

fifteen years ago when two teachers visited the various schools for a short time each week. At that time, Mr. Merle Goble had charge of music at Hoagland School, and several Miner school students went to Hoagland to participate in the band.

It was not until 1947 that the present system of music study was initiated. Under the leadership of Mr. Varner Chance, the Supervisor of Instrumental Music, instrumental lessons were scheduled at the school, taught by Mr. Robt. Archer.

The Song Flute class was introduced into the grade school to better equip the student for instrumental study and also to find those people who had special aptitude for further work in music. In the Song Flute class, the pupils learn to read notes, feel and recognize various basis rhythms, learn coordination of fingering correct notes, enjoy playing in a group, and develop a sense of group responsibility so necessary in everyday life.

The Song Flute Class is open to all fourth grades. The course now runs from September until the end of the first semester. At that time, a test is given and those students who have an average of B plus or better are eligible to begin lessons on a regular instrument of the band or orchestra. It is necessary to limit the class in this manner because of the small number of school-owned instruments available.

This year, 1951-52, a string class was started and it is the aim to develop sufficient interest in the violin, cello, and string bass to warrant the formation of an orchestra in Hoagland Junior High School.

School instruments are rented for \$2.00 per semester, the fee covering the necessary repairs to the instrument. A limit of one year has been set as to the length of time a beginning student may rent a school instrument. However, this is not applicable to the larger and more expensive instruments such as the tuba, bass drum, oboe, bassoon, etc.

In the spring of 1948, the first All-city Music Festival was held at North Side High School Gym. Selected students from all the public schools formed organizations at the various levels which performed in the concert. The main idea was to show the gradual development from the Song Flute class on to the Junior High Band and Orchestra, then on to the High School groups. The Festival was an annual affair until 1951, when the program was presented to the North Central Division of the Music Educators National Conference held in Fort Wayne from April 7-11, 1951. There will be no festival in 1952, since the plans have been changed to make it a biennial affair.

The intermediate and advanced students of Miner are