

are asked to point out what should be omitted there is total disagreement. The solution of the difficulty is to be made not by a return to the meagre curriculum of by gone days, but rather by increased skill upon part of teaching force and by the elimination of tiresome and unnecessary matters of detail. Much time has been wasted in the teaching of some of the common school branches that might profitably be employed otherwise. The absolute essentials may all be preserved and better taught and yet time found for matters incident to modern demands. It is by the process of elimination of that which is not essential and not by the omission of new subjects that relief is to be sought".

And now for the revelation of the surprise element: That was written 50 years ago by Justin N. Study who was then Superintendent of the Fort Wayne Public Schools.\*

To elaborate on the surprise element a little bit, as you read this could you not have imagined that this had been written by our own present day Superintendent, Mr. Abbett? Did you not feel that it could have been written word for word this very day and express the current feeling of the school situation? If you had not been told, could you have guessed that Mr. Study was referring to the school problems of fifty years ago? I think not. If time permits, I would like to urge you to take time to read his message again. It sums up so accurately the inescapable conclusion that the major school problem throughout the span of time has been, is now and will always be--- keeping pace with the changing world. Educators know this, parents often fail to recognize it and the children bear the brunt of the clashing trends of thought. We do them all an injustice if we fail to look ahead and make room for the new. The curriculum and methods and techniques which we enjoyed served us well but they are not adequate for today's child; neither are the methods used today suitable for the children of tomorrow for their needs will still be more complex. And so we grow. What then, does the future hold for Miner to achieve?

## Part 2 -- The Future Role of Miner School in the Community

It is only a natural process for one to look ahead. History records that which we have done and will record what is being done now. We can look to the future and plan at least a part of that to be yet achieved. No one possesses the power to tell us what the complete needs will be. Certain ones are indicative, others may appear to be in the offing and still others cannot be foreseen at all,

This we know: Miner has served the community well for a half century plus 16 years. I believe there are those (who

\*Reports of Ft. Wayne Public Schools by Justin N. Study (years 1900 and 1905). Preserved in Indiana Document Records at Public Library.