

Part 3 -- Other Aspects of PTA Activity

Leadership, fellowship, friendship, study, service and just plain fun are all synonymous with PTA, and you almost can't separate one from the other at Miner. A ready participation for whatever the moment demanded was available.

One of the recent (last 10 years) endeavors promoted by Miner PTA-ers is the State Scholarship Program. Recognizing the need to help college students realize their ambitions to become teachers, the program offers financial aid in the amount of \$200 to juniors or seniors in college who might be tempted to lose sight of their goals because of money problems. Often attracted by better paying jobs requiring less education prospective teachers are sometimes lost to the profession when a lack of funds prevents the completion of earning their degree. Local PTA units contribute to a Council Scholarship Chairman who in turn sends the funds to the State Chairman. The number of scholarships awarded is proportionate to the amount of money contributed in any one year. Applicants are chosen by a Scholarship Committee from students majoring in education at one of the following colleges: Indiana University, Purdue, Indiana State Teachers College or Muncie Ball State. This year's contributions will provide 69 scholarships.

Miner, one of the first schools to include a specific annual contribution to this fund in their budget began by earmarking \$5.00 per year for this purpose. It has since been increased to \$15.00. However, in addition to the budgeted amount, since 1958 an annual sweet-sale has provided extra funds for this worthy cause. So in the last several years upwards of \$50.00 has been sent in--a very excellent record. As noted in the distribution of whatever funds are left in the treasury at the end of the school year, there is one full scholarship (\$200) provided for at this time.

PTA has always provided personnel for various and sundry endeavors either school-sponsored or coordinated with other groups. The city-wide annual flower show, which for many years was one of the first PTA activities each fall, was abandoned in 1958. After the display was moved to the Coliseum, it became a very controversial program, and finally was dropped as a Council-sponsored event. The Park Board, which had furnished the plants and seeds for the program, still cooperated with schools wishing to have their own flower show in the fall. Miner was one of these schools continuing in this manner.

Service-wise, Miner contributed countless man-hours to civic and community efforts. Several of these stand out as extra special services. The rationing program of World War II has already been mentioned as well as the Registration of young men in accord with Selective Service Act. When a test program pioneering the vaccination against Polio by Salk Vaccine, was set up, medical men working with the assistance of many PTA mothers accomplished the mass inoculation of a great number of children. Also in the