

Cons. Grade School Now Has 16 Fine Classrooms

Enrollment Is Up to 383. Two Rooms For Every Grade.

The Mount Pulaski Consolidated Grade School has shown growth in enrollment, area served, valuation and school plant in the 15 years since its organization.

The district was formed in 1946 when legislative action spelled out the end of the one-room country school. The pupils of most of these area schools made use of the Mount Pulaski Grade School building and enrollment totaled 237. Valuation for the district that first year was \$3,900,000. Paul Huston was the first principal.

Enrollment by grades was: first, 24; second, 28; third, 36; fourth, 31; fifth, 32; sixth, 24; seventh, 33, and eighth, 29.

Valuation Increases 6 Million

The 1947-48 school year saw the addition of more area to the district and an increase in valuation to \$10,200,000. Total enrollment that year was 254.

Board members for the 1947-48 year, were: K. M. Anderson, president; Robert Dittus, secretary, and Lee McCain, William McGee, Everett Sams, Gene Manes, and Robert Rothwell.

Teachers that year included: V. Bishop, Alberta Lisk, Russell Bane, Lola Hahn, Mildred Kurtz, Wilma Long, Marie McGee, Florence Pinney, Margaret Tierney, Jessie Turley, Lester Werntz, and Anna White.

S. L. Ketchie became the principal in 1949. Valuation rose to \$11,000,000 and enrollment was 260.

The 1951-52 year saw an increase in valuation of \$12,400,000. Enrollment was again 260.

New Addition in 1952

The new addition to the school was opened for the 1952-53 year. A kindergarten was started for the first time that year and enrollment had climbed to 293. Valuation for the district was \$12,900,000.

Board members at the time of the opening of the new addition were: Robert Rothwell, president; Robert Dittus, secretary; Harry Van Hook, William McGee, Gene Manes, Everett Sams, Otto Ey, and Dean Scott. J. A. Kafka became principal of the school that year, and still continues in that capacity.

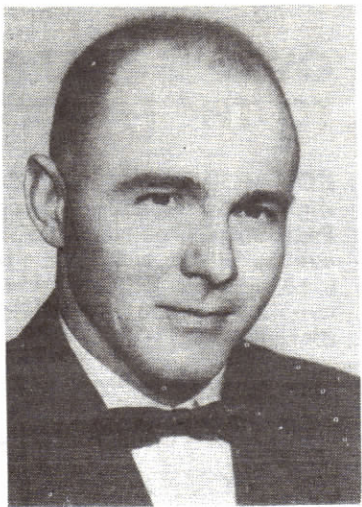
Valuation Up To \$17,000,000

The 1955-56 year marked another increase in size for the district when 18 sections southeast of town were annexed. Enrollment jumped to 366 and total valuation stood at \$17,000,000.

The railroad car explosion in June of 1958 did some \$28,000 damage to the school, which was repaired.

In 1959 an eighth grade room was added at the northwest corner of the gymnasium and in 1960 three more rooms were added behind the gym, replacing the bus depot at the north-

PRINCIPAL



JOSEPH A. KAFKA

east corner.

Enrollment for the 1960-61 school year was 383 and valuation \$20,800,000. Present members of the board of education are: Harry Martin, Jr., president; Robert Dittus, secretary; Everett Sams, Harry Van Hook, Dean Scott, George McGee, Dr. Leland Cross, and Kenneth Johnson.

Enrollment by grades for the 1960-61 years was: Kindergarten, 41; first grade, 47; second, 38; third, 42; fourth, 48; fifth, 44; sixth, 48; seventh, 31; eighth, 44.

The school enrollment has increased to such proportions that instead of the original eight classrooms there are now 16 class rooms for the eight grades.

A Modernized School Plant

One of the highlights of the Mount Pulaski Consolidated Grade School building is the gymnasium that features a 46x74 foot maple playing floor, and a spacious 52-foot wide stage. A huge clock for basketball timing and keeping a running score, is above the stage, sitting where it can readily be seen. Comfortable bleacher seats on the entire west side of the gym offer plenty of seating capacity.

Dressing rooms are on either side of the stage and shower rooms under the stage for use of either boys and girls, or, visiting teams.

Along corridor running from the gym to the south entrance is adjoined on either side by classrooms. On the west side next to the gym door entrance is the teachers lounge, which was furnished by the Parent-Teachers Association. In one corner of this room is also the ticket window.

The next room is occupied by the second grade, and the next two by the first grades, and then the kindergarten room with a fairyland touch. On the east side of the corridor is the third grade room.

All rooms are modernly equipped and lighted with the latest in design and service. Along the corridor to the south are rest

rooms for the use of those who attend activities at the school.

The office of the principal is at the junction of this corridor with one that leads into the old building. The board of directors room adjoins it and is equipped with modern furniture that adds to the dignity of the rest of the building.

With the opening of the new addition a splendid cafeteria for pupils and faculty members, was constructed in the old gym. An ultra modern kitchen and equipment has been of invaluable service to the handling of meals for the pupils but for other uses the public has required.

VOTERS APPROVE GRADE BOND ISSUE

(March 29, 1951)

Voters of Mount Pulaski Consolidated grade school district No. 33, expressed their approval Tuesday of the additional bond issue of \$95,000, necessary to have sufficient funds to carry out the building program, by a vote of almost 2 to 1 — 396 For, and, 205 Against.

A previous issue of \$195,000 was found insufficient due to a tremendous jump in prices.

Dedication Of New Grade School Addition, 1952

(Nov. 13, 1952)

The dedication of the Mount Pulaski Consolidated Grade School addition was a very successful affair Friday evening with an audience that well-filled the gymnasium floor and bleachers, enjoying only the extremely attractive surroundings but the well balanced program as well.

The program opened with the school band playing the "Star Spangled Banner". The grade school quartet made a big hit with the audience with their singing of "I Hear America Singing". Members were Eugene Froschauer, John Ey, Gary Shull and John Zumstein, accompanied by Miss Joan Douglas, vocal instructor. Robert Rothwell, president of the board, in his welcome thanked the community for their fine new school. He then introduced Supt. Nickell, speaker of the evening.

Vernon L. Nickell, state superintendent of schools, was introduced by Principal Joe Kafka. After words of praise to the board of directors and the community for a building of which they might well be proud, gave his audience a highly interesting address in which he stressed the broader scope of educational methods today over those of yesteryears.

E. H. Lukenbill, county superintendent of schools, in his talk said the community should rejoice over what it had accom-

plished in the erection of this fine new building. That it was a success was attested to by the large audience present. He also commended the teachers for the fine work they had been doing here, and the cooperation of the community which would mean great things for the school. He also praised the community for being willing to share its abundant resources and invest it in schools, thus helping to build the intellectual, moral and spiritual life of the community.

Mr. Rothwell introduced the members of the Board of Education, William McGee, Everett Sams, Gene Manes, Otto Ey, Harry Van Hook and Dean Scott, and Robert F. Dittus, secretary of the board, and commended them for their fine cooperation and time they had devoted to the erection of the new building.

Three former members who were on the board when the building program first started, were also introduced. They were Kelsey M. Anderson, Francis Myrick and Lee McCain. He then introduced the teachers: Miss Mildred Kurtz, 8th grade; Mrs. Wm. DeSpain, 7th grade; Everett Munson, 6th grade; Mrs. Harry Long, 5th; Miss Jessie Turley, 4th; Mrs. Verne Lanterman and Mrs. Florence Pinney and Mrs. Wilbur Schroth, 1st grade; Mrs. Bruce Enselmann, kindergarten; Mrs. Bernard Mayberry, departmental. The cooks, janitors and bus drivers, also took bows. They are: Mrs. Vivian Ingram, and Irene Holmes, cooks; John Curtis and Ted Aderman, custodians; Harry Milner and Julian Sams, bus drivers.



MEMBERS OF BOARD OF EDUCATION who served at the time of the enlargement of the school. Left to right are: Robert Rothwell, President; Harry Van Hook, William McGee, Dean Scott, Gene

Manes, Everett Sams and Otto Ey. Van Hook along with Scott and Sams are still members of the board.—Times-News Photo.

MT. PULASKI ONLY COUNTY SCHOOL AT STATE FAIR

(December, 1925)

The Mount Pulaski elementary school was the only school in

Logan county making an exhibit at the State Fair this year. This school has won prizes for a number of years, but this year made a better showing than ever. The school had exhibits in each of the seven classes of school work and was awarded first on five

classes; second on one class; and, third on one class. The total premiums amounted to \$115.00. We extend congratulations to the pupils and teachers of the Mount Pulaski school upon this excellent record.

—Lo. Co. School Messenger

NEW ADDITION TO MOUNT PULASKI CONSOLIDATED GRADE SCHOOL IN 1952 WAS IMPORTANT STEP

