

sweet!" Arithmetic by any other name is still arithmetic -- even when it is called ciphering. And that is what I mean. The 3 R's almost always turned out to be reading 'riting and ciphering.

The processes of teaching (and subsequently learning) spelling, reading, arithmetic and writing have all undergone extensive changes and full chapters could be written on each one. Some of these changes will be mentioned later by the supervisors in their contributions to this history. I asked them to write of their special departmental work and whenever it was possible they explained some of these changes.

The extra curricular activities offered in the schools today are often criticized by those of the older schools. Again, they feel they are unnecessary because they did not have them when they went to school. When they were in school the free or leisure time of a child was certainly not the problem that it is today. Chores consumed much of the child's time when he was not in school. Today, modern conveniences frees the child from much home duty. I do not mean to assert that the child of today has no responsibilities at home. Every child does (or should have) certain tasks to be responsible for in keeping the home. However, there is still much time left in which he has choices to make in "what to do". There should be the realization and understanding that the directed play or supervised activity of the extra curricular program at school is developing interests and abilities or talents in such a way as to round out the personality of the individual. Here again the modern theory of schooling is carried out -- designed to develop individuality rather than produce conformity to a conventional pattern. The child is given the opportunity to choose activities to his liking and interests and much is done to encourage training in the field of his choice. One of the outstanding examples of this is the instrumental music program offered in the schools today. Not every child is required to participate but those who are interested are given every advantage -- even to the rental privilege of the instrument in which he is interested.

I think it would be well for all of us to keep an open-mind relative to educational trends and the best way to do this is to keep informed. Room visitation is invited and even urged of parents whose children are in school now. But that does not mean that the doors of the school are closed to those of you who do not have children in school. If you are interested -- you are welcome! That is the policy of Miner School and accounts, I think, for the friendliness that permeates the community of patrons.

I can hardly go on to the next chapter unless we extend to you, and you, and you and especially YOU an invitation to visit the school. If you went there two, ten, eighteen, thirty four or fifty years ago -- it makes no difference -- you are still and always will be welcome to return and keep informed of what your school is doing.