

HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

It was in Autumn, 1941, just before the second world war started when Mrs. Roeper and I started our small school, which is the City and Country School you know today.

One of the larger family houses on Woodward in Highland Park served as a nursery on the first floor. It began with six small children. We really couldn't speak of it as a grade school yet because there were but three children in the grades whom I taught the three Rs.

There was an empty lot next to the house where we played baseball, rather scrub because we did not have enough children to build up a team. Before the year was over we had thirty children. We moved to Pallister, near the Fisher Building. There was no playground to play baseball, so we loaded the children into two cars every noon and rode over to Northwestern High School to play on a large field. We did not have any buses yet, we only had cars for transportation.

By 1945 we had seventy children, and it was necessary to rent for the grade school one wing of another school building. It was time to look around for a permanent building, so nursery and grades could all be together.

In 1946 we moved ten miles out of town to Bloomfield Hills, where we bought our present school with the help of parents and friends. It was different from the city: there were hills, a big one to go sledding on, even skiing became fashionable among the children.

There was not only growth in size, more children, larger staff, new playgrounds, a new assembly hall, there was also growth in spirit, attitude and outlook. There is more pride in our school and what it stands for. I think our lunch time manners have improved, morning assemblies are something we show off with as to discipline, and the Safety Patrol and Student Council are an important part in the administration of a school that has now in 1954 grown to have a hundred and ninety-five children and a staff of thirty.

George Roeper