Phillips
William Rudolph

The principal of the high school is responsible for the welfare and activities of the group. In larger high schools he may appoint a sponsor who is in charge.

A council of three faculty members serves as advisers to the group. Our council appointed by Mr. Theiss:

Dorothy Hoehn
Goldie Ising
Glen McCarty
Ruth E. Robertson-Sponsor

Our school was number 3288 in the United States to receive a charter. The standards of the schools in which chapters may be established must

be equal to those of schools accredited by such agencies as the North Central Association.

The close of the school year, 1947-1948, saw the election of the following students to Honor Society membership:

William Baker
Minnie Hobson
Carol Millihollan
Ann Reichle
Patricia Schauer
Carclyn Yates
Mary Anne Zuerner

These young people are all Juniors and comprise the legal five percent of the class. During the school year, 1948-1949, when the class enrolls in high school as seniors, another five percent may be chosen. It should be kept in mind that if any members' scholarship falls below an average of 92 he must surrender his Honor Society membership.

A special duty assigned to the Honor Society in the spring of 1948 was conducting "Awards Night". This was an evening set aside for giving special trophies, scholarships, and other recognitions of worthiness. The attendance was rather disappointing, but this function will have to win popularity as time goes onward.

CHAPTER SEVEN

ADMINISTRATION

CHAPTER VII

ADMINISTRATION

Superintendence

One of the interesting and important factors of any school system is to be found in its administration. Since this is no less true in Jeffersonville than any city of its size and age, the writer decided to devote this chapter to that subject. An article by William Lee, President of Board of Education, 1877, has the following to say about school administration in Jeffersonville:¹

We have adopted a plan of our own in relation to the Superintendent of our schools which we think works admirably. We do not employ one general superintendent of schools but divide it between the eastern and western divisions of our city, for school purposes. Professor E. S. Hopkins, an assistant principal in the high school, is made principal and superintendent of the eastern division, and Professor W. B. Goodwin, teacher of the first grade, (comparable to the present 8th grade) and principal of the Rose Hill School is made superintendent of the western division and of the colored school of our city.

This arrangement evidently lasted until 1881 as the minutes of the Board meetings do not record the election of other general superintendents.

But let us go back of this scene to the remote beginnings of the school system. Early records show that soon after 1852, the beginning date of the public school system, there were but two schools,--the Mulberry Street School, designated as number one, and the Maple Street School designated as number two.

Minutes of Trustees' Meetings for 1865 show that a Mr. Maddox was chosen as teacher of primary school number three. The writer has not been able to locate this building but it may have been some other public

1. 26th Annual Report of the Supt. of Public Instruction, 1878. P. 349.

building, pressed into service as a school building since a new school building was soon to be erected on New Market Street (East Court Avenue).

In 1867 a man named John Zulauf completed a new building on Prison Hill (Now Rose Hill) and rented it to the city school trustees for school purposes, and a primary school was established there that year. This school was designated as number four.

For many years the Board of Trustees functioned in an administrative way much as superintendents do now. They prepared the budget, took enumeration of school children, hired teachers, handled disciplinary problems, adopted text books, received and checked attendance reports, and paid bills. With only four buildings to supervise, a principal was assigned to each building to oversee the general progress of the various classes and make reports to the trustees.

Following is a list of school superintendents and dates of tenure of each:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Dates of Tenure</u> |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| School trustees..... | 1853-1872 |
| H. B. Parsons..... | 1872-1874 |
| O. H. Smith..... | 1874-1875 |
| E. S. Hopkins (East. Div.)..... | 1876-1881 |
| W. B. Goodwin (West. Div.)..... | 1876-1881 |
| D. S. Kelley..... | 1881-1885 |
| Robert W. Wood..... | 1885-1889 |
| P. P. Stults..... | 1889-1897 |
| A. C. Goodwin..... | 1899-1904 |
| C. M. Marble..... | 1904-1916 |
| E. M. Creuch..... | 1916-1917 |
| Emmett Taylor..... | 1917-1920 |
| E. G. McCullum..... | Mar. 11, 1920-Aug. 11, 1920 Act. |
| Amos C. Henry..... | 1920-1921 |
| E. G. McCullum..... | 1921-1938 |
| William F. Vogel..... | 1938-Incumbent |

Future Needs

In order to meet the demand of a growing city for school buildings

and other accommodations, the administration invites the citizenship of Jeffersonville to look forward to the following proposed changes or additions to the present school plants and facilities:

Six new or reconstructed elementary school buildings with auditorium-gymnasiums.
An auditorium for the High School Administration Building.
School nurse, Elementary Supervisor and part-time medical and dental service.

Realization of some of these ambitions is already in progress.

An enabling act passed by the Indiana State Legislature in 1945 gave permission for a tax levy to develop a cumulative building fund. At first no specific limit as to rate and time was set, but a revision in 1947 set the rate maximum limit at 75¢ per \$100 of assessed valuation and the maximum time limit to 12 years. A statement containing the school budget for 1947-1948 reveals that the rate for this cumulative building fund was set at 50¢ per \$100 of property valuation.

Arrangements have already been made for the construction of a new annex to the Colored School Building on Wall Street. This annex is to contain four class rooms, modern toilets, heating plant for the entire building and administrative office. Architect William Findt of New Albany is at work drawing plans for this work, which he estimates will cost \$140,000.00.

School Trustees

The reader has no doubt, observed that Jeffersonville became a public school city in 1852. The new Constitution, adopted in the spring of 1881 made possible a system of tax supported public schools. The law, revised in 1861 provided for the election of three school trustees. At first all three trustees were elected at the same time. Records show that J. G. Howard, Thomas E. Veatch, and W. L. Merriweather were all elected in 1853, in the month of June. The tenure of office was two years unless re-elected.

In 1855 W. M. French, and Dr. Nathaniel Field were elected to serve until their successors were "duely elected and duely qualified". Myron Stratton had been elected the previous year to take the place vacated by Thomas E. Veatch.

In 1861 the Common Council of the city elected Dr. Field, G. Poindexter, and William H. Fogg as trustees to serve two years.

Minutes for May 21, 1863 mention the election of Dr. Robert Curren, John Ingram and C. Leonhardt to serve for two years.

In 1865 Dr. Nathaniel Field, John Ingram and Thomas S. Crowe were appointed by the city council to serve "until their successors were appointed and duely qualified". All three men were re-elected in 1867, for a specified term of two years.

In 1869 Dr. Field, John Ingram and Jonas Howard were elected by the city council to serve two years.

Records for 1871 mention the election of Jonas G. Howard, John N. Ingram, and James C. McCampbell for a two year period from date. Mr. McCampbell had been elected a year earlier to fill the vacancy

caused by the resignation of Dr. Field.

The year 1873 saw a change in length of term for school trustees. The new board elected by the city council for that year was composed of J. G. Howard, J. N. Ingram, and Charles P. Rossler. The state legislature at its last session authorized a three year term for school trustees and the new board was faced with the problem of arranging for a one year, a two year, and a three year term. By common consent Mr. Howard was to serve three years, Mr. Ingram for two years and Mr. Rossler for one year.

The school city was at last launched out up on a plan that was to continue until 1948, when the five member plan went into effect.

Following is a complete list of men and women who have served as school trustee since the beginning of our public school system:

| Name | Dates of Tenure |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| J. G. Howard..... | 1853-1855 1869-1876 |
| Thomas S. Veatch..... | 1853-1854 |
| W. L. Merriweather..... | 1855-1855 |
| Myron Stratton..... | 1854-1861 |
| W. M. French..... | 1855-1861 |
| Nathaniel Field..... | 1855-1863 1865-1870 |
| Graham Poindexter..... | 1861-1863 |
| William H. Fogg..... | 1861-1863 |
| John N. Ingram..... | 1863-1890 |
| Robert Curran..... | 1863-1865 |
| C. Leonhardt..... | 1863-1865 |
| Thomas S. Crowe..... | 1865-1870 |
| J. H. McCampbell..... | 1870-1873 |
| Charles Rossler..... | 1873-1875 |
| Hugo Alben..... | 1875-1880 |
| William Lee..... | 1876-1879 |
| O. O. Stealey..... | 1879-1882 |
| George Pfau..... | 1880-1883 1886-1892 |
| J. C. Dorsey..... | 1883-1886 |
| Floyd Parks..... | 1885-1892 |
| J. S. Fry..... | 1889-1893 |
| Nathan Sparks..... | 1890-1893 |
| J. C. Lewman..... | 1897-1899 |
| D. C. Payton..... | 1891-1894 1896-1899 |

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| N. H. Myers..... | 1894-1898 | |
| W. B. Veasey..... | 1899-1902 | |
| A. A. Swartz..... | 1898-1912 | |
| W. J. Davis..... | 1899-1907 | |
| T. W. Perry..... | 1902-1904 | |
| J. Ira Dorsey..... | 1904-1907 | |
| John Gienger..... | 1907-1919 | |
| Jacob E. Glosbrenner..... | 1908-1911 | |
| John D. Driscoll..... | 1911-1914 | |
| W. J. Schwaninger..... | 1912-1915 | 1924-1938 |
| Louis F. Schser..... | 1914-1920 | |
| W. G. Young..... | 1915-1918 | |
| D. H. Rose..... | 1918-1924 | |
| D. S. Cook..... | 1919-1920 | |
| J. C. Cook..... | 1920-1922 | |
| J. H. Clark..... | 1920-1924 | |
| C. B. Beeson..... | 1922-1925 | |
| Mrs. Ella Coats..... | 1924-1926 | |
| Walter Lemmon..... | 1925-1933 | |
| L. E. Zimmer..... | 1926-1932 | |
| Charles Nachand..... | 1931-1940 | |
| E. E. Long..... | 1932-1935 | |
| Wilmer Dickey..... | 1933-1936 | |
| W. J. Seitz..... | 1936-1939 | |
| J. I. Schwaninger..... | 1938-1941 | |
| Dr. Ralph Bruner..... | 1939-1948 | |
| Frank Clegg..... | 1941-1945 | |
| Walter Swartz..... | 1948-Still in office | |
| Walter Rauth..... | 1948-Still in office | |
| John Kell Long..... | 1948-Still in office | |
| Mrs. Laura Hoodenpyl..... | 1948-Still in office | |
| Dr. Nathaniel Isler..... | 1948-Still in office | |

The following article from The Evening News explains the occurrence of three elections in 1948.¹

An unprecedented action was taken in Jeffersonville last night when the City Council increased the members of the Jeffersonville Board from three to five, and replaced Dr. Ralph W. Bruner, a Republican, whose term had expired, with John Kell Long, the 1948 Democratic nominee for Mayor. Previously, the school boards in all fourth-class cities--of which Jeffersonville is one of 17 in Indiana--had been composed of three members under the law in Indiana.

Last year, the State Legislature amended this statute which had been in force for many years to provide that a city council in cities the size of Jeffersonville, could increase members of its school board to five.

Added to the school board were Mrs. Laura Hoodenpyl, a Democrat, and Dr. Nathaniel Isler, a Republican. Under the new law they will decide by lot which of them will have one year term, and which a two-year-term. After the new appointees

1. Evening News, June 8, 1948.

have served their short terms, each will be then considered for a full three-year-term on the Board of Education. The hold-over members on the School Board are Walter Rauth, a Democrat, and Walter Swartz, a Republican. This will mean that the new School Board will consist of three Democrats and two Republicans when it takes office on August 1 of this year.

Next year, at its June meeting, the City Council will elect two School Board members under the new arrangement, one for the position now held by Mr. Rauth and the other for the position held by the person drawing by lot the one-year-term. Likewise, in 1950, the Council will select two members, one for the position held by Mr. Swartz, and one for the position held by the person drawing the two year term.

However, the following year the Council will select only one School Board member, since in 1951, the term of only Mr. Long will expire.

The School Board is kept on a nonpartisan basis with not more than three members of any one political party under the new law.

It was understood that there had been considerable influence exerted on the members of the Council to increase the number of appointees on the Board, and to give recognition to the Parent-Teachers Association, by appointing a lady to the School Board.

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Mrs. Robin Baggerly.....Principal's wife
Curtis Ballard.....Attorney
John R. Beard.....Teacher-retired
Mrs. John R. Beard.....Teacher-retired
Frances Beard.....Teacher
Jasper Blythe.....Builder
Catherine Cain.....Teacher
Marion Carr.....Teacher
Mrs. Ivan Dodson.....Housewife
Aletha Duley.....Teacher-retired
Prof. Andrew Dustin.....Teacher-retired
Mrs. Wilmer Fox.....Wife of Attorney
Frank Gibson.....Carpenter
Walter Gibson.....Mechanic
Mrs. Ben Grote.....Housewife
Mrs. Hardin.....Housewife
Mrs. Hay.....Teacher-retired
Charles Hirtsch.....Industrialist
C. E. Howard.....Contractor
Jonas Howard.....Attorney
Fiske Isler.....Mechanic
Allen Jacobs.....Ex-Mayor
Mrs. Allen Jacobs.....Ex-Mayor's Wife
Ernest Jacobs.....Merchant
James Lee.....Magistrate
Walter Lemmon.....Railroad man-retired
John T. McIntyre.....Merchant
Miss Middleton.....Teacher
Paul Moser.....Teacher
Pearl Moser.....Teacher
Mary Nachand.....Teacher
Anna Nahstoll.....Teacher
Ada Nolan.....Housewife
W. G. Oswald.....Business man
Mary Pardell.....Teacher-retired
Joseph Phillips.....School caretaker
Julius Poff.....Clark County Recorder
Bertha Poindexter.....Ex-Librarian
Percie Poindexter.....Teacher
Ruth Robertson.....Teacher
Ruth Rose.....Teacher
Orlando Ross.....Teacher-retired

Frank Same.....Business man
Ida Schell.....Teacher
James Scott.....Teacher-retired
Ernest Smith.....Teacher
Field Snodgrass.....Principal
Frank Stemler.....School Bus Driver
Walter Swartz.....Business man
Henry Temple.....Teacher-retired
Emory Theiss.....High School Principal
Mrs. Emory Theiss.....High School Principal's wife
Arden Vance.....Teacher
William F. Vogel.....Superintendent
Harlan Vogt.....Principal
Alvin Voit.....Teacher-retired
Mrs. William Wilcox....Housewife
Mary Yates.....Playground Director (Colored)

CONCLUSION

On the whole the development of Public Education in Jeffersonville has been an interesting process. It seems well at this time to take note of some of the many interesting problems that have been solved and some of the decisions that have been made.

Ordinary human prejudice seems to have been a major problem. Many people in early days looked upon Public Education as a charitable institution, and consequently for papers only. Even when two new school houses were built for public use a private school flourished on the block adjoining one of them. However, Time solved this problem and Private Education passed away.

The spirit of Nationalism carried from Europe served as an occasion of friction between German and English groups. At one time they seemed to vie with each other to see which could hate the other most. School officials were inclined to be conciliatory through this period and these prejudices died away with passing generations.

Racial prejudice also has been evident throughout the whole development. Only once was the effort made to house negro and white students in the same building and this effort was short lived, ending in failure and separation. Negroes have not been favored with advantages comparable to those of white students until of late years. In the last ten years both groups have enjoyed the same curriculum, and building facilities are being brought up to the same level.

School Administrators have leaned toward the experimental side of administration. Whether in appeasement of political groups or individuals of course is not evident, but we would be inclined today to question the need of two superintendents. No evident indication of any special advantage accrued from the reversal of the grading

system during the Eighties, and this may be the chief reason for it being but short lived.

There is evidence that school officials have sincerely tried to develop a curriculum to meet the needs of city young people, and on some occasions subjects were added even when facilities for teaching were lacking.

During the early period of development there was much shifting of teachers from one building to another, but with the turn of the century, teaching positions became more stabilized.

The building program has not been kept up to the needs of the times, and nearly all buildings now existing have been constructed at the demand of petitioning patrons. This may be due to over-conservatism on the part of school officials on some occasions but it seems to be due mainly to the disinclination of school officials or the inability of the city to float adequate bond issues to finance new buildings. It is hoped that this condition will be corrected in this generation.

From the beginning, teachers of highest qualifications have been obtained for the schools of Jeffersonville, and those in service have been urged to increase collegiate training, as time goes on. The fact that married women are not permitted to hold teaching positions seems to be unwise to some, yet this ruling has not lowered the quality of the teaching personnel.

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