

observe and compare both the familiar and the unfamiliar developments mentioned here. The parents of these students (a generation or two late to remember such facts as first hand knowledge) will find pleasure in comparing notes with Mom and Dad, and I am sure that Grandma and Grandpa will delight in coming forth with, "Why, I remember when --" or "I've heard my father say --".

Historians have said that Fort Wayne has "always enjoyed a gradual and conservative growth and expansion, that it has never entertained a boom growth, and that during its advancement the city has traveled along safe, sane and conservative lines". However, I daresay these statements were pre-war (both as to World War I and II) but they would, nevertheless, apply to the city when Miner School came into being.. Fort Wayne has always been an important manufacturing and distributing center. This dates back even to the days of the portage and the feeder canal.

Industries

Because a great many of our Miner School patrons are employed at the General Electric Company, it might be interesting to note that this company had its beginning in 1881 -- five years before our school was built. The Troy Laundry, a well known business establishment yet today, was organized in 1876; the Horton Manufacturing Company began operations in 1871; The Centlivre Brewing Corporation in 1862 and the Bass Foundry in 1853. The S. F. Bowser Company, another leading manufacturing plant, and the Brown Trucking Company organized in 1885. All of these familiar names and many more which we do not have time or space to mention were all "B M" -- Before Miner. The Berghoff Brewing Company began in 1887 and the Fort Wayne Knitting Mills in 1891. In 1890 the Mossman Yarnelle & Company dealers in heavy hardware, began business.

One of the almost extinct occupations, so very much in demand then, and now, hardly in existence is that of blacksmithing. I feel almost safe in saying some of our present day pupils might even need to ask "What's a blacksmith." Well, these are but a few of the manufacturing or distributing companies that had beginnings in the late 1800's.

Citizen Protection.

Our first fire department dates back to 1833; our first police department to 1863 and our first waterworks system to 1879. The Fort Wayne Humane Society was organized in 1887. Three hospitals were established in the years 1868-1869, The Hope, The St. Joseph's and The Lutheran. The Hope has been replaced by the Methodist Hospital; the Lutheran although there is one by the same name in existence today, is not the original one. The St. Joseph's Hospital as we know it today is at the original site although many changes and additions have been made through the years.