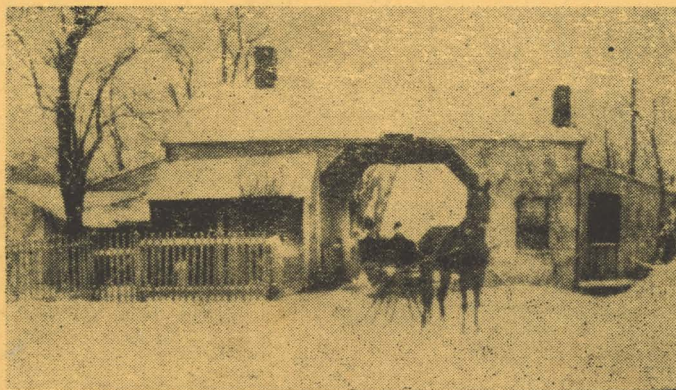


# 50th Anniversary Celebration



1905 - 1955

*West View  
Borough*

*May 13 thru May 21, 1955*



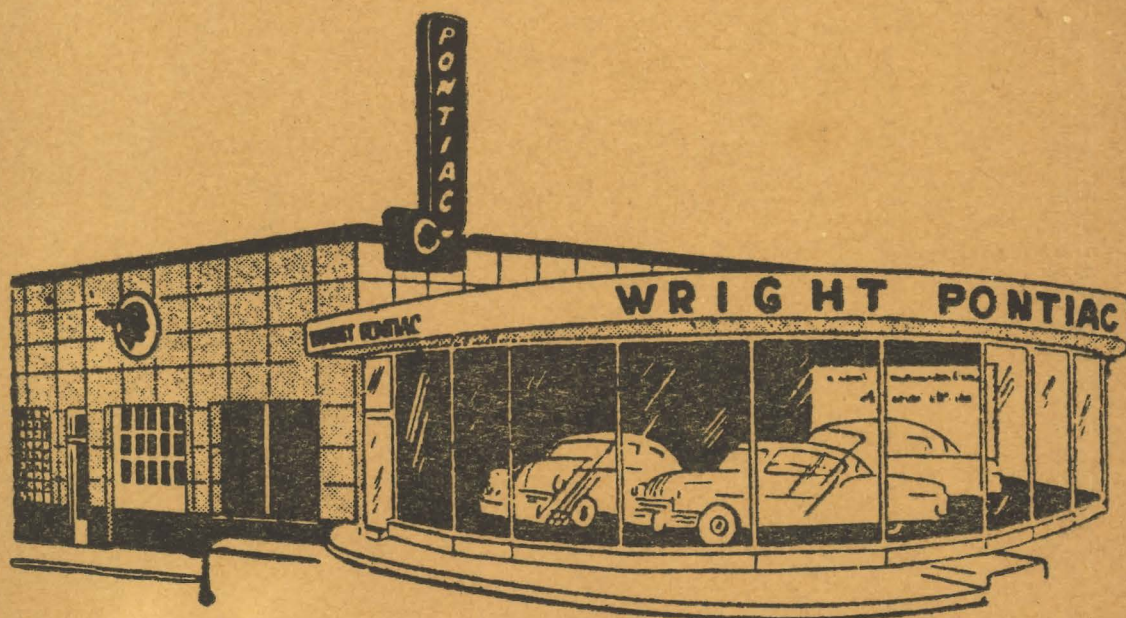


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## .. FORWARD ..

This book issued during the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the incorporation of West View Borough will give our present readers the important facts which occurred in the development of Ross Township and the start of our community, West View, which is in the center of the Township.

Many reasons for pulling away from the Township government are given, but Mr. F. C. Martsof, builder, and many residents mentioned herein, felt that it was easier to develop a smaller community with its own governing body to act on financing, paving of streets, laying of sewers, construction of schools and other needs.

This book is the only publication issued to date containing a large amount of local history and data and will be a valuable asset in the libraries of all local families.

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OF  
**A FRIEND**

## History Of West View

The first white settler in what is now West View, was Casper Reel Sr.

A trapper and an expert skin dresser, he enlisted as a Revolutionary soldier Feb. 3rd, 1776 and was mustered out on August 1, 1778.

When the Legislature passed the Land Grant Act he chose his grant in Pine Township (Grove) which later became Ross Township and what is now West View.

In March, 1784 he married Miss Elizabeth Wise and in 1792 he built the first log cabin in West View near the old Venango Trail of the Indians, leading the forks of the Ohio northward to the Great Lakes.

While out hunting one day, an arrow barely missed him. On arriving at his cabin he barricaded himself and his horse and prepared to meet the coming attack - and not a moment too soon! After holding the Indians off for several hours, he realized that his ammunition was running low. Fortunately, a passing troop of soldiers who were returning from an expedition through the country in search of the notorious Simon Girty, renegade and outlaw - a hater of his own race, heard the shooting and came to his aid. Fearing future raids, Reel abandoned the cabin and returned to Fort Pitt.

In 1795 he returned to his land, built a log house and moved his family there for a permanent home. Casper Reel Sr., then became the first tax collector north of the Allegheny.

Casper and his wife, Elizabeth, had ten children, seven boys and three girls. David and Casper Jr. were the first white children born north of the Allegheny and in West View.

Casper Reel Sr., West View's first settler, died October 10, 1834. He was buried on his farm which is now part of the Highland Country Club golf course. Also buried there are his wife, their infant daughter and three sons, Daniel, Jacob and William, a sister-in-law and a colored serving girl.

Almost forgotten in the mist of time is the old custom of parents threatening their youngsters when they misbehaved with; "The Girties will get you if you don't watch out."

This stemmed from Simon Girty, a white renegade who finally settled down with the Indian tribe led by the great Chief Guyasuta, near what is now Sharpsburg.

He terrorized the white colonists and his trade was peddling their scalps to the British for ten dollars per.

Legend has it that Simon Girty and his band of ostracized Indians would kill the white settlers, taking anything of value to be traded or sold at a later date.

One summer day at dawning, while the renegade Indians were off on another raiding party, Simon Girty is said to have taken the plunder from their storage place and buried it along one of the tributaries of the Allegheny River running to Millvale.

The story goes that the outlawed band of red men returned sooner than expected from the massacre and discovered Girty's treachery.

Tracking him to a place where he was burying his plunder, Girty, a past-master of the art of sneak-attacking, was alerted by instinct of their attempt to ambush him. It was then that the renegade started on his famous run through the creek bed located in this Ross Township, along Babcock Boulevard.

Girty was able to elude and evade the Indians in his desperate escape, but he knew that he must forever leave



Perrysville 4-9963

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this area, and abandon his stolen treasure to the woodland earth.

So it was that Simon Girty made his way to the land of Guyasuta to remain unheard of again in the pages of history.

After Casper Reel, other settlers came from across the river to create new homes for themselves and their families.

In the fall of 1795 Barnabas Hilands came, built a cabin, only to die the same year from a disease contracted by exposure. His family, however, moved onto the land in the following year and remained there.

Later in 1796, Richard Morrow settled on the land which now lies opposite Hilands Church and extended to Perrysville. He bought a settlers right of one Kellar of whom we know little but that he had built a cabin on the land and lived there only a short time, giving his name to a small run of land.

The settlement of Ross Township seemed to radiate from Perrysville and immediate vicinity over the surrounding country.

In 1800 Baltzer Good, an enterprising pioneer, built a log hotel north of where Perrysville now stands.

In 1805 we find the Scotts, Coopers, Quails, Williams, and Masons all occupying tolerably comfortable homes in this region.

Other early names found in the history of this area are: Huggins, Keeps, Cable, Whitesell, Hazlit; McCrum; McKnight, Langree and Anderson.

The area hereabouts abounded in a variety of game - bear, deer, wolf, beaver, otter; mink; fox; and raccoon. Early settlers relied on their guns to amply stock their larders and clothe themselves from the weather.

The creeks and rivers teemed with abundant fish life, and there was always a supply of clear water. . . . Small wonder, then, that those early settlers chose to make their homes here!

Early worshippers had no actual meeting-house to shelter them. But by 1799 there were enough of them meeting together to have a supply minister assigned them by the Presbytery of Ohio, and on the third Sunday in November, 1799 the first recorded sermon was preached at Hiland.

By 1807 Hiland Presbyterian Church was a log church much like the cabin Casper Reel had built almost twenty years before.

During the years 1807 to 1833 Robert Patterson was the Church's preacher, without whom the history of the Hiland Presbyterian Church could not be told.

In October of 1950, The Hiland Presbyterian Church of Ross Township celebrated its Sesqui-Centennial.

The First Presbyterian Church of West View was organized on July 9, 1904 with twenty-four members; the corner stone of the new Lutheran Church to be erected on Ridgewood Ave., was laid on Sunday afternoon, November 5, 1905; The corner stone for the first Roman-Catholic Church in West View was laid June 28, 1908; and on December 5, 1909 the East Bellevue Methodist Church building was dedicated with Rev. T. H. Morris as the Pastor.

Ross Township was one of the original townships into which Allegheny County, north of the Allegheny and Ohio rivers, was divided by the Act of 1792 offering the land to settlers. Named for Judge James Ross, it was incorporated in November of 1809.



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Within the township, the Village of Evergreen was founded in 1853 by a colony from Pittsburgh under a lawyer of the name, William Shinn. Attracted to the spot by its wild and beautiful scenery, they purchased land, laid out the village and established laws for its government remote from the dirt and smoke of the city and the rest of the world.

Everything was designed that the colony should be self-sustaining and that a society should there be founded from which everything plebian should be excluded, and where taste and refinement should reign supreme. But it proved a financial failure; the property of those who had embarked on the enterprise was sold at less than cost and strangers trod their halls.

After the breaking up of the "Utopian" Evergreen colony, much of the land was purchased by Matthew Cridge who headed a movement to build a railroad from Bennett's Station to the Village, which its founders had named, Evergreen Hamlet. Though completed and put into usage, the railroad did not become a financial success, but it did serve to prevent Evergreen from becoming a deserted village.

1905 - 1911

(Taken from The West View Republican and the West View Bulletin)

As the cities of Pittsburg and Allegheny grew and prospered in the infant days of the iron and steel industry, many people sought homes in the suburbs to get away from the smoke and dirt of the mills. West View, then part of Ross Township, was experiencing a building boom as more and more people turned toward the fresh air and quiet of rural life to the north of the Allegheny River.

With this trend to the suburbs, heavy purchases of land took place and the Keating, Schwitter and Jackman farms, together with other property, passed into the hands of the Allegheny-Bellevue Land Company, which constructed sewers and laid gas and water mains. Streets were laid out, electric lights installed and a street car line started to operate from the city.

One of those who came to the community to participate in the building boom was Frederick C. Martsof. Mr. Martsof resided in West View for only three years before his untimely death, but so great was his influence and service in the community that he was called "The Father of West View".

Frederick Christian Martsof was born in Butler in 1848. After serving for two years in the Civil War (he enlisted at 19) he went West where he stayed for 24 years, accumulating considerable wealth as a contractor.

He returned to Pittsburg and engaged in the contracting business with his two brothers, James D. and John Martsof. After retiring from this partnership he continued in the same business with the help of his three oldest sons, maintaining an office in Pittsburg. He came to West View in 1904 and erected over fifty houses in the community. In the spring of 1905 he conceived the idea of forming a borough and took an active part in its organization.

An order was made in quarter sessions court on Monday, March 20, 1905, incorporating the borough of West View. The new borough was formed out of 640 acres of Ross Township, and the court ordered that the first election be held May 16, 1905. In making the order of incorporation, the court granted the petition of John H. Link to exclude his farm lands from the borough, and in drawing the boundaries of the new municipality the court modified the proposed boundaries so as to exclude Link's



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property, making it a borough with a hole in it. Walter Nixon was appointed judge of election and W. J. Martsolf and Frank McManus were named inspectors of election.

Mr. Martsolf became president of West View's first borough council and he also helped organize the First Presbyterian Church of West View. His death on December 14, 1907 caused considerable sorrow in the community and was a blow to the infant borough for they had come to lean heavily on his judgement. Besides his widow he left two daughters, Myrtle and Alice, and four sons, George, William, Benjamin and Frederick Jr. Martsolf Ave. is named for the family.

### WEST VIEW'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

West View's first newspaper was born in the throes of its first political campaign. THE WEST VIEW REPUBLICAN made its first appearance on May 13, 1905 three days before the first election day. It was announced that it was the official organ of the party. W. E. French was editor; associate editors were W. S. Nicholson, W. W. Nixon, Dr. D. A. Atkinson, George J. Knight, Charles E. Wigginton, Mrs. M. B. Nixon and Mrs. F. D. Saylor, the latter two in charge of the Ladies' Department. Publication office was 322 Third Ave., Pittsburg, Pa. and the price was 5 cents a copy; \$1.00 per year.

The first issue of the paper was full of pictures of the candidates on the Peoples Ticket and statements from each one. The second issue, May 17, 1905 had more pictures and gave the results of the election. The Peoples Ticket won a sweeping victory (there were about 100 votes in the entire borough) and the men who went into office are linked in many different ways with borough history.

W. S. Nicholson was elected the first burgess, poling 68 votes. Council members elected were: F. C. Martsolf, John Muzzio and J. W. Beers (3 years); J. W. Schmitt, Lorenz Heyl (2 years); H. C. Galbraith, A. H. McMullen (1 year). The new school board included B. Catley, G. A. H. Hendler (3 years); R. G. Armstrong, Dr. D. A. Atkinson (2 years); Frank D. Saylor, Charles E. Wigginton (1 year). Auditors elected were: J. A. Schar (3 years) G. J. Knight (2 years) W. E. French (1 year) H. A. Steffler was elected tax collector; Charles Youkers, constable; Thomas McGowan, high constable; W. W. Nixon, judge of election and E. N. Stalker and D. J. Cotter, justices of the peace. When council organized, F. C. Martsolf was elected president and Charles K. Robinson was elected solicitor of both the school district and the borough.

With the election over and the infant borough on its way, the paper changed its name to THE WEST VIEW BULLETIN with its third issue, May 31, 1905 and settled down to recording the squabbles and foibles of the growing community.

The first ordinance published related to the licensing of dogs and warned that "no bloodhound shall run at large within the borough without being securely muzzled nor any dog known to be of cross or vicious habits, nor any dog showing signs of rabies, nor any dog belonging to a house in which smallpox exists" . . . etc In the ads were two for contractors and builders. . . Martsolf and J. W. Beers; W. H. Brant & Bro., largest and most complete grocery at West View Ave. and Perrysville Road, and Blind Brothers, florists The Freehold Real Estate was advertising lots at Schwitter, West View and in an editorial the BULLETIN goes on record as being opposed to Sunday baseball. Later, they pulled in their horns a bit, conceding that if the game was quiet, it was probably all right since some folks had no other time for a bit of recreation except on Sunday.

When there wasn't enough news prominent citizens



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took to writing articles for the paper such as "Have You A Hobby?" by Dr. Atkinson and "The Right of Women to Propose" by Ben Catley.

The West View Publishing Company sold the paper in June 1908 and it was published thereafter by a Pittsburgh printer until early March 1911 when it stopped publication. From then on CITY AND SUBURBAN LIFE, a weekly covering the North Boroughs, published by John W. Vickerman, became the official publication for West View.

The last days of the BULLETIN the borough was rocked with scandals. The paper hinted at much but said very little as to the real story. The lid was blown off by the West View Board of Trade calling a mass meeting and council was accused of ignoring bids on a new filtration plant, entering into a deal regarding a proposed 60 foot boulevard along the car line and generally not attending to business.

### FIRST SCHOOL

The Freehold Real Estate Company, agents for the Allegheny-Bellevue Land Company, presented the borough with several lots on Oakwood Ave. where the first school building was opened to the public on Monday evening, October 2, 1905.

Prior to the organization of West View as a borough, the children attended school in a small shack on Ridgewood Ave., poorly lighted, badly heated and with no sanitary conveniences. The school was under the supervision of the Ross Township school board and Miss Elizabeth Boal was the teacher. With the formation of the borough and a school board of its own, a bond issue was floated for \$8500 to build a school.

It was a four room brick building and at first only two rooms were occupied in charge of the Misses Boal and Dunn. A third room was opened in 1906 with Mr. C. D. Coffey as principal and Mrs. Ella Carroll and Miss Elizabeth Boal as assistants. Early in 1907 Professor Coffey left and was succeeded by Miss Kittie Spence.

The dedication of the new Highland School took place on Friday, October 8, 1909 and the ceremonies included a parade lead by the Swift's Mission Brigade, from the park to the school house. Assistant City Solicitor H. M. Irons made the presentation speech when the American flag was given to the school.

When it was found necessary to open a school in the East Bellevue section, a suitable room was rented there and about 30 pupils received instruction from Miss Josephine McGaw.

### CHURCHES

#### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

In addition to the municipal improvements, several churches were organized in the early days of the borough: The First Presbyterian Church of West View was organized on July 9, 1904 with 24 members. Meetings were held in a remodeled Land Office until a building committee was empowered to build, spending up to \$2500. The church was erected for \$1,400 on the Keating Plan. When someone asked why the church should be designated as the FIRST Presbyterian Church of West View, Mr. Martsof replied that "West View is going to grow and soon there will be need of ANOTHER Presbyterian Church of West View". He and his daughter, Alice, were at this time members of the Second Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh, but on September 10 transferred their membership to West View.

#### LUTHERAN

The corner stone of the new Lutheran Church to be erected on Ridgewood Ave., was laid on Sunday afternoon, November 5, 1905 with impressive ceremonies. The stone was put in place by Rev. G. D. Simen, pastor of the chari-



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ty chapel, and also pastor of the Lutheran Church in Perrysville. The new building cost \$3000 and was dedicated April 22, 1906.

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

During the winter of 1906-1907 the Catholics of West View met to consider ways and means to build a local parish. The matter was held in obedience until early in June 1907 at which time the new parish was offered to Rev. A. M. Yochum, of Perrysville, Pa. Father Yochum, having been located in Perrysville for 8 years, as pastor of St. Theresa's Church, and dearly loved by his parishiners, hated to leave a place so dear to him, but after considering the matter in all its phases, consented. He was then formally appointed under the date of June 16, as pastor of the new parish. A meeting was held July 8, 1907 in the auditorium of the Donegal Inn, located on Bellevue Ave. in the Schwitter Plan, the building being offered for use by F. J. McManus, the proprietor.

Mr. McManus later offered the use of his building for services until a suitable meeting place could be provided and the first Mass was said July 14, 1907. The permanent location of the church was practically determined the gift of four lots from the Allegheny-Bellevue Land Company, centrally located on the Schwitter Plan, two facing Wentworth Ave., and two, Chalfonte Ave. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schwitter then purchased 120 feet of adjoining property on Wentworth and three adjoining lots having 90 foot frontage on Chalfonte and donated the property to the church. The entire plot then contained an acre bounded by Wentworth, Ashford and Chalfonte Avenues and Enon Alley, and plans were made for a combination church and school building. The corner stone was laid on June 28, 1908.

### METHODIST

In July of 1905 several meetings were held in private homes to effect an organization to hold services for the twenty Methodist families in West View. Benjamin Catley was elected president; William Gallagher, secretary and A. C. Rightor, treasurer. In order to provide for services until such time as a site could be secured and a building erected, they put up a commodious tent on the plot of ground at the corner of Ridgewood and Oakwood Avenues, owned by Rev. D. L. Johnson of Allegheny. The tent was opened for worship on Sunday, July 16, by the Rev. Dr. Thomas N. Boyle, presiding elder of the Allegheny district, assisted by the Rev. Richard B. Cuthbert, of the North End M. E. Church, Allegheny.

There appears to have been some objection at first to the tent meeting as some of the other denominations felt that the Methodists were making a play to get members away from the other churches. Later, they agreed to hold their services at a regulation time, the same as the other churches.

All went well and on October 1, 1907 the East Bellevue Methodist Church was organized and on December 5, 1909 a new building was dedicated with Rev. T. H. Morris as the pastor. The organizers of the church were W. T. Cummins, Fraices Cummins, J. F. Gatts, Joseph S. Kirk, Kate Kirk, John Z. Kinch and Bertha L. Kinch.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

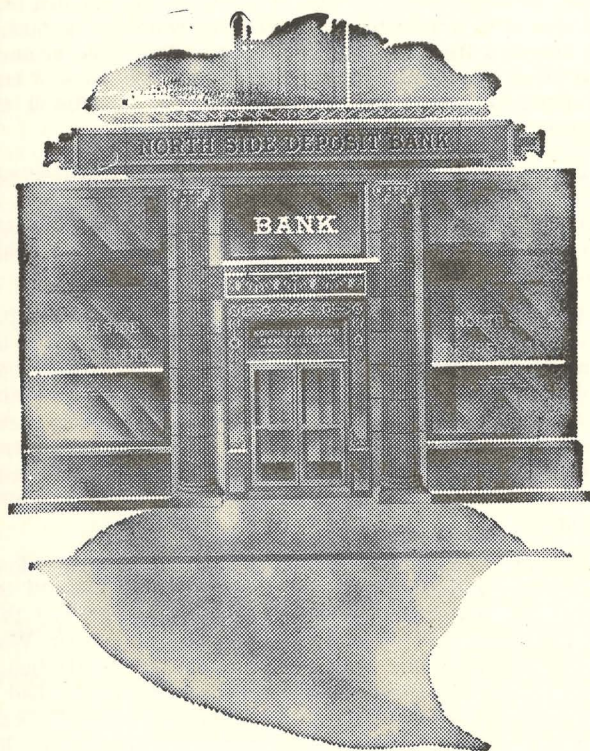
On January 27, 1906 interested citizens of West View decided they needed fire protection. Two fires, caused by "ladies who insisted on burning trash on a windy spring day" as the BULLETIN reported, scared the people into quick action. Accordingly a mass meeting was held in the school house for the purpose of organizing a volunteer fire department. Chief McGraw presided and Henry Miller acted as secretary. The fire committee of council had drawn up a set of by-laws and three companies were organized, No. 3, located on the Schwitter Plan, had Captain F. J. McManus and Lieutenant T. J. Schaub, and from the very first it was the peppiest and most progres-



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sive group. Almost immediately they began having oyster suppers at Donegal Inn to raise money for their equipment. No. 1 elected Captain Isaac Hartung and Lieutenant Ed Hamburg; No. 2 elected Captain Horten Penrose and Lieutenant R. F. Enzian. On September 20, 1907 engine house No. 2 was dedicated at Amherst and Stanford Avenues.

### MUNICIPAL BUILDING

A growing civic pride made it imperative that the new borough have a municipal building where borough business could be conducted. This dream was realized with the dedication of such a building on Friday evening, June 1, 1906. The new building was located on Ridgewood Ave. The ceremonies were preceded by a parade of fire ladders from all three companies, the customary red flares and a band playing "Everybody Works But Father" while Ridgewood Ave. was lined with cheering citizens.

Inside the building a solemn ceremony took place in which F. C. Martsof "The Father of West View" was presented with a gavel in the name of West View Council by Justice of the Peace D. J. Cotter. Highlight of the evening was the presentation of an American flag by councilman A. H. McMullen. . the first flag to fly over the new municipal building.

Fire Company No. 3 presented a large portrait of Mr. Martsof, the presentation speech being made by Harry Goehring while Miss Lottie Chambers and Miss Rose Muzzio stood on either side of the picture which was draped with an American flag.

The West View Mandolin Club played "The Volunteer" which was composed by Harry Galbraith and W. C. French and dedicated to the firemen and after a few remarks by others, refreshments were served, the audience sang "America" and went home.

### CONTROVERSY RAISES ITS UGLY HEAD

The rugged individualists who founded the borough of West View took sides on many questions. A thorn in their sides for many moons was the poor street car service to and from the city. They were particularly rabid because they had to pay two fares and they said there were breakdowns, not enough cars at the rush hour and the company had a general "public be damned" attitude. Finally, three prominent citizens got on the car before it arrived at the park, paid their fares upon entering, and then, when they had passed the park the conductor came around for another fare they refused to pay it. The conductor pulled one man off the car and the other two left under their own power.

The opening of West View Park in 1906 met with the disapproval of many citizens, particularly since it was open on Sunday and brought crowds of noisy people out to the quiet suburb. The first year it was open there was trouble with the young blades fighting on the streets of the borough outside the park limits. That was solved by putting on more officers and appealing to the park to increase their police ranks and insist that customers of the park stay inside the grounds. There were many discussions in council. Some folks wanted to try to close the park altogether but cooler heads decided that the park was there to stay and they might as well learn to live with it. Accordingly a delegation conferred with the park manager, Mr. McCann, to see if something could be done to curtail some of the activities on the Sabbath. The meeting resulted in an agreement that the two most popular amusements, the roller coaster and the flying horse, would be in operation on alternate Sundays, only instead of both being run on the same day. Piano music would be substituted instead of the raucous type being used and the Katzenjammer building, shooting gallery, paddles and balls and the dance hall would stay closed on Sun-



Wellington 1-9906



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222 East Ohio Street

days.

Through some eight or ten issues of the BULLETIN a feud was carried on between John A. Rhea and Mr. Ben Catley. Mr. Catley, a 75 year old Englishman, noted for his eloquent discourse and debating ability had come out in defense of licensed liquor places and Mr. Rhea, a confirmed "dry" took issue with him because of Mr. Catley's position as a lay preacher. Their letters enlivened the pages of the BULLETIN and while it all sounded good, the readers must have been lost in the bombastic and erudite pronouncements of the Victorian school of reasoning which was therein revealed.

### FRED SCHWITTER

The history of West View would not be complete without mention of Mr. Fred Schwitter whose death in Switzerland on March 15, 1909 brought an end to a fabulous career of fifty years in this country.

Mr. Schwitter was born in Switzerland in 1847 but came to America at the age of 19. When he reached here he was a penniless boy and went to work for a farmer on Lowrie's Run. Later he engaged in the dairy business and prospered so that he was able to buy 100 acres of land in what is now West View where he established the "Sweet Home" farm and dairy.

Just after the turn of the century, Mr. Schwitter sold practically all his holdings except a house and about 25 acres of land. With his family he went to Switzerland for a year, buying property there known as "Villa Glarus."

When he returned to West View Mr. Schwitter built a fine residence on the heights overlooking the Perrysville plan in the center of what he called the Schwitter Plan. The house stands there today, used as the municipal building. The ornate design and various features inside were representative of the architecture of his native land. The old Donegal Inn, formerly the Schwitter homestead, at the corner of Bellevue Ave. and Highland, is of similar design.

During the fall of 1908 Mr. Schwitter returned, alone, to Switzerland thinking that the sea voyage would improve his health, but in March word was received that he had died. His wife, Mary, continued to live in West View although they buried Mr. Schwitter in his homeland. A devoted Roman Catholic, Mr. Schwitter had a shrine in his home when the family lived in the Donegal Inn residence, and there were many statues in the big yard surrounding the place. The Schwitters contributed \$10,000 toward the building of St. Athanasius Church.

The Sweet Home plan of lots was opened by Mr. Schwitter in 1907. The property had an ideal location within easy access to the car line. Indeed, it was said that Schwitter was largely responsible for getting the car line extended into Ross Township. The family reserved space in the center of the plan for their own home and the lots sold at \$900 to \$2500 apiece contained  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  acres each.

### WEST VIEW CADETS

Although they didn't call it juvenile delinquency in those days, people realized that idle boys get into trouble so the West View Cadets were organized in 1908. They met in a building in the rear of the Presbyterian Church, every Thursday evening at 7:30. One hour was spent in military drill under the instruction of Mr. G. N. Mereness who had extensive experience in regular service. After drill one hour was spent in playing basketball or other sports. Dues were 5 cents a meeting.

### ELECTION FEBRUARY 18, 1909

The election on February 18, 1909 was one of the hottest in the history of the new borough. The fight center-



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ed on the office of burgess. Nicholson was running again for the office and T. A. Hey was opposing J. W. Blair. Early in the day the supporters of Hey began challenging. This was quickly taken up by the Blair men and nearly every man who went to the polls had to produce a tax receipt or make affidavit that he had one. The challenging won the election and caused much merriment among the onlookers. Hey received 126 votes; Blair 114. Nicholson, the former burgess, was elected to council. Allan Turner was judge of election and the inspectors were J. P. Hartung and W. J. Keist.

From the day that West View Council voted to make CITY AN SUBURBAN LIFE the official organ for the borough (May 24, 1911), there began appearing, each week, a column of West View news sent in by one who was then referred to as a "country correspondent."

The tightly knit community was noted for its friendliness and sociability which was reflected in the many small social clubs formed during that period. West View had an amazing resourcefulness to "keep to itself" and if a couple of neighbors got together on a Saturday evening, presto! . . . another club was formed. Some of these have been in the news for twenty years or more and when one disbanded another took its place.

Names of some of these which may bring back memories to some old timers were, The Primrose Club, Narcissus Club, Stanford Avenue Residents Club, O. N. O. Club, The Neighborhood Club, Swastika Club, Oakwood Club, Jolly Bunch Club, Wahnetah Club, Kewpie Social Club, Blue Bird Club, Community Birthday Club, Hungry Bunch Club, The Jolly Sixteen and The Cosmos Club.

Best known of all and said to be the first social club formed in the borough was the Needle Tea Club. The original members were the wives of officials prominent in the early history of the borough. It is not too hard to imagine how every policy adopted and every law enacted was discussed "over the teacups" by this group. The club met every month, year in and year out, at each other's homes, with an occasional theatre party at the old Davis vaudeville house, or the Alvin, and picnics in the summer time. Even when some members moved away they kept in touch with each other.

One special writeup about the club appeared in the March 1, 1924 issue of the paper: (quote) Last Friday afternoon the Needle Tea Club celebrated its anniversary at the home of Mrs. William Martsoff, of Martsoff Ave. This is the oldest club in the borough. Every member was present. Mrs. Frank Saylor came from Wheeling and Mrs. A. P. McCurdy, who has been seriously ill, was able to be present. Cupids dressed as Miss Liberty, flags and placecards adorned the table. Miss E. Baskin, a friend of the club sent little gift to each member from Iowa. Those present were, Mrs. George Martsoff, Mrs. D. A. Atkinson, Mrs. G. N. Mereness, Mrs. William Sims, Mrs. Harry Hemberger, Mrs. A. P. McCurdy, Mrs. R. Everitt, Mrs. Carl Pittner, Mrs. George Knight, Mrs. Frank Saylor, Mrs. David Beatty, Mrs. Harry Galbraith, Mrs. William Martsoff and Mrs. Edward Hamburg.

A strong sense of civic duty activated many of these groups particularly in the organizing of the women in the East Bellevue section by Mrs. Caspar Reel. Through her efforts, a series of community birthday parties were planned in which all the women whose birthday fell in the same month, were entertained by the others. The purpose of the organization was to enable the women to get better acquainted and to help each other. The group had some highly successful meetings, including one on September 11, 1913 at Mrs. Reel's home when upwards of 100 ladies were entertained.

The party had a gypsy motif . . . the hostesses wore



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FINEST OF FOOD

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gypsy costumes, there was a camp fire and one lady played gypsy songs on a guitar and two others performed gypsy dances. The speaker was Mrs. Shelton, wife of Dr. George Shelton of the Second Presbyterian Church, of Pittsburgh. Her topic was "Courage." This group of women was sufficiently well organized to be of service later when World War I started, and they contributed with Red Cross work, selling Liberty Bonds and many other projects.

While the ladies were active in their groups some of the men organized too. In June of 1913 a Tennis Club was organized with 50 members and they built a court on Chalfonte Ave. opposite the Catholic Church. Officers were, Charles Bacher, Theo. J. Schaub and Thomas Emminger. In the summer of 1916 the Yale Quoit Club flourished with Daniel Weissenstein as president; William Sprague, vice-president and George Rurelle, secretary. There was also a Lakewood Tennis Club and some years later a very active hunting and fishing club. Purely on the social side was the Lost Legion and a number of small euchre clubs.

Recreation consisted of church affairs, family reunions, courses of entertainment provided by organizations as the Redpath Amusement Company and others. By the late twenties many of these smaller groups had disappeared with most of the ladies involved in the work of the Suburban Hospital Club (forerunner of the Home and Hospital Club in Bellevue) and later, the West View Forum which was, for many years, the best known cultural group in the community.

### FREE MAIL DELIVERY

While Council plodded along on such unromantic problems as sewers and street paving, there was one subject on which the whole town could "get going." They wanted free mail delivery.

Finally, through the untiring efforts of Stephen G. Porter, solicitor of West View in 1910 and later elected to Congress from the 29th District, the people were told it might be possible if it were proved that there was enough mail going through the local postoffice. Everybody passed the word along, not to carry letters to Pittsburgh to mail, but drop them into the local box. Uncle Sam must have been surprised at the deluge of mail which poured in and many a forgotten relatives probably wondered at getting a letter out of the clear blue sky, but anyway, it worked, and on July 1, 1913 free delivery was established, and the residents were notified to put up mailboxes. The service was twice daily, the southern half of the borough serviced by the Observatory Station and the western half by Bellevue.

### SCHOOLS

Early in 1912 there was a movement promoted to put piano and vocal lessons in the schools; also, manual training and home economics. Such projects were fostered and pushed with considerable gusto by a group of women who formed the Highland Mothers' Club in November of 1912, with a membership of 60. Later, on October 21, 1915 the Home and School Association was formed and working closely with the county schools succeeded in bringing many innovations. Through their efforts the first summer playground in the history of West View was opened at the Highland School in July of 1914 and later, when the gymnasium was added to the school (1916) the first gym classes were held. For housewives and office girls and evening class known as the Sunny Gym Club was formed. What tales those old gym mats could tell about that group. They were still strong many years later.

As the borough grew the schools became more and more crowded, particularly the Highland, and in March of 1923 the Highland Home and School Association went on record that they favored the erection of a Junior High



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West View, Pa.

School of their own for pupils were paying tuition to go to Latimer and Bellevue schools. Their dream came true on April 18, 1925, when the cornerstone for the new West View Junior High School was laid at the corner of Chalfonte Ave. and Perry Highway, on the site of the old Donegal Inn.

On June 16, 1926 certificates of promotion to the tenth grade of high school were presented by County Superintendent C. E. Dickey to a class of 43 pupils, the first graduating class of West View Junior High School. They were: Emory Costolo, Hazel Canning, William Donaldson, James E. Hecht, Anna Virginia Perry, Oliver Hopf, Isabel Strock, Charles Simons, Helene Himmeler, Joseph Peet, Estella McGlasson, Edward Ackerman, Luella Scheider, Herbert Wurster, Thelma Wenzel, Althea Brooks, Edward Ttkinson, Grace Jones, Eleanor Herndon, Elda Grace McKown, Alice Richardson, Clifford Kunz, Rachel Crispens, Kenneth Logan, Myrtle Lang, John Mitchell, Adela Roman, Albert Hacke, Eleanor Totten, Carl Borg, Jessie Deurell, Jane Loesch, George E. Gackenheimer, Ernest Gackenheimer, Thomas Hunt, Margaret Bergs, Howard McKinney, Ida Kern, Donald Smith, Ida Protzman, Ray Aland, Bernice Smith and Helen Watters.

#### BRIDGES

West View's bridges were a matter of considerable pride to the village fathers as well as quite an engineering feat. In March of 1914 the Wheeler Construction Company of Harrisburg was awarded a contract for two of these bridges in the borough at a cost of \$11,800. In February, 1927 a social item mentions that Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Reuter of Center Ave. had as their guests, Miss Dorothy Hopp and Maurice Wheeler, of Reading, Pa. (the same Mr. Wheeler who built the bridges.) Early history of the borough mentions these bridges as something of a hazard, too. In June of 1912: (quote) A horse belonging to Fred Winters attempted to walk over the trestle bridge at Blind station, but did not succeed. He fell through to the ground below and was pretty badly used up.

\* \* \*

Mrs. Mary Neikirk, who died May 3, 1923 in the home of her daughter, Mrs. V. S. Beachley, Stanford Ave., was a direct descendant of William Boone, who married Sarah Lincoln, sister of Abe's greatgrandfather. William Boone was a first cousin of Daniel Boone who founded Boonesboro, Maryland, where Mrs. Neikirk was born and lived until five years ago when she came to West View. She attended the East Bellevue Methodist Episcopal Church and was buried in Boonesboro.

\* \* \*

When the West View Board of Trade held a contest in 1925 for a slogan, Mildred Reuter, age 12, won with this: "West View . . . The Scenic Garden of the North Hills."

#### PROGRESS IN THE BOROUGH CIVIC — POLITICAL

During the twenties and early thirties there was a tremendous surge of civic activity. The West View Board of Trade was constantly in the news and drew large crowds of people to meetings and community social activities. Prominent speakers were provided and the borough invited nearby communities to hear them. West View was active in trying to promote a highway to connect Bellevue with the Perry Highway and it was to follow the car line from the top of Balph Ave. over into West View. West View played a prominent part in the celebration which opened the new High Bridge from Bellevue to North Side. Over 300 automobiles with West View decorations took part in the parade.

When the first Metropolitan Pittsburgh Plan was proposed, West View went along with the idea, the same as the North Boroughs did. Giant Fourth of July celebra-



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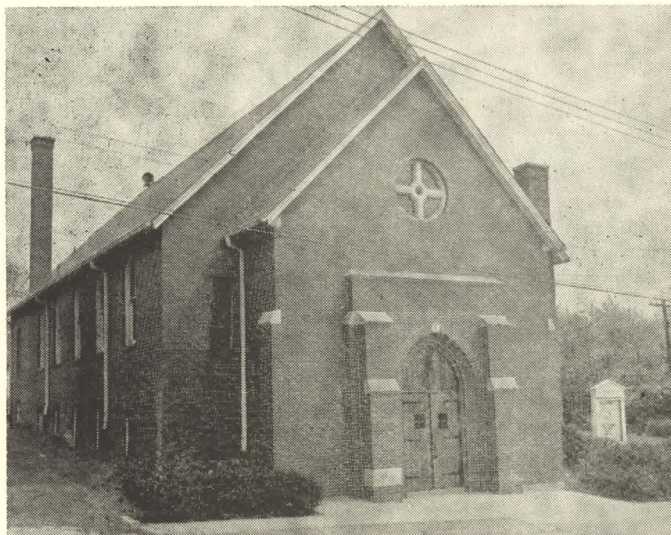
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tions were staged by the West View Board of Trade, and community picnic drew enormous crowds. The borough became a strong political center (Republican) and helped to promote a native son, Frank Gollmar to a judge of Common Pleas Court to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Judge John D. Shafer, November 10, 1926. Previously, he had been solicitor for West View and was appointed by Governor Pinchot in 1925, as deputy attorney general at Harrisburg. Later on he became sheriff of Allegheny County (1939) by appointment and successfully conducted a campaign for election in 1933.

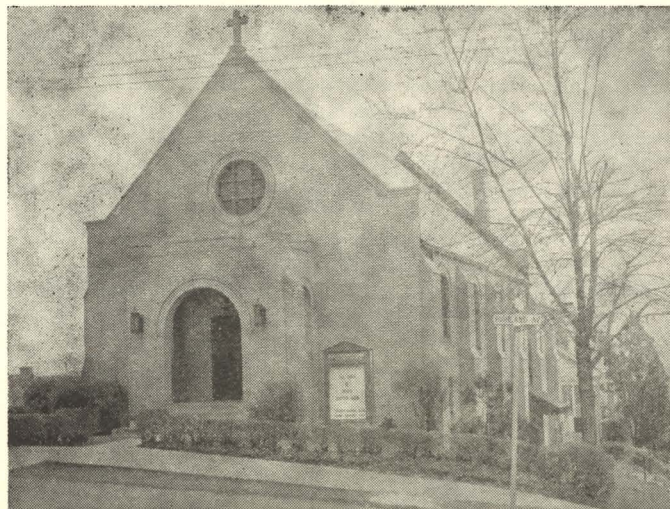
In 1927 during the height of the Board of Trade's activities, an episode took place that epitomized the true spirit of West View at that time. St. Luke's Lutheran Church burned to the ground on July 4, 1927. The West View Board of Trade went into action and held a big banquet at the Pines on July 25, attended by more than 500 people and addressed by Senator David A. Reed. A plan was presented for the sale of bonds to finance the rebuilding of the church and this was done.

## **WEST VIEW U. P. CHURCH**



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## ARNOLD'S

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FROM

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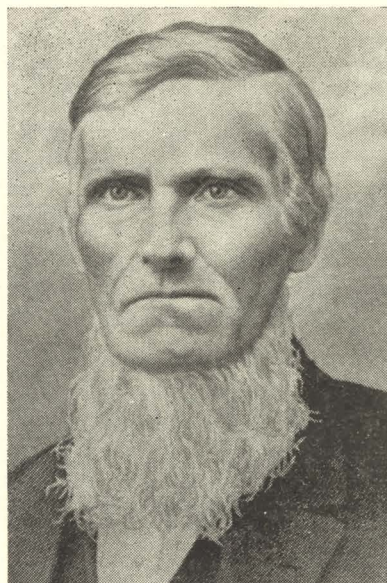
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CASPER REEL, Sr.



First white man to settle in the area now included in West View.

## SONS OF FIRST WHITE SETTLER



Showing, left to right, David Reel, Conrad Reel and Casper Reel, Jr., sons of the first white settlers here.

## BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH



"Sep" George is a favorite with the youngsters as "Gabby" Hayes in 1955 Brothers of the Brush activity.



## WEST VIEW POST 2754, VFW AUXILIARY 1933



During the winter of 1933, a group of wives and mothers of World War veterans, met at the home of Mrs. Emma Crow for the purpose of organizing an Aux. to the West View Post 2754. Their aim was to provide aid, comfort and entertainment for the sick and wounded men who had returned from the war.

During March of the same year, their purpose was accomplished, when, under the able management of Sister

Genevieve Schaaf, the Aux. was instituted in the school house at the rear of St. Athanasius church, on Wentworth Ave., when all officers were installed under the leadership of Maurie Longmore, as the first President. During the years that followed the Aux. received many commendations of praise and recognition over the state for their unceasing devotion on behalf of the sick and wounded, down to the present day.

## WEST VIEW FIRE DEPARTMENT



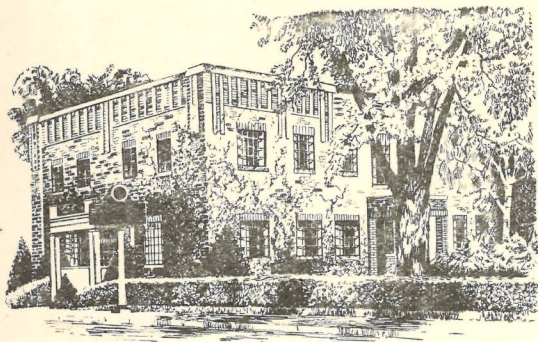
The West View Fire Department is comprised of three companies united with meetings once a month at alternate engine houses. They are equipped with everything a firefighter needs. Going back to 1905. No. 1 was the pioneer company. Many of the first members are still here to tell stories of those early days. No. 2 was formed by the residents in that district along Amherst Avenue. No. 3 came later as the population grew around the Schwitter Plan. These Companies were individual for quite some time, till around 1924 when a solid organization was formed. Looking back to 1905 when the Borough was incorporated, all these men had to work with was a two wheeled cart drawn by hand. The alarm was a wagon rim which

was struck with a large hammer. Later a cart with tank and hose was used. Mr. Heil provided a horse when needed. Later Mr. Brant donated an Oldsmobile Chassis. The men built a truck body with a tank and hose donated from the city Fire Department, which they motorized. George Heil was the driver. After fire plugs were installed over the borough a 1924 Seagrave Pumper was bought by subscription raised by the Company. The Seagrave was replaced with a fine LaFrance Pumper.

Names of Pioneers were: Walter Skiles, George Heil, Henry Kind, Mr. Shoop, Mr. Beeres, H. Galbraith, M. Schaub and M. Hamburg.



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### HISTORY — WEST VIEW

In 1934 "The North Hills Journal", published in West View, was made the Borough's official newspaper. Its name was changed to "The Allegheny Journal" in 1942.

In June of 1934 the Wellington Heights Plan of lots opened with an auction for the lots conducted by Lawrence E. Jones. Building restrictions are in effect until 1970. Here, almost across from the high school, modern homes were built such as West View had never seen before.

The West View Community Choral Club, under the direction of J. Julius Baird, made its debut over WWSW.

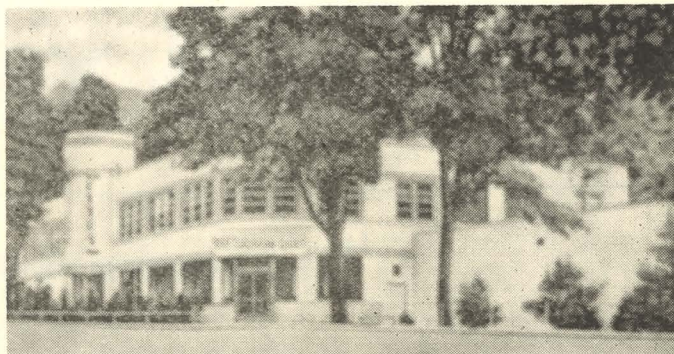
The Highland Country Club was damaged by fire on May 12, 1939 to the amount of \$25,000.00.

West View's first and only movie, The Gerard, opened on January 19, 1940.

Rev. A. W. Stremel of West View, was appointed chaplain of the Western Penitentiary on February 2, 1940.

West View bought the land for the athletic field with WPA funds in August 1940. Built and dedicated the new Field House two years ago.

### COMPLIMENTS OF



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SAVINGS and LOAN ASSOCIATION

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Publishers of

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Mrs. Anne Metz  
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Mrs. Mabel Hanna  
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Mrs. Helen Bennett  
Mrs. Marie Roberts  
Mrs. Laura Zeig  
Mrs. Dorothy Martin  
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Mrs. Betty Wunderly  
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Ted Jericho  
Frank Fisher  
Bill Robinette  
Paul Heinzelman  
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Francis Schmitt  
Abe Henry  
Steve Sabina  
Benjamin Moore



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 Mrs. F. Schwartz  
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 Miss Mary Jane Catanzaro  
 Mrs. Virginia Kline  
 Miss Anita Weinzettl  
 Mrs. Ardell Williams  
 Mrs. Ethel Stehle  
 Mrs. Vera Brandt

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 West View Boy Scout Troops

## Spectacle Committee

Harold Kascub and Ray Steck  
 — Co-Chairmen

## Casting

Dolores Marino, and Margaret Mooney — Co-Chairmen

## Scenario and Tile Committee

Mrs. W. D. Lillich, Chairman

## Properties Committee

Byron Schlag and Phillip Pfeiffer — Co-Chairmen  
 Homer Woessner  
 Angelo Cammarata  
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Smith  
 Mr. Philip Ihrig  
 Mr. Joseph Kmetyk

## Music Committee

Miss Alice Conners and James Caruso — Co-Chairmen

## Special Events

### Women's Division

Mrs. A. E. Urich and Mrs. Agnes Powers — Co-Chairmen

### Men's Division

John Weissner, Chairman

## Parade Committee

John Farley and Frank Armour — Co-Chairmen  
 Earl Meinert  
 West View Firemen's Association

## Historical Windows

Mrs. Lillian Gorsin  
 Mrs. Anne Schafer

## Celebration Grand Ball

Mrs. F. G. Zeig, Chairman  
 Mrs. William Martin  
 Mrs. Carl Link  
 Mrs. William Wunderly  
 Mrs. Francis Clogon  
 Mrs. Carl Gallwits

## Brothers of the Brush

Mr. James Hammel, Chairman

## Sisters of the Swish

Mrs. A. E. Urich and Mrs. Agnes Powers — Co-Chairmen

## Style Show

Mrs. Charles Schafer and Mrs. Wm. Johnston — Co-chairmen

## Special Days

R. Emery Shaffer, Chairman  
 Friday, May 13th — Homecoming Day  
 Saturday, May 14th — Firemen's Day  
 Sunday, May 15th — Brotherhood Day  
 Monday, May 16th — Youth Day  
 Tuesday, May 17th — Veteran's Day  
 Wednesday, May 18th — Ladies Day  
 Thursday, May 19th — Neighboring Communities Day  
 Friday, May 20th — Alumni Day  
 Saturday, May 21st — Merchant's Day

## Hospitality Division

A. L. Kress, Chairman

## Homecoming Committee

George Heil, Chairman

## Traffic and Safety

J. L. Gahring, Chairman  
 West View Police Department

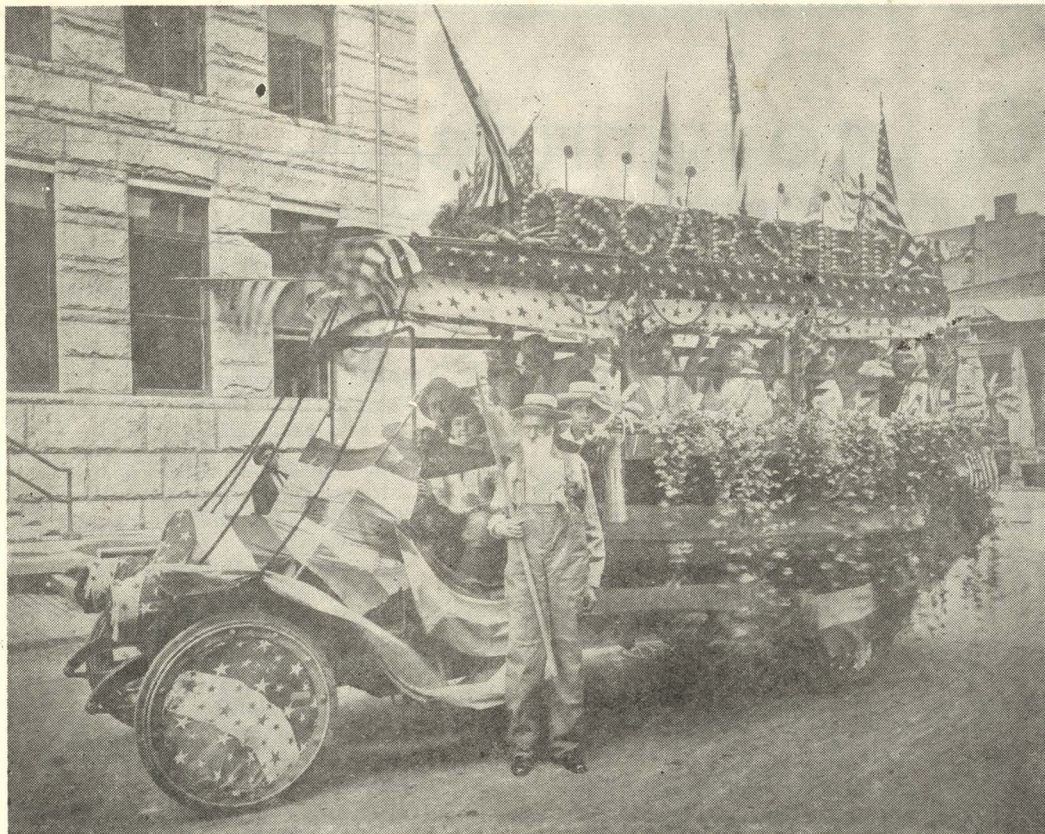
## Costume and Make Up

Mrs. Dorothy Steck  
 Mrs. Betty Wunderly  
 Mrs. Dorothy Pedone  
 Mrs. Marion Kaschub  
 Mrs. Dorothy Wheeler  
 Mrs. Helen Bennett  
 Mrs. Ida Mae Manczak  
 Mrs. Janet Dickson

## PUBLICITY DIVISION

James S. Nudi, Chairman





In 1915 a Market Parade was featured in the month of August, when then Allegheny Market, Pittsburgh Market and South Side Market, paraded thru the North Side, Allegheny and South Side, then to West View Park, where the picture was taken.

The top of the float was covered with sliced beets and the letters forming the name were made of onions, the

vinca vines and flowers decorating the sides and the vegetables, all came from the farm of Oscar S. Heid in Reserve Township.

The young folks were all relatives of the Heid family, two being daughters of Mr. Heid, who are now Mrs. John Bishop and Mrs. Walter Crispens, both of West View.

## 75 YEARS OF FRIENDLY SERVICE

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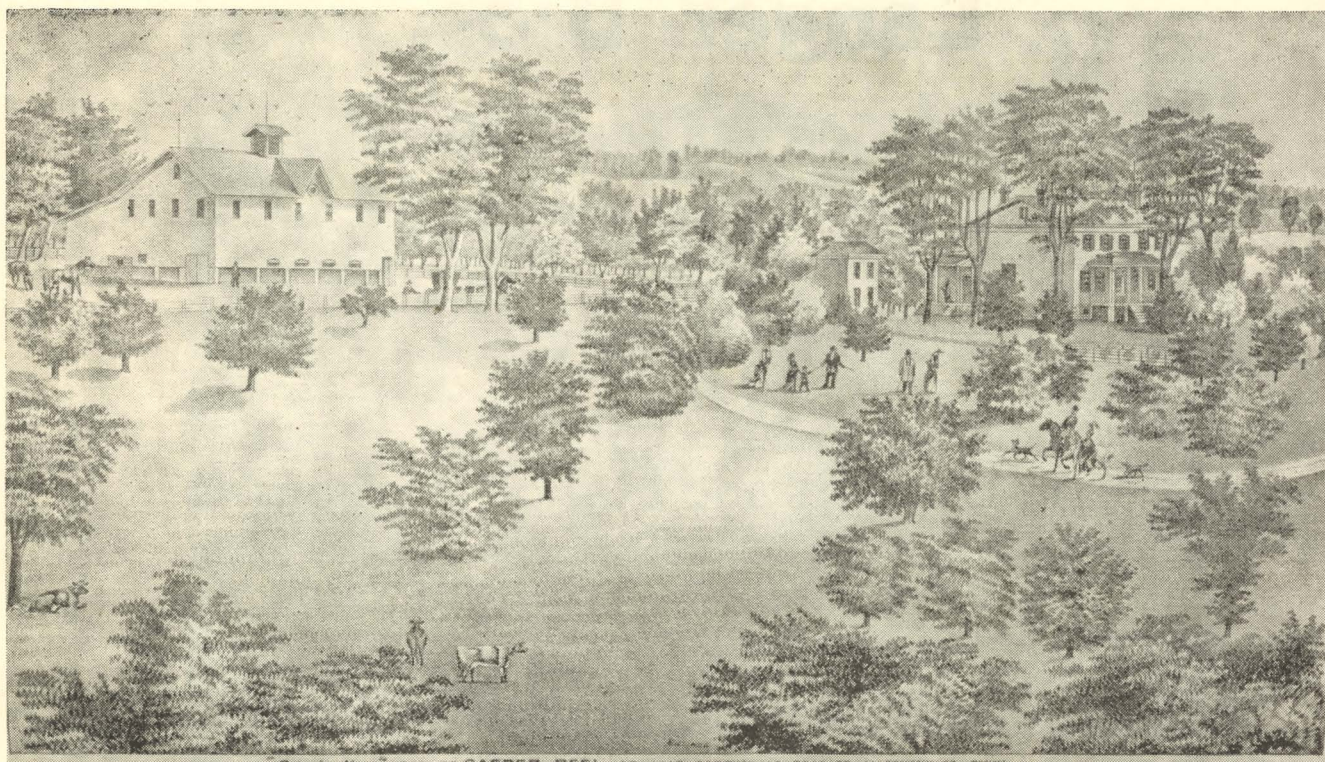
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The North Suburban Lions Club was organized in 1949 with William K. Hamburg as its first president followed in succession by David Ogilvie, David Fluharty and John Trego. The club still has 17 active charter members.

During the years of its organization has become noted for its leadership as a service club. It follows the basic Lion club policies of supplying aid to the blind and needy. In addition to these basic functions the North Suburban Lions Club has sponsored the following:

Scoreboard for High School Athletic Field, Wheel

Chairs, annual \$500.00 scholarship, annual Thanksgiving Dinner for 500 Blind, Citizens After Prom Committee, West View—Ross Athletic Association, Group Hearing Aids, Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, Beacon Lodge Camp for the Blind, Athletic Award for the High School and Playground equipment.

These activities have been made possible by the generous support the local communities have given our fund raising promotions.

#### NORTH SUBURBAN LIONS CLUB



FIRST ROW Geo. Garbart, Bob Zeigler, Bob Crawford, Bill Hamburg, Ted Jurecko, Jim Murray, Pat Murphey, Clyde Gangaware, John Trego.

SECOND ROW Fred Smith, Jerry Piscitelli, Don Roy, Frank Fisher, Paul Lehman, Carl Link, Wib Binz, Fred Wagner, John McDonald, Jack Snodgrass, Orv Schwilm.

THIRD ROW Fred Warr, Caruso, Stewart Stroup, Dom Viscusi; Jim Hamilton, John McDonough, Bob Hunter, Al Penniwell, Ray Steck, George Dubyak; George Wetzell, Kaschub.

FOURTH ROW Mike Foster, Herm Foster, Bill Robinette, Dave Fluharty, Roy Hartwig.

## NORTH SUBURBAN LIONS CLUB



### Congratulates

### West View on its 50th Anniversary



Congratulations to  
WEST VIEW BOROUGH  
On Your 50th Year



THE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
of the  
BOROUGH of WEST VIEW



441 Perry Highway  
West View, Pgh. 29, Pa.



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A. L. Kress

### MEMBERS of COUNCIL

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G. J. Heil, Sr.

E. M. Hurley

C. J. Link

C. J. Nash

F. M. Tiernan, Jr.

### SOLICITOR

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### TAX COLLECTOR

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Joseph J. Jones

C. J. Clogar

John W. Farley

Ralph C. Freedman

James Maguire

W. C. Obermeier

## West View School Board

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A. B. Besnecker

Dr. C. W. Cummings

M. Robert Frings

Harry P. Shane

John Skillen

A. F. Weise

### SECRETARY

Harry G. Canning

## Ross Township School Board

### PRESIDENT

Edward H. Hunter

Harold Johnson

Martin Newcomer

David P. Perrin

H. B. Reynolds

Mrs. Florence Schick

G. Kenneth Wilson

These two school boards form the Board for the North Hills Joint Schools.



# WEST VIEW

## 50th Anniversary Celebration

### WEST VIEW, PENNSYLVANIA

### MAY 13th thru 21st 1955

## SCHEDULE of EVENTS

#### FRIDAY, MAY 13th ..... HOMECOMING DAY

10:00 AM—Opening of Anniversary Window Display.  
 10:00 AM—Registration \*★  
 6:00 PM—Opening of West View Park Amusements  
 8:30 PM—Crowning of High School May Queen -  
 Athletic Field.

#### SATURDAY, MAY 14th ..... FIREMEN'S DAY

10:00 AM—Registration. ★  
 2:00 PM—Firemen's Parade. \*  
 6:30 Kangaroo Court.  
 7:30 PM—Opening of Park Amusements.  
 7:00 PM—Opening of Carnival at Shopping Center.  
 8:00 PM—Introduction of Borough and County Officials.  
 Welcome ceremonies at Athletic Field.  
 9:00 PM—"GOLDEN YEARS" Pageant. Coronation of  
 Celebration Queen, at West View High  
 Athletic Field. "MISS NORTH HILLS"  
 Note: High School May Queen will be hon-  
 ored with MISS NORTH HILLS during  
 each Pageant presentation.

#### SUNDAY, MAY 15th: ..... BROTHERHOOD DAY

AM—Commemoration Services in all Churches.  
 2:30 PM—Choir Festival, Athletic Field. After Choir  
 Festival SISTERS OF THE SWISH and  
 BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH Promenade  
 in Park, followed by tea and German Band.

#### MONDAY, MAY 16th ..... YOUTH DAY

10:00 AM—Registration. ★  
 2:00 PM—Garden Display, Local Florist.  
 4:30 PM—Pet and Hobby Parade. \*  
 6:00 PM—Park Amusements.  
 6:00 PM—Little League Baseball.  
 6:30 PM—Kangaroo Court.  
 7:30 PM—Abby Neal and her TV Show  
 8:00 PM—Teen-age Dance at Danceland.

#### TUESDAY, MAY 17th ..... VETERAN'S DAY

10:00 AM—Registration.  
 11:00 AM—Open House Veterans' Organizations.  
 2:00 PM—Opening of Military Display, Borough Hall  
 Property.  
 6:00 PM—Little League Baseball.  
 6:00 PM—Park Amusements.  
 6:30 PM—Kangaroo Court.  
 6:30 PM—Military Parade.  
 7:00 PM—Carnivals.  
 8:00 PM—Veterans Program at Athletic Field.

#### TUESDAY (Continued)

9:00 PM—"GOLDEN YEARS" Pageant at West View  
 High Athletic Field.

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 18th ..... LADIES' DAY

10:00 AM—Registration.  
 2:00 PM—OLD-FASHION STYLE SHOW. \*  
 Gerard Theatre.  
 6:00 PM—Little League Baseball.  
 6:00 PM—Park Amusements.  
 6:30 PM—Kangaroo Court  
 8:30 PM—Adult Amateur Night, Talkie Temple.

#### THURSDAY, MAY 19th 'Neighboring Communities' Day

10:00 AM—Registration.  
 1-5:00PM—Activities of Neighboring Communities.  
 6:00 PM—Little League Baseball.  
 6:00 PM—Park Amusements.  
 6:00 PM—BOY SCOUT display and exercise, West View  
 Park.  
 6:30 PM—Kangaroo Court.  
 7:00 PM—Carnivals.  
 8:00 PM—Welcome to Officials of Neighboring Commu-  
 nities, Athletic Field. .  
 9:00 PM—"GOLDEN YEARS" Pageant, Athletic Field.

#### FRIDAY, MAY 20th ..... ALUMNI DAY

10:00 AM—Registration.  
 2:30 PM—MORTON DOWNEY at West View High Ath-  
 letic Field.  
 6:00 PM—MORTON DOWNEY, Talkie Temple  
 6:00 PM—Park Amusements.  
 6:30 PM—Kangaroo Court.  
 7:00 PM—Carnivals.  
 8:00 PM—MORTON DOWNEY, Talkie Temple.  
 9:00 PM—GRAND BALL - MORTON DOWNEY.  
 At Danceland.

#### SATURDAY, MAY 21st. .... MERCHANTS' DAY.

9-12 AM—Final Registration.  
 9:30 AM—Antique Exhibition.  
 10:00 AM—Judging of Window Displays.  
 1:00 PM—GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY FLOAT PARADE  
 3:30 PM—Children's Amateur Talent Show. \*  
 5:00 PM—Judging of BROTHERS OF THE BRUSH and  
 SISTERS OF THE SWISH. \*  
 8:00 PM—Announcement of Contest winners and pre-  
 sentation of awards to B of B & S of S.  
 9:00 PM—FINAL "GOLDEN YEARS" PAGEANT.  
 Notes: ★Prizes to be given—\*Continuous through Cele-  
 bration Week.

**"GOLDEN YEARS" Pageant Performances**  
**9 P.M. - MAY 14, 17, 19, 21 Athletic Field**  
**CARNIVAL - PRIZES - DANCES**



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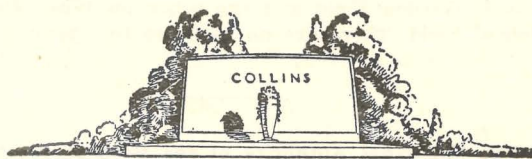


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Wellington 1-2700

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## WEST VIEW and NORTH HILLS SCHOOLS

The Junior High School was built on Perry Highway in the year 1925. The building was remodeled and became a High School in 1938, held its first graduation exercises in 1939. Mr. M. Horst was supervising Principal.

In 1945 Mr. Horst resigned and was succeeded by Mr. Robert Paynter. In 1948 a Jointure of Ross Township Schools and West View Schools took place. Dr. R. S. Rice became Supervising Principal with Mr. Paynter serving as assistant. The jointure was called North Hills Joint Schools.

North Hills Joint Schools is composed of eight elementary schools, a Junior High at Samuel Hamilton and the West View Senior High. The faculty for the Senior High is composed of forty-five members. The faculty for the North Hills Joint Schools has 175 members.

At the present enrollment for the High School there are 775 students.

## SPORTS — BASEBALL

The first Baseball team for the boys was known as Independents and was part of the North Boros League, in 1947 it became the Kiwanis League with 25 boys participating and was affiliated with North Pittsburgh Kiwanis, Glenshaw and Avalon-Bellevue.

In 1950 the West View-Ross Little League was organized with Cosmo Catanzaro as president. There were four teams in this League, sixty boys in all. The teams were sponsored by the West View Kiwanis Club, North Suburban Lions, No. 3 Volunteer Fire Company and VFW Post 2754. In 1951 there were two more sponsors St. Athanasius Lyceum and West View Chamber of Commerce, 90 boys played in this League, Ludwig Adams was the president for that year.

The third and fourth season were as the second under the same sponsors with Cosmo Catanzaro as president.

In 1955, it was changed to West View Athletic Association and a Pony League was organized.

There are now two Little Leagues, one will play on the Laurel Garden Field and the other on West View High School Field. There are no sponsors this year.

## The Municipal Authority of the Boro of West View

The Municipal Authority of the Borough of West View was organized in 1942 with a governing board of five members. The members of the first board, some of whom are still serving, were Joseph H. Berkley, Francis Coates, Harry Rahn, Robert Hill and Robert Brant, following the death of Mr. Hill, Dr. C. R. Fundenberg was appointed to take his place on the Board. At the death of Robert Brant, W. D. Rankin was appointed in his place.

The Water Authority was purchased from the Pittsburgh Suburban Water Service Company. It serves the following districts, on the south, part of the City of Pittsburgh, Kennedy Township, Stowe Township, McKees Rocks and Neville Island; on the north, Bellevue, Avalon, Emsworth, Ben Avon Heights, part of Kilbuck Township, Ross Township, McCandless Township, West View and Reserve Township.

The source of the water is from wells on Neville and Davis Islands.

The office of the Authority was first on Lincoln Avenue in Bellevue and in 1950 was moved to its present location in West View Shopping Center, a building which was built by the West View Building Authority.

## WEST VIEW BOROUGH HALL

The first Borough Hall was dedicated on June 1, 1906, and was located on Ridgewood Avenue, in the No. 1 Fire Hall Building

In November of 1942 the Schwitter property, located on Perry Highway, was purchased and the move into the new location was on December 7, 1943, as the building was remodeled to serve the purpose of a Municipal Hall. The purchase was made from the Kuhn family, who had occupied it as a home, for quite a few years.

The present Boro Hall was built in 1907 by Fridolin Schwitter, who came from Switzerland and operated the first model Dairy in Pennsylvania.

It is stated that Mr. Schwitter offered to sell the property to western senator "Bull" Andrews for the sum of \$46,000, but the deal was never closed, but later the property was sold to Frank Kuhn.

The dedication of the new Municipal Hall was celebrated on June 11, 1944.

Mrs. Naomi Guckert has served as Borough Secretary for the past thirteen years.

## WEST VIEW UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The West View United Presbyterian Church began as an organized mission in a store building at 460 Perrysville Ave., June 17th 1928 with Howard D. McCalmont, a senior in the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in charge.

A place of Worship was opened at the present location September 16th, 1928. The Church Building was formally dedicated November 18th, 1928. The First Board of Trustees were: Louis S. Craig, Lee P. Bittner, Ralph E. Burton, Edward A. Nungesser, William G. Larson and Monroe S. Shaw.

The roster of ministers as follows:

Rev. Howard D. McCalmont  
Rev. Lewis R. Brown  
Rev. Robert J. Scott  
Rev. Dr. Charles D. Fulton  
Rev. Alfred L. Spotts  
Rev. Dr. W. F. Ratzler  
Rev. David J. Rowland  
Rev. Robert Deal (Present Minister)

The Church was remodeled to its present appearance in November, 1948.

## MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church was started in a Store-room on Perry Highway October 20, 1929. The founders of the Church were Mr. Benjamin Gross, Mr. Arthur Krumsieg, Mr. John Wittgartner, Mr. John Gredlein, Mr. Herman Rogge, Mr. William Macks, Mr. Gustave Vedder.

The present Church was dedicated October 25, 1931 at its present location. The minister at that time was Reverend E. G. Tieman, who stayed until the present minister Rev. Martin H. Lobeck became minister in 1948.



FIRE COMPANY NO. 3 BUILDING — 1916



Members of the West View Volunteer Fire Company, No. 3, get ready to erect their fire hall in 1916, along Perry Highway.

Shown, left to right, are: Walt Jones, Tom Buckley, Harry Conway, C. J. Muzzio, Fred Hening and Jim Wallace.

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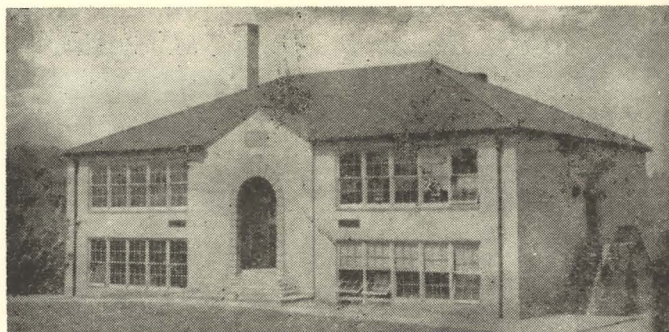
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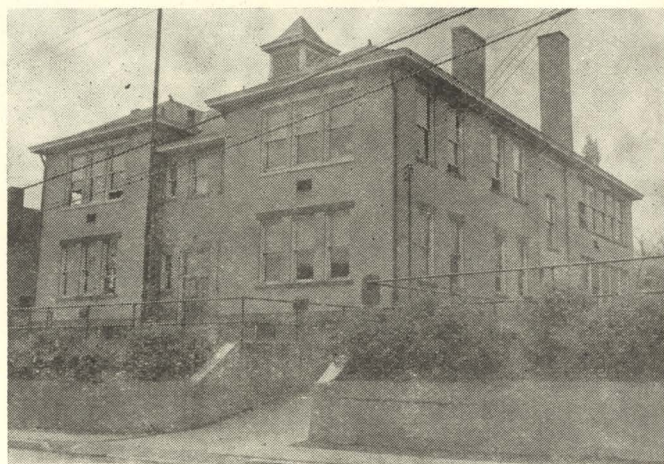
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MR. & MRS. IRVIN  
MRS. NAOMI GUCKERT  
ORION C. PINKERTON  
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MR. & MRS. C. L. SCHWILM  
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MR. & MRS. FRANK TIERNAN, JR.  
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**Free Parking on Premises - 100% Air Conditioned**



**7 DAYS 6 NIGHTS - Including 6 or 7 Breakfasts or  
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36.75 per person - 2 or 3 in a room**



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Should you desire a rental car, the charge is \$19.95 per week. This includes gas, oil, insurance and 100 miles free. Additional miles over the first 100 cost 7c per mile. Also any additional days would be \$2.85 per day. This car will meet you at either the railroad station or airport and the car will be picked up on your departure.

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**74th STREET on the OCEAN**

**Swimming Pool - Complete Entertainment Program**



1907 — KEOWN CLUB OF WEST VIEW



Mgr. Wm. Gura, W. Dyke, Wm. Foley, Wm. Mooney, C. Foley, F. Young, C. Vail, J. Mooney and A. Simpson. Missing from the picture are: Refarmund, R. Bartlett, Parker and Knoellinger.

Paul Muzzio, started his football training early as mas-

cot of the West View Keown Club in 1907.

Shown in the picture are: Otto Fultz, Promoter, L. Keown; Jim Simpson, R. Simpson, Hockman, Charles "Count" Muzzio, A. Ziegler, P. Roth, J. N. Johnston,

## DUQUESNE SLAG PRODUCTS COMPANY

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2 MODERN STORES

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## **REGULAR REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE**

OF THE

BOROUGH of WEST VIEW

FOR GOOD BOROUGH GOVERNMENT

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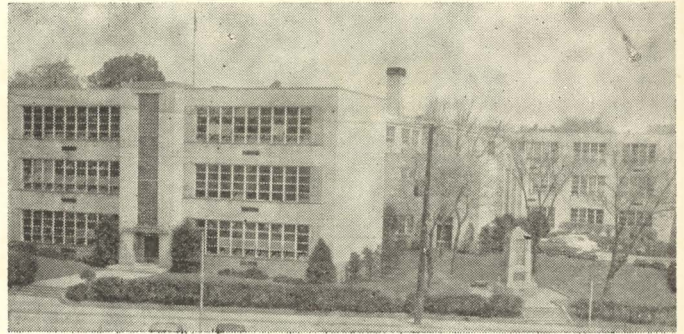
West View, Pa.

COMPLIMENTS  
and  
BEST WISHES  
On Your 50th JUBILEE

**GREGG MOCKENHAUPT  
AND ASSOCIATES**

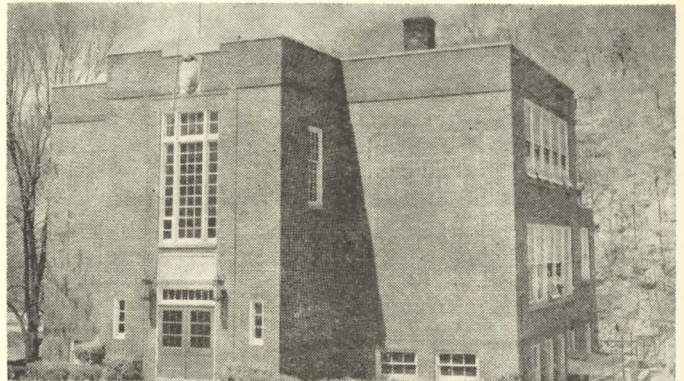
*Your Insurance Friends*

## **WEST VIEW HIGH SCHOOL**



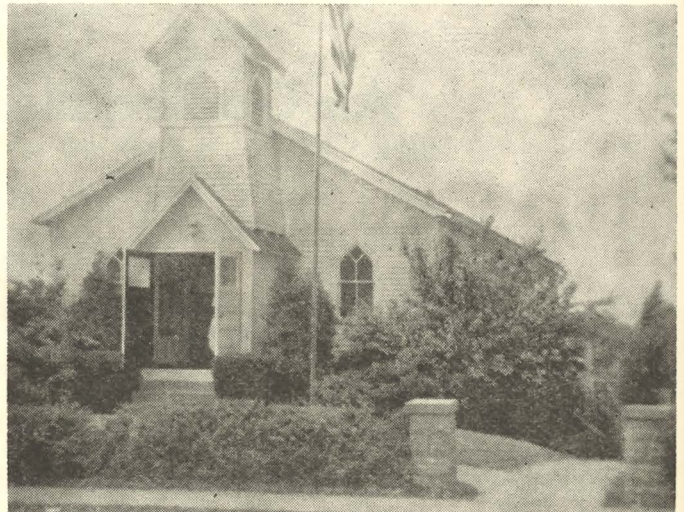
Perry Highway, West View

## **EVERGREEN SCHOOL**



Peebles Road, Ross Township

## **FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**



Sixth Avenue, Laurel Gradens



# **West View Park**

1905 - 1955



**GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY**



**Visit**

**AIR CONDITIONED**

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**YEAR ROUND DANCING**



COMPLIMENTS

OF

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LUMBER \* BUILDERS' SUPPLIES \* PAINTS

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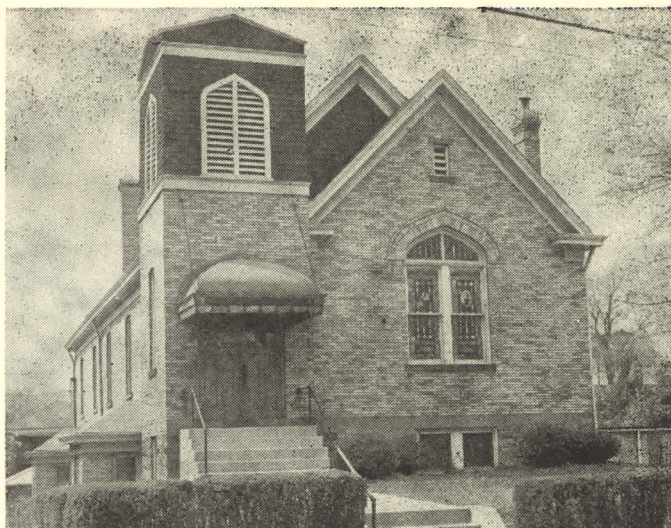
## King's Dairy Store

OUR "OWN-MAKE" ICE CREAM

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### WEST VIEW METHODIST CHURCH



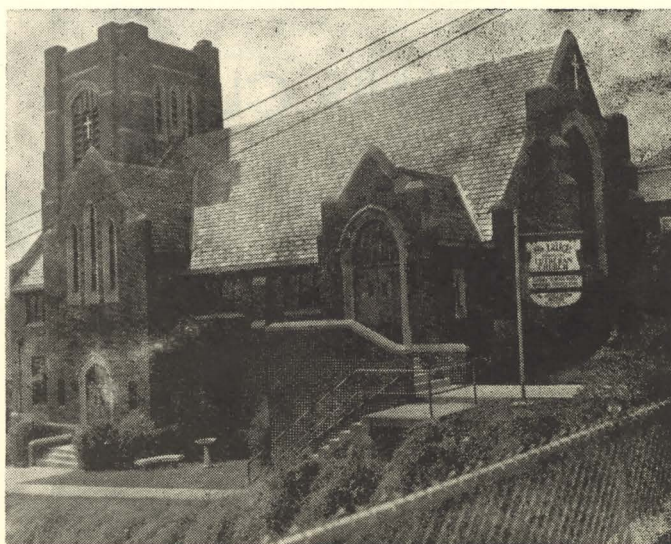
Cornell Avenue, West View

### ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



Perry Highway, Perrysville

### ST. LUKE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH



Ridgewood Avenue West View



Wellington 1-0828

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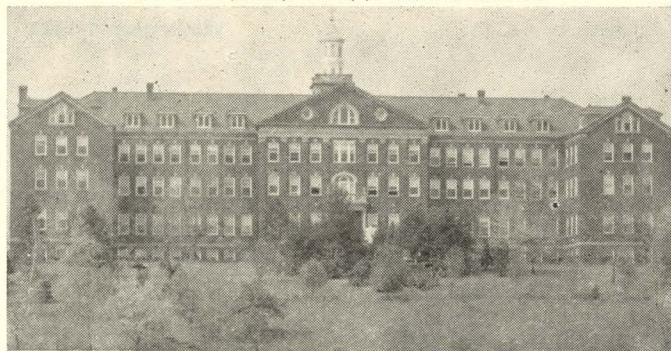
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## ST. BENEDICT'S ACADEMY



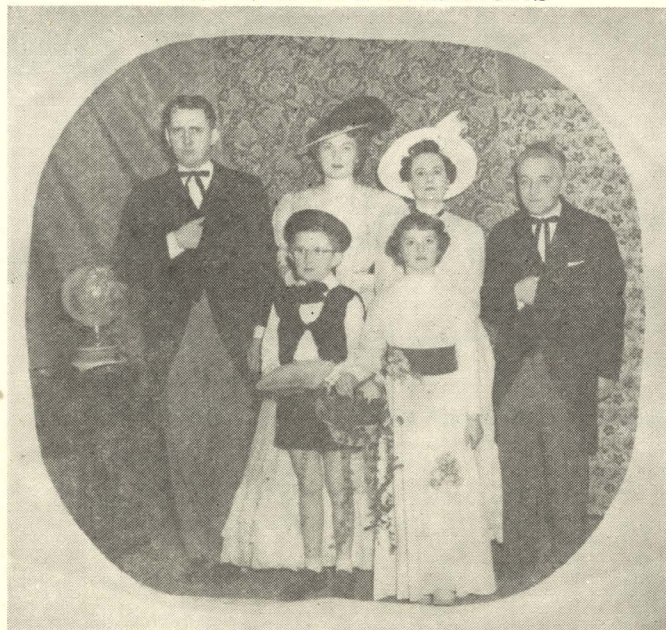
Perry Highway, Ross Township

## 1910 — AT HIGHLAND SCHOOL



Miss Hagenlocher was the teacher at the Highland School when this picture was taken in 1910.

## YESTERDAY'S FASHIONS



Shown above are: Mr. William Johnston, Mrs. Dorothy Johnston, Mrs. Ann Schafer and Mr. Charles Charles. The children are Billy Johnston and Patty Ann Schafer.

Mrs. Schafer and Mrs. Johnston are co-chairmen of the 50th Anniversary Fashion Revue.



Phone: ALlegheny 1-6107

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FAMOUS FOR FAMOUS NAME FURNITURE

Open Monday thru Saturday 9 a. m. to 9 p. m.

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### HIGHLAND AVENUE — 1910



The Reel home and four others were plainly visible from Columbia Avenue in 1910 looking down Highland Avenue toward the Highland Country Club. The two homes at the left are along Georgetown Avenue.

### EARLY LADDER TRUCK



West View volunteer firemen were proud of this ladder truck addition to their equipment.

It was operated by Company No. 1 located at the West View Municipal Building, Ridgewood Avenue.

### BORO EMPLOYEES PICNIC



West View Borough Employees invited the Councilmen to a picnic in 1927. The Borough still had many picnic groves.



# Best Wishes

FROM

## W. J. Keist & Son, Inc.

FOR YOUR

50TH ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATION

Wellington 1-2044

## Dressler's Dairy

217 Jacks Run Road

Pittsburgh 14, Pa

SAMUEL HAMILTON JR. HIGH SCHOOL



Perry Highway, Ross Township

ST. TERESA R. C. CHURCH



Perry Highway, Perrysville

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF WEST VIEW



Ridgewood Avenue at Center Avenue is located on the grounds where West View's first school was organized.



FAirfax 1-4396

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Since 1881

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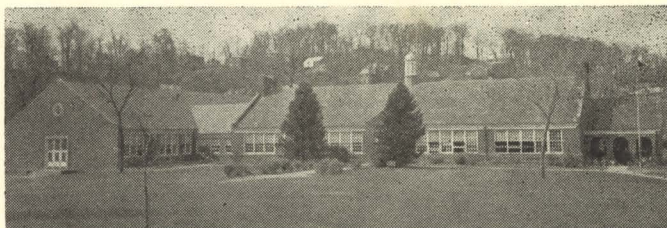
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Bob Lang

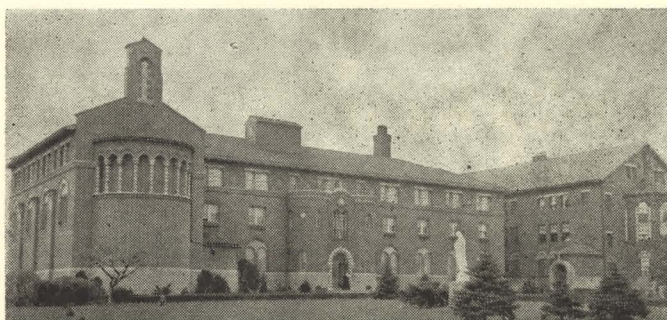
Cor. Highland Avenue & Perry Highway

### BERKELEY HILLS SCHOOL



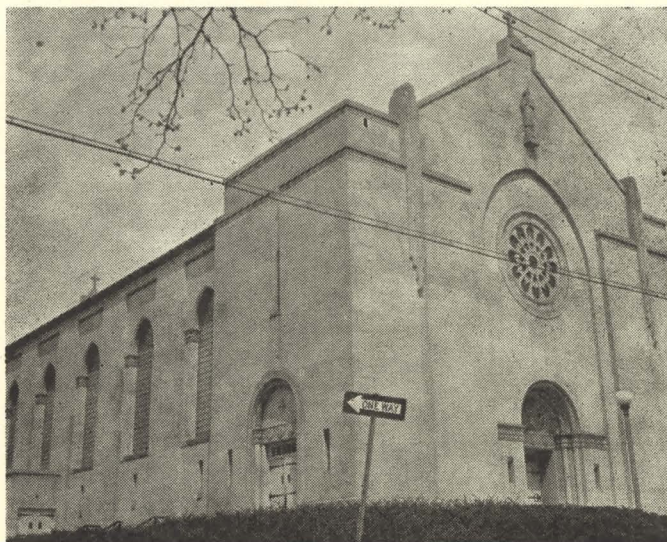
Siebert Road. Ross Township

### MT. ASSISI ACADEMY



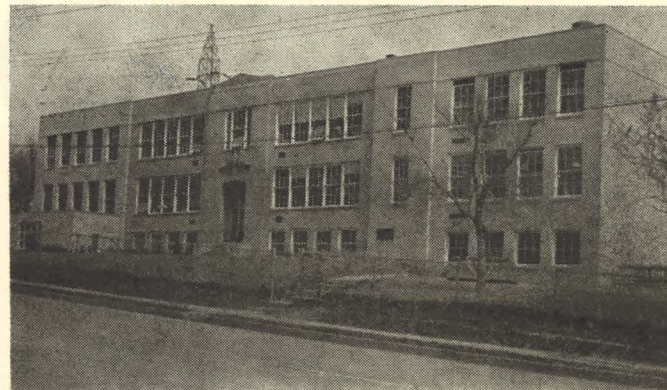
Forrest Avenue. Ross Township

### ST. ATHANASIUS R. C. CHURCH



Wentworth Avenue, West View

### PERRYSVILLE SCHOOL



Perry Highway. Perryville



**ONLY Cities Service**  
**NEW**  
**5D**  
 Premium Gasolene  
**HAS ALL 5!**

1. Anti-Carbon
2. Extra-High Octane
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The **ONLY** Gasolene you  
 can buy today with **ALL 5**  
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WE CHALLENGE YOUR  
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**CITIES SERVICE**  
**NEW 5D PREMIUM**

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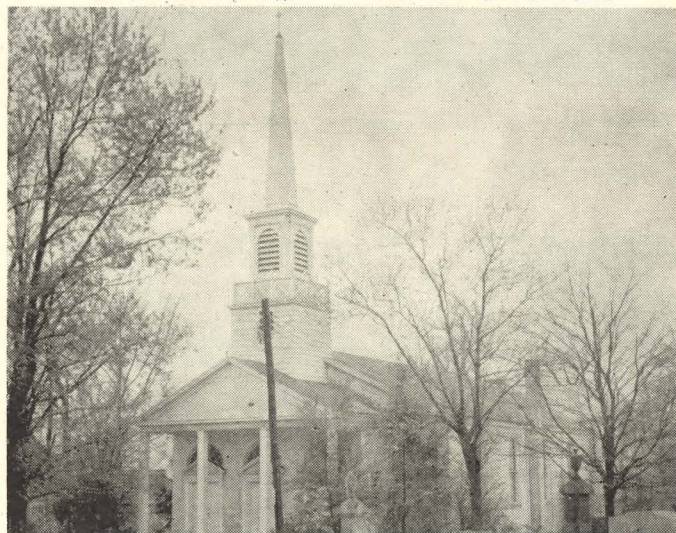


HOLY GHOST ACADEMY



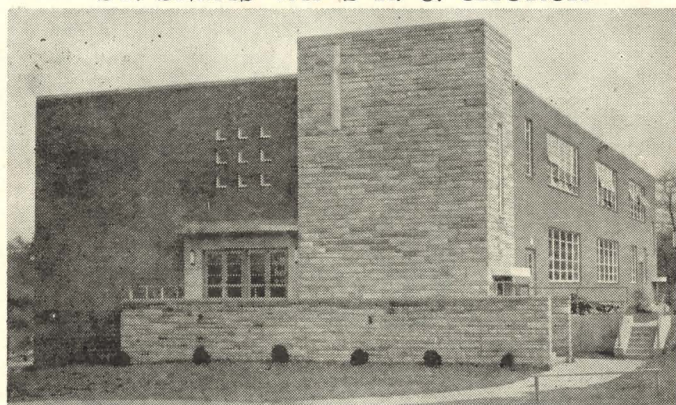
Clairwin Avenue, Ross Township

HILAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



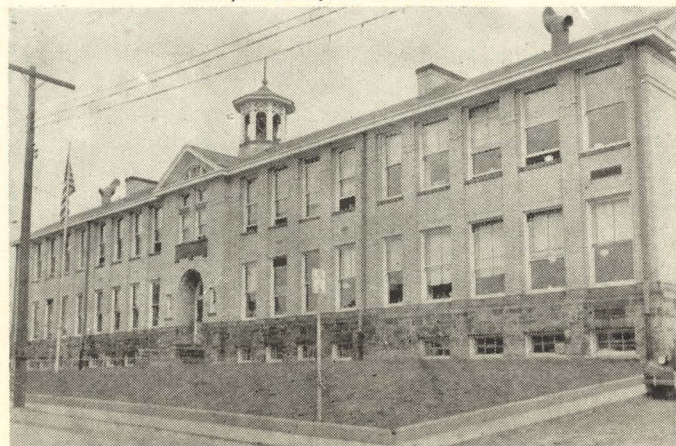
Perry Highway, Perrysville

ST. SEBASTIAN'S R. C. CHURCH



Seibert Road, Ross Township

HIGHLAND SCHOOL



Highland Avenue, West View




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*"Flowers"*  
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 Greenhouses & Shop  
 Hinkel Road

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Current Dividend—3%

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Pittsburgh 2, Penna.

### OAKWOOD SCHOOL



Oakwood Avenue, West View

### WEST VIEW POLICE FORCE — 1920



The West View police force had grown to six by 1920. Shown, left to right, Jocques LaBelle, Chief Quigley, Brothery, Pete Smith, William Kaismeier and William Timmey.

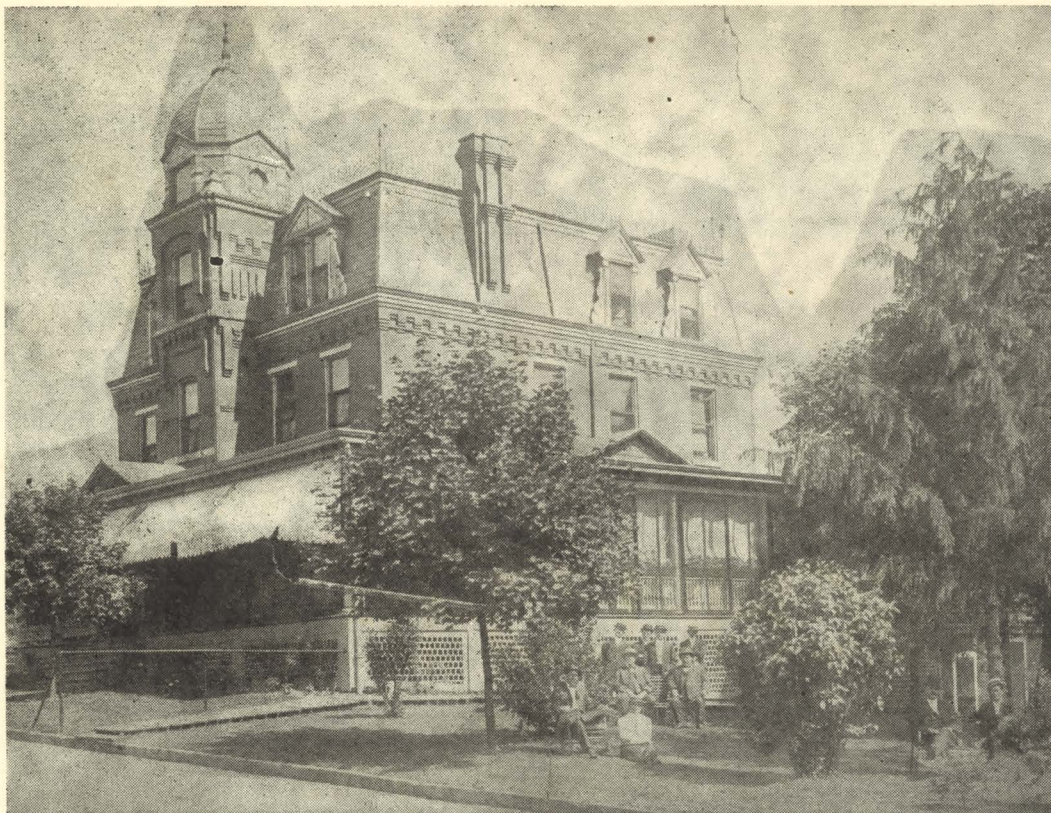
### RIDGEWOOD SCHOOL



Ridgewood Avenue, West View



## FAMOUS DONEGAL INN



Donegal Inn, located along Perry Highway, was a favorite stopping place for many visitors and travelers along the Plank Road route.

This was the borough's meeting place through the week and where church services were held on Sunday mornings.

"IN THE PROGRESSIVE NORTH HILLS"

IT'S THE

# WEST VIEW STAG SHOP

## For Men and Boys

# SHOES and CLOTHING

WE FIT FROM HEAD TO TOE

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