

brother, George, crossed the Blue Mountain and made a pioneer settlement not far from the present town of Pine Grove. This was before the first Indian war. The warrant for the land was dated March 23, 1750.

During the Indian invasion, the family was again driven to seek refuge south of the mountain. His father, Peter Minnich and brother George, did get back to Pine Grove, however, Conrad came back to the old settlement location. He married Elizabeth Zerby, daughter of Johann Peter Zerby, at this time.

After living here for a few years, he sold the tract to Enoch Weaver in 1772, and bought two tracts, in the area where the Seven Stars Hotel now stands. Here he built a hotel in 1790, which consisted of a humble log cabin for the housing and entertainment of the few hardy woodsmen who journeyed to and fro in search of work and land to settle upon.

As our records reveal, prior to the hotel at Seven Stars, Minnich apparently served as a captain of the Continental Lone Company during the Revolutionary War. His company consisted of men from the northeast section of Pine Grove Township and part of Brunswick Twp., County History books reveal the date of May 17, 1777, as his discharge date from the Army.

Attorney William Mosolino, recent owner of the cemetery plot, has given the deed to the Mahantongo Chapter of the DAR. Since the DAR Chapter lacks sufficient funds to handle the restoration project, the Wayne Twp. Lions Club and the Wayne Twp. Boy's Scouts are giving their support as a Bicentennial goal. The Wayne Twp. Supervisors are sympathetic to the efforts and it is hoped that by late spring of 1976, the cemetery landmark will be completely restored and a dedication ceremony can be held.

Upon completion of the restoration, the DAR Chapter anticipates deeding the property to the Wayne Twp. supervisors to insure its maintenance.

SCHOOLS

The early settlers of our township were not here long before they became concerned with the schooling of their children. The children were usually taught in church buildings. Later log school houses were erected.

Building of the "Pay schools" from logs followed meetings of farmers who had children to educate. Land was donated and a committee appointed to fix the pay rate and hire the teacher. The teacher's salaries varied between ten and twelve dollars a month.

The school term lasted two months with classes held six days a week. Teachers were not required to have much learning. They traveled from school to school and boarded with families.

Tuition for students was 75¢ a month, plus a payment for fuel of \$1 a month. The textbooks were a primer, arithmetic, testament, reader and copy book.

The Germans wanted their children to learn their mother tongue-not English. This later was the chief cause of their protests to the establishment of public schools.

Out settlers were Quaker, Swedish and mostly German. These three groups were interested first in religion and second in seeing that their children learned the language of the parents. The school and the Church were usually together. Very often the Church served as the school and the minister as the teacher.

In 1834, the "Free School Act", creating the public school system, was passed. It may seem strange, in light of the present standing of Pennsylvania's public school system, but the proposal for a school system, open to everyone and supported by the taxes on all, was met by voter opposition.

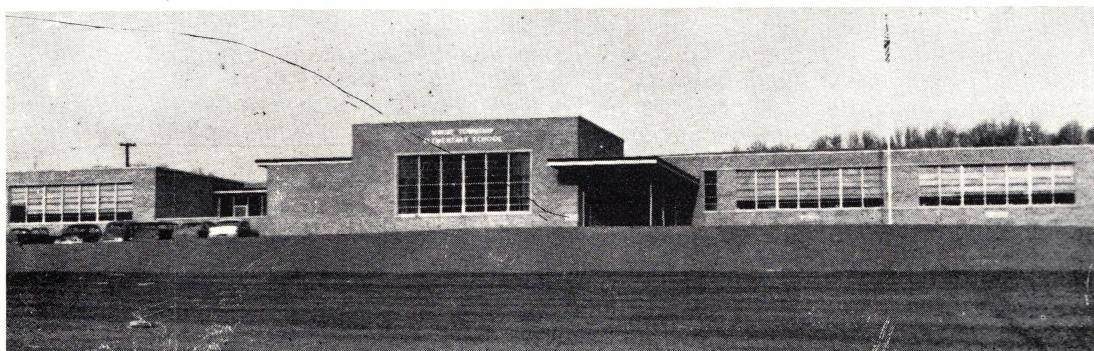
Farmers came to the voting place armed and threatened those who voted in favor of the free school. They were trying to protect their heritage of language and religion in the only manner they could.

Voting was conducted with ballots consisting simply of a sheet of paper with the words "For Common Schools" and "Against Common School" written on it. The paper was laid upon a table. Each voter put a stroke after the words "For" or "Against" to signify his intention.

The very farmers who at first used threats of violence to defeat the public school system were in later years tricked into voting for the system themselves.

Because of their stubborn adherence to the German language many could not read English. Boosters for the "Free School" made them believe that in marking their ballots "Against" when actually they were voting "For" the common school.

Many years of bitterness followed. In 1893 when a law was passed to provide free books for all students and the public school system became completely free, practically all the opposition had disappeared.



WAYNE TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

Wayne Township came into being in 1827 when it was formed from Pine Grove and Manheim Townships.

Two years later, in 1829, the first school in the Township was opened. Previous to this time, there were no schools within the limits of Wayne Township. During the early part of that year a highly educated young man, Christian Meyer from Strausburg, Germany, came to Wayne Township. He became the first teacher in a small building built in the vicinity of Summit Station, on the Summer Mountain. This was a private school and the teacher was paid by the parents of the children attending.

In 1834, a law was passed which made schools free to all. This act inaugurated a new era in the field of education. It provided that a tax should be levied on all taxable property and inhabitants, and that townships and towns should constitute school districts and the managing of the schools should be left to school directors elected by the people.

The Legislature was authorized to appropriate funds annually from the treasury to aid the work of education.

In 1841 the citizens of Wayne Township voluntarily accepted the Common School System. Mr. Meyer continued as a teacher in the public school system.

The following schools were built in the order as needed:

| | | |
|-----|------------------------------------|----------------|
| #1 | Long Run | Closed in 1937 |
| #2 | Panther Valley | Closed in 1958 |
| #3 | Caseys (Later known as Schwartz's) | Closed in 1947 |
| #4 | Reeds' | Closed in 1954 |
| #5 | Schweigerts' | Closed in 1958 |
| 56 | DeBinders' | Closed in 1947 |
| #7 | Black Horse | Closed in 1946 |
| #8 | Rebers' | Closed in 1958 |
| #9 | Roeders' | Closed in 1940 |
| #10 | Blue Mountain | Closed in 1921 |
| #11 | Friedensburg | Closed in 1958 |
| #12 | Summit Station | Closed in 1958 |

Some time later, these schools were renumbered.

On July 12, 1956, a Building Authority was organized with Milton Anchorstar, Milton Zimmerman, Norman Heffner, Russell Roeder and Carl Schneider as its members.

Bids for the new building were opened on December 20, 1956 and contracts awarded shortly thereafter; Ground was broken in February 1957, and the corner stone was laid with appropriate ceremonies in July 1957. The new building was put into use in January, 1958 following the Christmas holidays and the building was officially dedicated January 13, 1958.

The first teachers in the new building were Mrs. Pearl Reber, Mrs. Evelyn Snyder, Mrs. Julia Freed, Mrs. Grace Mease, Mr. Robert Brown and Mr. Ivan Manbeck.

The rapid expansion of Southern Schuylkill County has brought about many changes in our school system over the past decade. The people of Wayne Township, today, as always, are interested in offering the finest educational facilities possible to their children and are justly proud of their accomplishments in this field.

Many teachers have taught in the Wayne Township schools over these many years. Two of these teachers were life long residents of the township and each had teaching careers spanning a fifty year period.

Andrew J. Herring was born July 13, 1877. He taught in schools in Washington Township from 1895 to 1905. From 1905 until 1947 he taught in Wayne Township Schools. His annual salary over these fifty-two years ranged from \$210 to \$1600.

Oscar C. Moyer was born June 14, 1876. He was a teacher in the Wayne Township schools from 1896 to 1946. During this fifty year period his annual salary rose from \$180 to \$1500.

The first transportation of pupils in the township began in 1933. From this time on, all students had the privilege of attending high schools in neighboring towns. Tuition and transportation was provided by the township. Students of the lower grades were also transported to central schools within the township and one by one the original schools were closed until, in 1957, only five were still in use.

On May 10, 1954, the Wayne Township School District together with North Manheim and East Brunswick Townships, the boroughs of Cressona, Orwigsburg, and New Ringgold formed a joint school district known as the Blue Mountain Joint School District. All the schools within the jointure operated as one unit with each district paying their share of the operating expenditures. Several years later with the addition of West Brunswick Township and the Borough of Auburn the merged school district known today as the Blue Mountain School District came into being.

Also during the year of 1954, the Wayne Township School Board took action to begin planning for a new elementary building. The decision to build a new building came about after much deliberation and planning. The Wayne Township Parent Teacher Association supported the plan and township residents were eager to see consolidation of the schools after having had the "one room school" system for over one hundred years.

Land for the new school building was purchased from Mrs. Clara Roeder on January 26, 1955. On March 17, 1955, Minick Associates, architects, from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, were engaged to make preliminary plans for the new building. Mr. Harold Speidel, Assistant County Superintendent of Schools prepared a room schedule. These plans were approved by the State Department of Public Schools, and the project was finally underway.

Panther Valley School Dec 23, 1898.
The Society was called to order by the
President, J. H. Laubenstein. The minutes
of the previous meeting were then read by
the Secretary, Edith Moyer, there being
no corrections or objections, they were approved
as read.

The first in order was the nomination for
President, of which Wm. Schwartz, Albans
Riland, Edith Moyer, Ross Feigler & Ida Loy
were nominated. A vote was taken which re-
sulted as follows: Wm. Schwartz 2 Albans
Riland, 3 Edith Moyer 2 Ross Feigler 2 Ida
Loy 2. Albans Riland was declared as Pres-
ident. Wm. Schwartz, Ida Loy, Ellen Loy.
& Ross Feigler were nominated for Secretary. A
vote was taken which resulted as follows:
Wm. Schwartz 1 Ida Loy 4 Ellen Loy 1 Ross
Feigler 4. Ida Loy & Ross Feigler having an
equal number of votes, another vote was taken,
Edith Moyer. The negative speakers were
Ross Feigler, Ellen Loy and Wm. Schwartz.
The judges decided in favor of the affirmative.

A program was then made for the next meeting, which was as follows:

Declamations by Sallie Kline, Sallie Motz, Roy Farrell and Howard Stump.

Essays by Oscar Moyer and Wm. Schwartz. Select readings by Ida Loy and Ross Feigler.

Oration by Oscar Yieck.

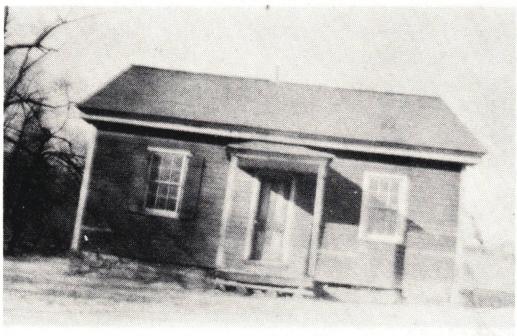
The question Resolved: that more knowledge is gained by reading than by traveling was selected for debate.

The affirmative speakers are Oscar Yieck, Ida Loy and Wm. Schwartz. The negative speakers are Ellen Loy, Ross Feigler and Edith Moyer.

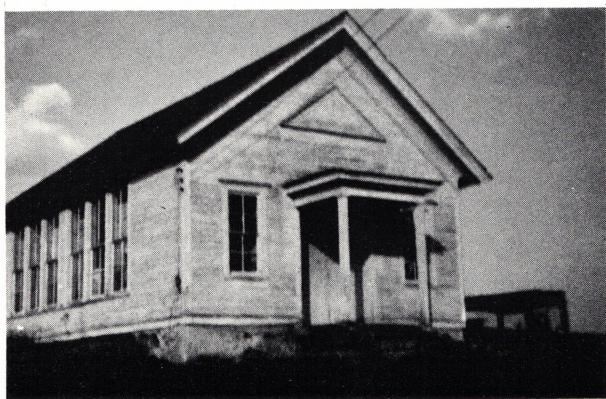
There being no more business the meeting adjourned to meet one week hence.

Attest

Edith Moyer Secy.



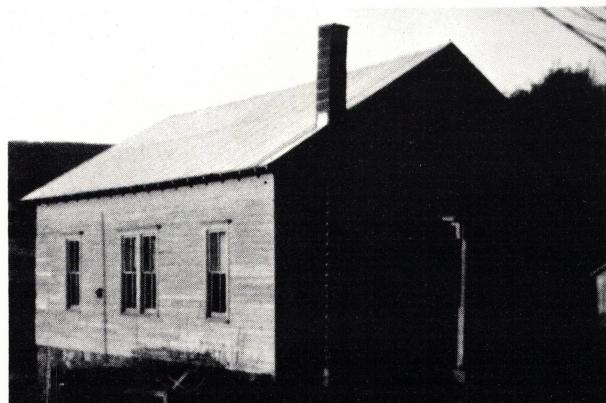
ROEDER'S SCHOOL



SCHWEIGERT'S SCHOOL



FRIEDENSBURG SCHOOL



PANTHER VALLEY SCHOOL



FIRST BUS IN WAYNE TWP.
Driver on left - Henry Fessler



SUMMIT STATION SCHOOL



DEBINDERS SCHOOL



The Old School House Down By The Dam

Photos from the Oldtimer's Album



REMEMBER CASEY SCHOOL? Mary E. Snyder of Orwigsburg furnished the old-time picture for this week taken at the Casey School No. 3, Wayne Township, about 1896 or 1897. First row, Daniel Casey, deceased, Charles Nunemacher, town; William Nunemacher, Pine Grove RD2; Robert Eichert, Reading; Clarence Fisher, unknown; William Ryland, Colorado. Second row: Edna Fisher, unknown, Gertrude Nunemacher Lillie Staller, Annie Koch, Judith Schwartz, Joe Casey, all deceased; Andrew J. Snyder, Wayne Twp.; Mary Snyder, Orwigsburg; Annie Nunemacher, Mary Schwartz, Annie Ryland, all deceased. Third row: Alban-

us Ryland, Fronie Schwartz, both deceased; Mame Fisher, unknown; Richard Lengle, Pottsville; Minnie Staller, Annie Eichert, Lizzie Staller, all deceased; Mary Ryland, Colorado; Ellen Schwartz, deceased. Fourth row: John Ryland, Elmer Fenstermacher, both deceased; A. S. Ryland, Pottsville; Emanuel Yeich, Robert Ryland, both of Sch. Haven; Artie Lengle, Ohio; Howard Fisher, unknown; Francis Casey, deceased; teacher, M. L. Wenrick, deceased. Fifth row: Joseph Schwartz, school director, deceased; Harry Ryland, deceased; Walter Ryland, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Fred Eichert, Orwigsburg RD; William Schwartz, deceased.



FRIEDENSBURG SCHOOL

First Row seated—Teacher Henry Brersher. Also seated first row Harry Stewart, holding sister Erma, Alda Wenrich, Malma Diehl, Hattie Kremer, Lillian Bressler, unknown, Almeda Wenrich, Ella Shappel, next 2 unknown.
 Second Row—Robert Cooper, _____ Kramer, Chas. Madenford, _____ Kramer, Roy Madenford, Wm. Douglas, next 2 unknown, Joseph Krecker, unknown, Martha Cooper, Gussie Ziegler, Dora Brown, Florence Stewart, unknown, George Cooper, Walter Krecker.



FRIEDENSBURG ELEMENTARY
 SCHOOL PICTURE 1913
 TEACHER—Henry Bressler

FRONT ROW LEFT TO RIGHT
 Raymond Yeich, Walter Yeich, Harold Heffner, Theodore Dar-
 cas, Paul Douglas, Raymond Bressler, Fred Madenford, Wil-
 liam Douglas, Riland Ziegler.

SECOND ROW

Roy Madenford, Ralph Heffner, Arellia Mengle, Edna Stump Wildermuth, Marian Madenford Zimmerman, Mildred Heffner Wolfe, Clarence Yeich, Clarence Heffner, Charles Madenford, Claude Heffner.

THIRD ROW LEFT TO RIGHT
 Lester Mengle, Arthur Heffner, Hattie Kramer Deker, Margaret Heffner Stewart, Raymond Smith, Earl Greenawalt, Harry Stuart.

FOURTH ROW

Ellen Mengle, Annie Ziegler Ketner, Ella Schappel Kramer, Eva Cooper Mengle, Edna Ziegler.

CASEY'S SCHOOL

Seated left to right—Mary Elmira Hain, Harry Earl Nunemacher, Mabel Irene Riland, Herman Staller, Helen Verna Nunemacher, Three girls standing to left of bench, on right in picture—Cora Lillian Hain, Alma Rebecca Kramer, Verna Matilda Kramer.

Second Row—Ruth Seltzer, Emma Catherine Riland, Earl Greenawalt, Ella Mae Kramer, George Irvin Hain, Irvin Kramer, Annie Kramer, George Edwin Nunemacher, Lincoln R. Stump, Edna Riland between George & Lincoln.

Third Row—Extreme left—Katie Esther Nunemacher, William Harrison Kramer, Jennie Mae Nunemacher, _____ McElwain, Mary Luckenbill, Heber Straub Riland, Robert Kramer, Charles Harold Riland.

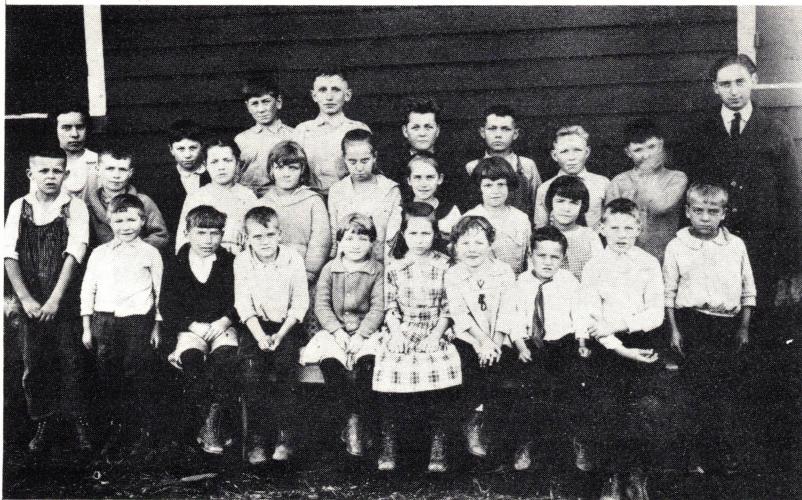
Last Row—Laura Seltzer, Howard Neiheiser & Minnie Beck.
 The teacher in the rear—Robert Fidler.



Front Row—Left to Right:
Woodrow Trumbo, Robert E.
Fessler, Monroé Schaeffer, Ruth
Schaeffer Zimmerman, Grace
Schaeffer Manbeck, Howard
Ney, Normal Schaeffer (de-
ceased), Earl Schwartz (de-
ceased)

Second Row: Herbert Schaeffer,
Wilbert Mengel, Eva Trumbo
Troutman, Verna Schaeffer
Lehman, Elsie Schaeffer Ditz-
ler, Virginia Schaeffer Keller,
Florence Ney Maneval, Miriam
Mengel Kramer, Anson William
Schaeffer.

Third Row—Florence Schaeffer
Fessler, Harry Fessler (de-
ceased), Howard Fessler,
Raymond Kilmer (deceased),
Herman Schaeffer, George
Mengel (deceased), Harry S.
Brown (deceased), Paul Mengel.



DE BINDER'S SCHOOL
Teacher—Robert Brown
1922-1923



SUMMIT STATION SCHOOL

Front Row: Left to right—
Robert Roeder (dec'd), Lester
Walters, Minnie Reber Trumbo,
Lillie Trumbo, Ketner, Lizzie
Zemenick Yob, Russell Roeder,
Lewis Walters

Second Row—Webster Brown,
Myles Kline, Charles Roeder,
Cyril Zemenick (dec'd), Edna
Trumbo Becker, Carolyn Roeder
Karmornicki, Vera Reber
Krammes, Mary Schaller,
Hinkle, Charles Wingle

Third Row—Charles Peiffer,
Joseph Fessler, Eva Peiffer
Krause, Lucy Moyer, Erma
Strause Ferrence, Ellen Schal-
ler Clauser (dec'd).

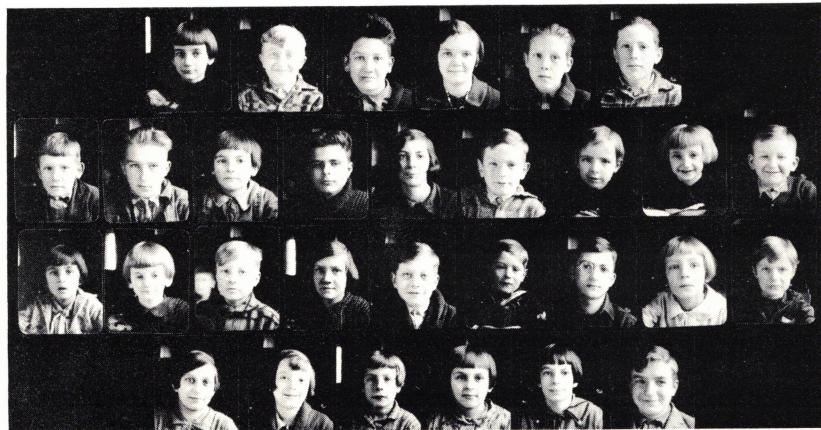


REBERS SCHOOL—1936

First row—left to right Richard Kreager,
George Peiffer, Kenneth Kreager, Elwin
Clauser, Paul Yulich, Harry Peiffer.

Second row—Paul Clauser, Shirley
Clauser Williamson, Catherine Yulich,
Pearl Miller Moyer, Jeanette Clauser
Krammes, Lorraine Shadle Hess, Elaine
Clauser Krause, Fern Kreager Minchoff.

Third row—Myrtle Peiffer Kerchner,
Carrie Lutz Hepler, Bertha Yulich Hikes,
Ellen Peiffer Heisler, Ivan Manbeck,
teacher, Wilbert Staller, Clair Shadle,
George Yulich, Sterling Staller.



SCHWEIGERTS SCHOOL
A. J. Herring Teacher—1929-1930

Top Row: Gladys Nagle Schnoke, Albert Nagle, Russell Moyer, Carolyn Emerich Schnock, Wilson Moyer, Charles Kutz, Leo Moyer, Albert Yoder, Ruth Freeman Breideigan, Theodore Reichert, Iva Deitrich, Ralph Kutz, Woodrow Reichert, Oleda Miller Reichert, Herbert Nagle, Helen Yoder Bredigan, Twila Nagle Nagle, Lewis Manbeck, Erma Moyer Brown, Carl Herring, Horace Kutz, Kimber Brobst, Grace Moyer Kocker, Harold Reichert (dec'd), Eva Brown (dec'd), Elsie Moyer, Edna Kutz Moyer, June Freeman Heister, Dorothy Deitrich, John W. Nagle.



FRIEDENSBURG SCHOOL—1938

Front Row left to right—Donald Ziegler, Charles Wychunas, Willis Roeder, Vincent Wychunas, Jay Bressler, Ray Laubenstine, Carl Ulmer, Harold Luckenbill.

2nd. Row—Mary Roeder Fox, Arlene Darcas, Ardith Laubenstine Kull, Helen Frantz Moyer, Jane Menich, Carl Brown, Nancy Ulmer Taylor, Florence Reed Freeman, Irma Darcas, Gloria Brown Hummel, Evelyn Ziegler Heffner

3rd. Row—Zella Brown Jacoby, Dolores Douglas Fidler, Anna Wychunas Miller, Helen Knoll Knight, Arlin Madenford, Norman Luckenbill, Betty Hummel Daubert, Pearl Buehler

4th Row—Harvey Heffner Jr., Glenn Heffner, Carl Hummel, Roy Reed, John Roeder, Charles Luckenbill Jr.



Left to Right: John Fessler, George Mengle, John Schaeffer, Howard Fessler, Harry Brown, Paul Mengle, Teacher Mrs. Henry Fessler. Back Row—Ethel and Effie Schaeffer.