

accomodate 500 children) The Sentinel of February 4, 1857 published this interesting quote: "Very strict order and discipline must be observed or it will be impossible to manage such an institution successfully. This is a fact all parents should impress on their children".

Geo. A. Irvin (an ordained minister) was first superintendent and served until 1863. E. S. Green served in this capacity between 1863-1865 and he was succeeded by James H. Smart who ultimately reached highest levels in the educational world. After serving as local Superintendent from 1865-1875 he became the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and later the President of Purdue University.

John S. Irwin succeeded James H. Smart as school superintendent and it was during his tenure that Miner was erected. In 1896 he was succeeded by Junstin N. Study. The city made great strides in the educational fields under the capable and expert supervision of this man. Documental records at the Public Library preserve a number of his reports and, I am told they are invaluable.

Hoagland School was built in 1865. By 1866 the overcrowded conditions of the schools was almost inescapable. However, action by the city council granted Miss Nora Davis the "use of the fire house situated south and near the Wabash railroad shops as a school room to teach small scholars in; she pledges herself to keep secure and safe from damage the engine and any other property in the building". The overcrowded classrooms we are experiencing today is not new! The previous statement concerns conditions 85 years ago. And yet, as I read it, I felt that it could have been of most recent issue. Consequently in the next several years the city promoted the establishment of several more schools; namely

Washington School built in 1868

Hanna School built in 1869

Harmer School built in 1870

Bloomington School built in 1871

This accounting then has briefed us in the primary educational strides made in Fort Wayne in the 19th century and has given us, I hope the background of the need for the schools about which we are concerned.

(The information given in this chapter was gleaned from "Pictorial History of Fort Wayne", B. J. Griswold. Exact excerpts are in quotation marks.)

We now have a brief but informing picture of the struggle for public instruction as well as the dates and places of our early schools. Just to round out the contemporary picture,-- industrially, socially and economically - let us look at a few other interesting facts about Fort Wayne at, or near, the time Miner was constructed.

Present day students who read this history will like to