

leave the room. She laughed and then assured me that even the children still "had to go". She admitted that perhaps there was a little less travel in winter months but it was always made up for in the spring. Teachers, it seems, are doomed to endure the irregularities of the individual's "regularity of habit" of classroom members. I asked this same little lady if she thought the Sears and Roebuck catalogues -- supposedly standard equipment in these buildings-- were the forerunner of our present day visual-aid programs. Again, that knowing little grin and she replied, "Perhaps so but in the rough stages".

Individual slates were used at first, but before the turn of the century schoolroom blackboards were in use. This presented one of the much sought for chores of the week -- that of taking the erasers to the outside and dusting them free of chalk. (What? No chalk-dust allergies to make this less appealing to anyone?)

One thing that seemed to bring forth a little difference of opinion was whether or not two people shared a desk. It was the custom early in school history for two girls or two boys to sit together at a desk. (Miss Carrie Snively can elaborate on this) and it was the dreaded responsibility of the teacher to be right there the first day of school and prevent "best friends" from sitting together. It seems they believed that "worst enemies" sharing a desk together caused less strife than "best friends". Whether or not this custom was followed at Miner, I am not sure. Some of the interviewed seemed to remember vaguely that it did while others seemed almost emphatically sure that they all had individual seats.

If this is true then at one time there were an awfully lot of seats in the various rooms. The school must have been literally bursting at the seams in the years before the remodeling program of 1912. Miss Gertrude Zook, one of the teachers here in the early 1900's remembers well of having 64 children in her 3AB class. She further stated that it certainly was a big task to just take care of such a large number of children let alone provide educational experiences for them.

In Mr. Study's report of 1900 he listed the valuation of school property and Miner was listed as being worth \$25,000 including grounds and equipment. In the same report he listed the seating capacity of the eight room as 403. The present enrollment is 325 and the seating capacity is roughly speaking, adaptable to 50 more than the enrolled number.

In 1912-13 extensive changes were made in the building. Demands had been made for several years for a departmentalized curriculum. Due to lack of space and facilities nothing could be done until such a time when an expansion program could be allowed. The Board of School Trustees saw fit to vote such an expansion program to begin at the close of the school year in 1912. The school remains the same in structure today as it was constructed at that time, with but few minor changes in