

Part 12 -- Weekday Religious Education
Mrs. Marion Patty

The Weekday Religious Education classes are held for the purpose of helping boys and girls to become increasingly aware of God through the understanding of the experiences of Early Bible Heroes; to acquaint pupils with the knowledge of our Bible and show them how it can help in meeting the practical situations and problems of life; to help them become aware that persons living in accord with the teaching of Jesus can give spiritual influence to their environment.

These classes are held in connection with the public school program. They are non-denominational and reach many unchurched as well as churched children.

These classes were started in 1944 by the Associated Churches of Fort Wayne. This is a group of 38 Protestant churches who felt the need of regular Bible instruction for public school pupils. All pupils are required to have written permission from their parents or guardian before being dismissed from the public school classes for the Bible instruction.

The three mobile classrooms are used when a church is not near the school. This year we are using six church centers. West Creighton Avenue Christian Church is housing the Miner School classes, in order to release the mobile classrooms for schools where churches are not adjacent.

Our enrollment has increased steadily. This year over 3,800 pupils are enrolled. It requires 145 classes per week and the employment of seven regular and one substitute teacher to carry on this work. About 23% of our pupils are from unchurched families. The Council of Church women visited these homes to interest them in a church home.

Two city wide projects were carried on by the Weekday Department this year. A Thanksgiving Home Radio Worship Service was presented by our classes and a beautiful drama was given on Good Friday by 400 boys and girls in our classes.

We feel if each child retains a small portion of what is taught for his future living the program is a success.

Part 13 -- The Miner School Library
Mrs. Clare Hess, Librarian

The Urban School Department of the Fort Wayne Public Library has placed a deposit of 2,100 books in the Miner School Library. This has been done here as in other schools of the city as a service to children and teachers.