TWO RIVERS

One of the four original townships was Two Rivers. Since its organization as a municipality, the township expanded to include the present towns of Mishicot, Gibson, Two Creeks, and Two Rivers. The areas near the pioneer settlement of the village of Two Rivers were the first to become settled. One of the first school districts set up in Manitowoc county was the present Two Rivers city school district, known as Manitowoc county district number 1 organized in 1844. After the county was organized into four distinct townships in 1848, the second district to organize was the present Tannery district. The numbering of the school districts was done in sequence of their establishment with the exception of the present district No. 1 which replaced the original district 1, now the Two Rivers city system.

TWO RIVERS 1 — SANDY HILL VIEW

Edna Dunne

When the state law of 1918 was passed, the patrons of District 1, Town of Two Rivers, chose Sandy Hill View for the name of their school because of a high, sandy knoll which can be viewed from the school. It had always been known as the Sandy Bay School previous to that time, because it is located near the Sandy Bay Road, now leading to Point Beach State Forest.

Sandy Hill View School is located in the southwest corner of the southwest ¼ of the southwest ¼, Section 19, Range 25 East, Town 20 North.

Up to 1898 the Tannery District included what is now District 1 and 2. Due to the dissatisfaction of the location of the school, many meetings were held to try to relocate the school nearer the center of the district. Finally, it was decided to divide the old district into what we now know as District 1 and District 2 with the dividing line being what is now known as Highway 42. It takes in all of sections 19-20-21-29-30-31-32 except those parts cut off by Lake Michigan and the city of Two Rivers. Originally, the area now in the city of Two Rivers was known as District 1 but after the Tannery District was divided, the present District became known as District 1.

Sandy Hill View School was built in 1898. It is a light-colored brick building about 34 x 24 feet, having three windows on either side with two windows facing the front. The school, when first built, was one of the very few to have single seats and slate blackboards. A stage was built across the front of the room because no school was considered properly equipped without a stage. The stage still remains in the school. Electric lights were installed in the school in the winter of 1947-1948.

Fred Luebke was the first teacher in the district and taught there for four or five terms. Mr. Luebke boarded at the Matt Kimmes home for $8.00 a month. This farm is just about one-half mile from the school house.

The first enrollment was 26. Some of Mr. Luebke’s pupils were ten years of age and were starting school for the first time due to the long distances some of the pupils lived from the school when it was located in the Tannery District. Mr. Luebke says that often he and the pupils, after walking long distances through the deep snow, were required to take off their shoes and stockings and dry them around the furnace before continuing with school. The greatest number of pupils ever enrolled was 33. The highest enrollment was between the years 1903 to 1910. The average family in those years had about eight children, while today’s average family numbers about five.

The present enrollment has decreased to about 12 pupils. From 1940 to 1942 it was necessary to close the school because the enrollment had dropped to below 10. The pupils were then transported to the Tannery school for one year and to the Rangeline school for another term. In 1942 the school was again reopened with an enrollment of 14 pupils and since then has remained open.
The subjects taught in the early school days were reading, writing, arithmetic, physiology and language. Singing was always taught and Mr. Luebke's group was no exception.

Some of the early settlers in the district were Matt Kimmes who lived on the farm that John Pietroske now owns. Mr. Kimmes boarded the first teacher in the district.

Mrs. Nick Taddy, known as Grandmother Taddy in Two Rivers, was one of the very early settlers in the district. She was the mother of nineteen children, several having preceded her in death. Most of her children grew up on the farm and attended school in District 1. About 25 years ago, Mrs. Taddy left the farm and moved to the city of Two Rivers. She died very recently at the age of 84. It was part of Mrs. Nick Taddy's farm that was chosen for the present site of Sandy Hill View School.

Frank Napieckinski was another of the early settlers in the district. Mr. Napieckinski recently sold his farm to Matt Kimmes.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Fischer still reside in the district. They were some of the earliest settlers living in the district and took a very active part in trying to have the district divided and a school built where Sandy Hill View School now stands. Their three sons attended Sandy Hill View. Lyman Fischer, one of the sons, was District Attorney of Manitowoc County for four years and is now a practicing attorney at Manitowoc, Wisconsin. Warren Fischer, a second son, is now an instructor at Whitewater Teachers' College and Robert, a third son, is a practicing attorney at Shawano, Wisconsin.

Philip Schaefer was another of the early settlers in the district. Royal, a son and former pupil of Sandy Hill View, was with the Consolidated Air Lines flying supplies to the South Pacific.

Charles Meineke, who formerly lived on the farm now owned by Elmer Petri, served as treasurer and Ferdinand Witt served as the director of the first school board in the district. Their pay at this time was about $10.00 a year.

The school was used as a community center. Spelling matches, box socials and neighborhood picnics were held there.

Fred Luebke was the first teacher. Some of the other teachers were: Charles Chizek, Pearl Kelly, Freda Heinz, Alma Zander, Erma Gostopherson and Mae Breivogel.

Part of the wooded area along the lake shore has been taken over by the state and has been made into Point Beach State Forest. These beautiful woods now afford not only beauty but serve as a recreational center as well.

Molarch Creek, which runs about one-half mile east of the school, at one time had been a favorite camping site of the red man. One of the favorite sites of the Indians was on the East Side within the present city limits of Two Rivers. The grounds there bear mute testimony to the fact that this was at one time the center of a large settlement, as the grounds today are covered with flint chips, which were chipped from flints in the manufacture of arrow points, spears, knives, etc. In addition, arrow heads of flint and copper, as well as pottery and trinkets of stone, have been found by the score.

**TWO RIVERS 2 — TANNERY**

Leon Strouf

Two Rivers school district No. 2 has always been known as the Tannery school because it has been and is now located in the old Two Rivers tannery area. The tanning industry was located on the shores of the East Twin River which flows through the district.

The first Tannery school district set up in the 1850's included a much greater area than it does today for until 1896 the district was composed of sections 13-14-23-24 and 25 in R. 24E and sections 16-17-18-19-20-21-23-29 and 30 in R. 25 E. In 1896, disagreement be-
tween the land owners of the eastern and western areas of the district as to the location of the school caused the people of the eastern part of district No. 2 to withdraw and set up a separate school district to be known as Two Rivers school district No. 1.

As early as 1851, when Cyrus Whitcomb built his first tannery just east of the present Tannery bridge, a school was set up in the shanty attached to the boarding house. That shanty is said to have served the community until 1873. One can well imagine the pioneer equipment and furniture used in such a school building, but it sufficed to give the children of the tannery workers the type of education necessary for that early period. There are no written records available regarding this first school.

In 1873, a new frame school building was erected at an estimated cost of $300 on the present site located on the Tannery road on or near the section line between sections 24 and 25. The structure was 24 x 38 feet and one story in height. It had windows on three sides and was without a cloakroom. No information was given about the furniture, equipment, and interesting facts about the building proper. The old schoolhouse must have been very crowded at times because records show that when F. C. Christiansen taught this school in 1884 there were 108 pupils enrolled. In fact an enrollment of about 100 yearly was common up to 1880 according to the town clerk's reports on file in the county superintendent of school's office.

On the night of April 26, 1896, the second school for the district burned to the ground. Plans were made immediately to replace the burnt structure with a brick building about 24 x 38 feet in size and without a basement. The school had an entrance which led directly into the schoolroom. From there the girls and boys passed to their respective cloakrooms placed on both sides of the entrance way. The cloakrooms were lighted by a window placed in the entrance side, while the classroom was and is still lighted by three windows placed along each of the long sides. The furniture consisted of double desks and seats, a teacher's desk, some chairs, and cupboards for library and textbooks. A bell tower atop the front of the school houses the large school bell which calls the youngsters to their classes.

In order that school keep in step with the trend of school improvements, the district in the later 1920's began a program of modernization. In 1927 a basement was put under the building to house the heating and ventilating plant, a fuel room, and a play storage room. Several years later another small addition was added to the rear of the basement to house the indoor toilets. One cloakroom was removed and made a part of the classroom, while the 30 on the northwest corner was made into a basement stairway. The wraps and lunch pails of the youngsters are stored in the basement on neat racks and shelves. The schoolroom itself has been improved by the addition of electric lights, tables and chairs in place of desks for the primary grades, open book shelves along the east wall of the classroom, a steel filing case, single desks and seats, and Nuwood covering for the walls and ceiling. An addition of a small room to the front of the basement has been utilized to house a water pressure pumping system, so that the school is supplied with running water. The exterior of the building has changed little except that a storm shed has been added to the entrance. The spacious playground has several pieces of playground equipment. In the 1940's, a program of grounds improvement was begun by planting trees and shrubbery. At present the Tannery school is a modern school except for natural lighting and a few other minor improvements necessary.

The school enrollment reflects to a remarkable degree the growth and decline of the tanning industry in the district. By 1870, there was a total of 106 pupils attending for the two sessions of school. The school census for that year lists 138 children of school age residing in the district. By 1880, when single terms of school were held, the county records show that 96 pupils were enrolled, but the census list for that year indicates that 205 children of school age resided in the community. That seemed to be the peak of the school population and for the tanning industry, for by 1890 we find only 93 children of school age and 35 pupils attending school. After the district was split up the school population dropped to about 45 with the school enrollment down to 23 for the year 1900. Only 7 pupils were enrolled in 1926, but by 1943 forty-two pupils were again in attendance. The present enrollment averages about 25 out of a school census of about 100 children of school age. In 1945-46 only seven pupils came from farm families. The rest came from homes where the fathers work in Two Rivers. The proximity of Two Rivers to the city of Two Rivers causes many of the community children to attend the parochial schools there and has caused the rise in school population since homes are now being built in the district and outside of the Two Rivers city school district.

The first settlers, according to records dating back to 1856, were J. L. Foxes, D. H. Meade, Adam Sechrist, Fred Ahrendt, B. Whitcomb, Robert and John Magee,
August Arnemann, John Rahmlow, G. Fischer, Robert Suettinger, P. Gagnon, and Joseph Shambeau. Other family names which date back to early days of the district are Raatz, Beeck, Ahrens, Geimer, and Steinhauer. Many of these family names are still common to the community. District residents who served on the schoolboard prior to 1906 were D. H. Meade, Jacob Sechrist, Gottlieb Fischer, Peter Gagnon, N. Horner, August Arnemann, Charles Ahndt, Herman Arnemann, and William Rahmlow. The longest service record was held by Herman Arnemann who served from 1899 to 1944.

Two Rivers district No. 2 hired male teachers almost every year until 1900. Many of them became persons of note in county, state, and national affairs. There is no record of teachers before 1870. Those after that year were John Nagle 1871-72; Ida Robinson 1873 S.; S. W. Faville 1873 W.; Chas. Webster 1874-6; Thos. Walsh 1877; James Stitt 1878-9; H. C. Walsh 1880-32; Fred Christiansen 1884-85; C. H. Currens 1887; Robert Witte 1893-5; J. Shambeau 1896; Henry Koch 1897-8; and Sophia Jens 1904-05. This district maintained summer and winter terms up to about 1874 which were of longer duration than the county average. This was one of the few county schools having a continuous ten month school term as early as 1874. In fact, ten month terms were common for this district up to 1900. The early school months were 22 days in length. After 1900 and until 1938, female teachers were employed.

The district clerk's record book has this interesting resolution adopted by the voters in 1871: "Resolved that school be kept for ten months by a male teacher, and said teacher to receive the sum of $65 monthly. The said teacher to teach the term of ten months without a vacation, and even if he prove to be a "donkey" there shall be no change". John Nagle, the teacher, signed that contract! The county records show that the district always paid the highest wages in the county for the best teachers, for Nagle became county superintendent of schools; Thos. Walsh, a U. S. Senator; and Fred Christiansen, county superintendent and county training school principal.

Today only the name "Tannery School" suggests to the younger generation the fact that the early tanning industry and the pioneer village along the river south of the schoolhouse existed at one time. Hunters and fishermen walking along the river bank can still find occasional pieces of tan bark and remnants of the sheds, piers, and wharves. The piers and wharves were loading and unloading places for sailing boats which brought in hides and took out the tanned leather. East of the river and back of the Geimer farmyard, there is a pioneer cemetery, the final resting place of many of the early residents. The plot is still being used as the burial place for some of the older residents. The cemetery is under the care of the Evangelical church members. It is said that the records for this burial plot are in the hands of Julis Mandel living in the Rangeline district. Today the school district is slowly becoming a suburban area of the city of Two Rivers.

TWO RIVERS 3 — CRYSTAL SPRINGS SCHOOL
Ruth Schlundt

Two Rivers district number 3 was named the Crystal Springs school in 1918 because the school is located near a group of crystal clear springs. To community and county residents it is often referred to as the Goedjen school because of the close connections that members of that family have had with the school since its organization.

This district was organized as a separate school unit in 1863. Before that time the boys and girls of school age attended the Altmeyer school located in School Section in the town of Mishicot which was then known as Mishicot joint 3. This new district was set up because the distance to the Altmeyer school was too great for some of the families living near the southern boundary. Today Two Rivers No. 3 consists of sections 20, 21, 22, 27, and parts of sections 26 and 28, all in T. 20 N., R. 24E. The movement to set
up the district was led by the late Herman Goedjen and Henry Wilke, Sr. The school site of one acre was purchased from Mr. and Mrs. August Wachtel for one dollar. The site description is the southwest corner of the NE¼ of the SE¼ of Sec. 21, T. 20 N., R. 24 E.

The first school building was erected soon after the district was organized by Goedjen and Wilke. It was a small log building with two windows on each long side and a shed-like entrance which was also used for fuel storage. A picture of this school by L. W. Bentley is on display in the office of the county superintendent of schools. Old records show that the contract price for delivery of logs, material, and labor was $200. An old box stove was used to heat the old log schoolhouse. The fire died out during the night, so that by next morning the ink in the inkwells was a solid piece of ice. Wooden benches served as seats, and boards painted black became "blackboards". The children had very few books during the early years of the school. Most of the lessons had to be memorized while sharing the books with fellow classmates. When the old log building had outlived its usefulness, it was made into a home, and is now the property of Mr. and Mrs. Roland Silbersack who live a half mile east of the school.

The second and present schoolhouse was erected in 1905 at a cost of about $1,500. Christ Tegen made the building plans and John Ebel was the contractor. The structure was placed near the center of the first school site. It is of frame construction with a full basement which now houses the furnace, fuel, and playrooms. The first floor has a large, correctly lighted classroom, a cloakroom, and a roomy library. Two porches are provided but at present only one is used as one now leads into the room which was changed into a library. From 1905 to 1921, the school was heated by a stove. Larkin double desks were used first in the new building, but single seats and desks were purchased later. The school has modern equipment such as a sand table, electric service, and the best and latest teaching and learning aids. The district furnishes free textbooks. In addition to the schoolhouse, the other buildings on the site are the outdoor toilets. The yard has fine shade trees, plenty of play space, and one of the most complete playground equipment found in the rural schools of Manitowoc county.

Summer and winter school terms were held up to 1873. Even after that date, the winter enrollment was always greater because the older boys and girls were then in attendance. Because of the limited size of the district, the enrollment was never as large as some of the county schools, although the records show that 66 pupils were enrolled in 1870. The average from then on to 1905 was between 30 and 50 pupils yearly. Due to the usual rural factors, the 1947-1948 attendance was 10. A special meeting was called on Tuesday evening, March 9, 1948 to consider the question of suspending school for the next term. After careful consideration of the advantages, disadvantages, and costs, it was unanimously decided to continue operating the school.

Most of the early residents were farmers. Some of the more well-known were: Herman Goedjen, Henry Wilke, August Wachtel, Anton Bugler, Rudolph Bishop, Frank Wachtel, Fred Stueck, William and Peter Schaft, and Andrew Fay. A prominent resident of this district for many years was F. C. Christiansen who was Manitowoc county superintendent of schools and principal of the County Rural Normal for about 30 years. Some of the more well-known graduates are the Wilkes, Silbersacks, Goedjens, and Christiansens. This is also the home district of town chairman, Oscar Eis.

The early records beginning with the year 1888 are written in German and continue to be in that language until 1891. Herman Goedjen was the first school treasurer. During those early years the yearly salary of the clerk was $6, the treasurer received $5, and the director received $4. Henry Wilke, Sr. is listed as one of the first clerks. When Henry Goedjen, Sr. served in that capacity from 1874 to some time in the 1880’s. Robert Schubert was recorded as clerk from 1894 to at least the year 1900. Others who served as officers prior to 1906 were Gottlieb Schubert, Fred Stueck, and R. Schneider.

The early teachers were common school graduates who took teachers’ examinations to become qualified. As years went by, the teachers were high school graduates. Since 1910, only eight teachers who were graduates of teacher training institutions were employed. Because of the fine records kept by the various school clerks of this district, the list of teachers employed is quite complete. L. T. Wooden was the first teacher in 1869. Others were: Ella Reisland 1872 S; Maggie La Plant 1872-75; Thos. Walsh 1876; Ella Murphy 1878-84; Mary L. Patnode 1885; Martha Magee 1886; Herman Schlundt 1887-90; Lena Miller 1891; Henry Arnan 1892-93; Ellenore Mueller 1896; Henry Wilke 1897-98; Otto Engel 1899-1900; Christ Wulker 1901-03; and Lillian Westgate 1904-05. Several of these teachers became county and

212
national figures. Thos. Walsh became U. S. Senator; Herman Schlundt became pro-
professor of chemistry at the University of Missouri where he experimented with radium
treatment of cancer. "Schlundt Hall" at that university is named in his honor; Henry C.
Wilke is president of the Bank of Two Rivers; and Otto Engel, an officer of a Maniowoc lumber company.

Reading, arithmetic, spelling, grammar, writing, history, geography, and con-
stitution were among the subjects taught in the early school. Lower grade reading
classes were called "chart" classes, while lower grade arithmetic classes were "num-
ber" classes. Early texts were Wiggins's U. S. history, Wydes English Lessons,
A. O. Wright Constitution, Martins Physiology, Rudiments of Arithmetic, The Union
Speller, Swinton's Language Lessons and Geography, and Barnes Primary History.
In more recent years the school has served as the center for farm meetings and a
4-H club gathering place.

Peter Schaff once owned a brick yard adjoining the rear of the schoolyard where
he made high grade building bricks. He also experimented with the manufacture of
round sewer pipes but was unsuccessful because of the grade of clay used. The brick-
yard was in existence for 60 years. Eastwin Hall, established 80 years ago, is used for
the Two Rivers town hall. Stoor's and Goedjen's dairies are located in this district.
The pine grove located on the Henry Goedjen farm was a picnic ground of note for
the people from Two Rivers. Today nothing but the concrete piers on which the
dance hall rested remains. East Twin River, which crosses the eastern boundary of
this district, is a favorite recreational area. Summer cottages dot the shores back of
Goedjen's grove.

TWO RIVERS 4 — SHOTO SCHOOL

Mary Duffy

Two Rivers district number
4 located in T. 20 N., Range 24
E. is known at the Shoto school.
Years ago it was known as the
Neshoto school and as the Kings-
villa school for definite reasons
which are given in this school
history.

The 1858 Two Rivers town-
ship assessment roll shows that
by that time at least the dis-
trict was set up for taxation
purposes. The district then con-
tained sections 27, 28, 29, 32 in
T. 20 N., R. 24 E. By 1861 the
east half of section 32 had been
attached to Two Rivers No. 5.
There is no record of a school
before 1860 although there were school sessions prior to that time in a private build-
ing. The first schoolhouse was built in 1860 at a cost of about $250. It was a large
frame structure about 30 x 60 feet and contained one classroom. The first building
was smaller but a later addition, due to increased enrollment, was added.

The school was located about two blocks south of the Shoto bridge, on the hill
behind the present James O'Hearn home. At the time the school was located on that
site, an east-west road ran past the southern boundary of the schoolyard. The school
site adjoined a cemetery. Michael Schimmel and Alex Rutz, old residents of the
district, remember the first school as having three rows of seats — two rows of three-
pupil desks and seats and a center row of seats, each large enough for eight or ten
pupils. The seats were made of planks. Books and slates were brought from the
homes. A large stove furnished heat for the building. In one corner, on a rude
wooden bench, was the old fashioned water bucket. The school was then known as
the Neshoto school.

When Cooper and Jones, owners of the school site, were ready to move out of
Neshoto in 1875, they wanted to dispose of their holdings and so it was necessary
to find a new location for the school. It was then decided to build in Kingsville which
adjoined Neshoto to the east. The first school was torn down and some of the lumber
was evidently used in the new school building. While plans and building conferences
were going on, Alex Rutz reports that the district bought the house in which the De-
pons family lived for school purposes. This house was on the exact site of the present school.

The second school, a brick building about 24 x 36 feet, was built in 1881 by contractor Schwantes. It replaced the Depons house which was torn down before building operations began. The second school cost $336 and consisted of a large classroom, an entry and hallway, a cloakroom on one side of the hallway and a fuel storage room on the other side. The windows were placed along the long sides of the building. The school was equipped with double desks and seats. Many of the texts were those found around the homes of the pupils. Slates were used in place of writing paper and tablets. The blackboards were "black boards". The heating equipment consisted of a stove, while kerosene lamps took care of the lighting problem. When the building was replaced by a third school, the bricks were used for the new school basement. The second school was known as the Kingsville school.

The third and present school was erected in 1913 for $2,665. It is a modern frame building with a large class room, a roomy hallway, two cloak rooms, a full basement, a roomy attic, indoor flush toilets, a basement furnace heating and ventilating system, and a good-sized library room. The equipment consists of single, adjustable seats and desks, slate blackboards, bulletin boards, piano, and a steel filing case. Electric lights and services were installed in the 1930's. By the late 1860's when the post office name of Neshoto was changed to Shoto, the school became known as the Shoto school.

As the hamlets of Neshoto and Kingsville grew, the school population increased, but as the mills shut down the school attendance decreased. The enrollment during the first year of the first school was 30 pupils. By 1870, the clerk's report to the superintendent of schools shows that 73 pupils were in school. From the high of 75 pupils in 1875, the enrollment shows a steady decrease until 1890 when but 22 pupils were in attendance. After that date the school enrolled between 30 and 40 students. The attendance in the 1900's has been about that figure with the present enrollment averaging 20. Today the school population is augmented by the children of the residents of cottages along the West Twin River.

A very early settler of the community was Frederick Borcherdt who settled here in 1841 and took over the mill built by Burnham and Stringham. He was the first German settler in the county. Andrew Rutz who served on the school board and later became town clerk settled here in 1856. Other early settlers were Wm. Myer, Richard Bishop, Al. Schimmel, Rudolph Meissner, Clarence Krueger, a Mr. Schroeder, Albert Franz, a Mr. Timber, Henry Meyer, and Mr. Kott. Many of these family names are still common in the district.

No record of the school officers prior to 1872 is available. The names of those on record from that date are: Henry Depons 1872-1874; Andrew Rutz 1874-1880; Chas. Raimond 1880-; and Chas. Hacker 1894-86. Henry Rahn, Wm. and Jos. Meyer, August Gehling, Carl Bucenow, John Petri, Alex Rutz, were others serving prior to 1906.

The names of the first teachers in the old school are not on record. Some of those who taught from 1872 on were: E. H. Smalley, Louis H. Truettn, Catherine Stitt, Sarah J. Thompson, William Ross, Henry Walsh, Peter Carrigan, Jessie P. Ross, Emma Emerson, Emma Morrison, Clara Filholm, Lena Miller, Alice Newcomb, Carl Zander, Wm. Engel, Floyd Brown, Myrtle Mosher, and Mary McCullough. Those teaching in this school after 1906 are listed in the county school annuals. The district maintained summer and winter sessions as late as the 1870's. The early texts included Ray's arithmetic, Pinneas grammar, Sanders spellers and readers, Guffey's history, and Mitchell's geography. The teacher's salary was always a bit higher than other nearby districts paid. There are few records of community activities held in the schoolbuilding, but it is reported that old-fashioned spelling bees were held once or twice a year.

The Shoto district has one of the most interesting community histories of Manitowoc county. Two distinct hamlets, Neshoto and Kingsville, sprang up along the West Twin river. The population of Neshoto at one time was about 250 persons. Cooper and Jones Lumber Co. owned much of the property in the village. They operated saw and lath mills located near the dam. The saw mill was located on the north side of the river by the sluice way. A post office, established after 1880, was at first to be called Neshoto, but since there was already a post office by that name in Wisconsin, it was called Shoto in spite of the fact that a Mr. Hacker wanted to have the village named Hackerville. The first postmaster was reported to have been August Gehling. The office stayed in existence until the inauguration of the R.F.D. system. A cemetery next to the first school was used for the burial plot of the old settlers, the mill workers, and members of their families. The cemetery is now a cultivated piece of land. Th south river bank below the dam was built up in docks, back-filled with sawdust and slabs. A large tug hauled lumber and mill work from
these docks to Two Rivers. Small sailing vessels also docked here. Today nothing of these docks remains except rows of logs lying on the shore river bottom. The busy village even boasted of two hotels at one time!

Kingsville adjoining Neshoto to the east had about fourteen families with a population of about 125 persons. The village was platted by a Mr. King. It was the business and residential section of the two villages, although a grist mill across from the present home of Theo. Kowalski was in operation. The mill was later moved to Shoto and is now owned by Jos. Holly. The present home of Theo. Kowalski was at one time a tavern, while his barn lumber was once used in a large dance hall. Another tavern run by Silbersack was located across the road from the present school. This, too, was moved later to Shoto and is now the tavern of Ben Loeff. Mr. King conducted a store in the village. Other residents in Kingsville were Salomon, Oestreiche, Kettenhofen, Hess, Meyer, August and Wm. Schmidt, Kestley, Mueller, and Wolffman families.

Today Shoto has become a scenic and sports area. Summer cottages of residents from Manitowoc and Two Rivers dot the shores. People from all areas of Manitowoc county travel to Shoto for picnics and fishing.

**TWO RIVERS JT. 5 — FILLMORE**

*Suspended*

Two Rivers school district Jt. 5 was officially designated the Millard Fillmore school in honor of one of America's presidents. It is commonly referred to as the Schwantes school because it is situated next to the Schwantes home.

On March 1, 1856, the town superintendent of schools called a meeting of the voters of this area for the purpose of forming a new school district. The meeting was held at the home of Edward Schmitt on April 1, 1856, at 2:00 P. M. Wm. Klop was chosen chairman and Solomon Denis was elected clerk. The assembled voters authorized the construction of a log building to be built by the residents for which they were to be paid $1 per day for such labor.

The first school district consisted of land which was in Two Rivers township. Since the new district bordered on the town of Manitowoc, it was not long before this district became joint with Manitowoc. On April 9, 1861, all of sections 4 and 9 and the east halves of sections 5 and 8 in T. 19 N., R. 24 E (Manitowoc township) were added to this school district.

The first log school constructed in 1856 was a crude building 18 x 24 feet, valued at about $80. Both the inside and the outside of the school were mud-plastered. The interior was then whitewashed frequently. The room was meagerly furnished with homemade desks and seats, one "black" board 31/2 x 41/2 feet, a map or two, and a few books. When the next schoolhouse was built, the old log building was sold to John Krueger for $2. No mention is made of the use that he made of it. The old log school was to be located on the southwest corner of the SE1/4 of Sec. 33, T. 20 N., R. 24 E., the present Rhodes cheese factory corner. On April 15, 1856, before the log school was begun, a special meeting was held to alter the site because there was no warranty deed for the first site chosen. The chosen site for the first schoolhouse then was one-half acre at the northwest corner of section 3, T. 19 N., 3. 24 E., on the present Frank Koldoff farm.

In 1867, the voters authorized the construction of a new frame schoolhouse. The sum of $400 was raised for this purpose. Because of a dispute over the old site, Mr. Schwantes donated the present site on the present county trunk highway D. The second school was about 24 x 34 feet with windows on the long sides. The furniture was still of the homemade variety. The frame schoolhouse was abandoned in 1885.
and moved next door to the cheese factory where it was used as a stable for chickens and pigs. Later on it was turned into a garage and so used until it was destroyed by fire in 1928.

In 1885, the third and present schoolhouse was erected at an approximate cost of $571. It is a brick structure about 24 x 40 feet with three windows on each long side and two in the entrance side. A combination cloakroom and entry was attached later. The building is without a basement and so the heating-ventilating system was located in the northwest corner of the school room. The double desks and seats, purchased at the time that the present school was built, were replaced with single, adjustable desks in the 1900's. The school had running water supplied by an artesian well. The many library and text books were stored in cupboards built near the entrance.

The first annual report of this district in 1856 listed 12 male and 14 female children of school age (4 to 20 years). Of that number, 14 attended the little log school. After the Manitowoc area was taken in, there were 83 pupils of school age in the district. The school population increased steadily until 1885 when 160 children resided in the district. After that date there was a steady decline, so that by 1900 only 74 school age children lived in Two Rivers Jt. 5. The growth and development of Manitowoc Beach, which is in this district, is reflected in the fact that by 1920 only 92 children were listed on the school census. By 1930, there were 129; by 1940 there were 220; and by the 1947 school census listed about 250 children. In spite of the large school census now and in the past, the number attending a public grade school has never been larger than 60 pupils during any one year. Parochial school attendance in Manitowoc and Two Rivers has limited public school attendance.

Rural schools in Manitowoc county usually suspended because of an insufficient number of children who will attend the public school. Two Rivers Jt. 5 suspended in 1937 because the number to attend this school was too great for the size of the school building, and because the distance to the district school for the Manitowoc Beach children required transportation facilities. The voters at the annual meeting in July 1937, voted to suspend school and transport all public school children to the County Rural Normal model room at Manitowoc. Those who could not be accommodated there went to other public schools. During the school term of 1946-1947, the number of public grade school children in this district averaged 49 out of a school census of 247. There has been a great deal of sentiment to divide the district and to create a new district for the residents along the lakeshore.

Some of the first settlers in this district were Edward Schmidt, Henry Beeck, Carl Stueck, Kurt Meyer, Christ Schmidt, Fritz Sommer, Carl Burmeister, Francis Svatz, Wm. Klop, Heinrich Meyer, Johan Willert, Fritz Nickels, Henry Schmidt, Christ Wirth, Carl Stahl, and Solomon Denis. The first school officers were clerk Wm. Klop, treasurer Solomon Denis, and director Kurt Meyer. Other prominent board members prior to 1906 were Christ Schmidt, John and Fred Raatz, Henry Beeck, Fritz Sommer, Francis Svatz, Frederick Schwantes, Joachim Marquardt, Carl Stueck, and Ernest Schwantes.

The district records are complete except for the years 1861 to 1872 inclusive. The names of teachers teaching this school are recorded in the district records. The first teacher in 1856 for 3 months at a salary of $20 per month of 22 days was Mary Jush. Others who taught school in this district were Jos. Luchanak, Wm. Klop, Henrietta Lehman, Jos. Farrel, and Amy Parker from 1857 to 1861; John Hussey, Mary Arp, August Nicolaus, James Kirwan, and Frank Blesch in the 1870's; Henry Deters, Fred Braer, F. C. Christiansen, R. Neckley, Maggie Kelly, Louis Kahlenberg, and Herman Schlundt in the 1880's; R. Stockinger, A. Hanson, August Grimm, Carl Zander, Fred Althen, and Henry Wilke in the 1890's; and Henry Wilke, Nora Johnson, Emma Eberhardt, and Louis Ahlswede up to 1906. The district has preferred male teachers, has paid the best salaries, and has had outstanding teachers who stayed for many terms. Among the more well-known former teachers were F. C. Christiansen, Louis Kahlenberg, Herman Schlundt, Henry Wilke, Warren Fischer, Walter Koehler, Ladimir Hrudka, and Leslie Guetschow. The last teacher for this school was Wm. Ledvina.

Two Rivers No. Jt. 5 is affected greatly by the suburban growth of Manitowoc and Two Rivers. The residents of the district are deeply interested in district reorganization and consolidation since the present school aids have placed a heavy tax burden on the district property. One of the first reorganization activities of the County School Committee authorized by the 1947 state legislature was the attempt to dissolve this district and to attach the several areas to neighboring school districts. The hearing for this purpose was called by the County Committee for Wednesday.
evening, March 31, 1948, at the Koenig school in Two Rivers. At this meeting opposition was voiced by Two Rivers city officials because of a possible increase in school costs to the city residents. The School Committee conducted this hearing and at their next Committee meeting voted to defer action until a later date.

**TWO RIVERS 6 — RANGELINE**

**Mrs. Walter Guetschow**

Two Rivers school district No. 6 was officially named the Rangeline district in 1918 because it is located on both sides of the range line between townships 24 and 25 East. Old timbers sometimes refer to this as the Moshkosh school because it is located near the present Moshkosh home and former business place.

This district was officially organized in 1862. Before that, according to the 1856 and 1861 township assessment rolls on file in the county treasurer's office, this area was a part of the old Two Rivers No. 6 made up of sections 23, 24, 25, 26, 35, and 36 in the present town of Two Creeks and sections 4, 5, 8, and 9 in northeastern Two Rivers township. After Two Creeks became a township by itself, this area remained a part of Two Creeks No. 2 school district until 1862. Today the district consists of sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 16, 17, and 18 in R. 25 E. and the east one-half of sections 1, 12, and 13 in R. 24 E., T. 20 N.

The first school meeting for this district was held June 11, 1862 at 8 o'clock P.M. at the home of Fredrick Saubert. It was convened on order of Conrad Bates, the town clerk, who also acted as chairman of the meeting. Nicolaus Horner was elected secretary. The first school board consisted of Fredrick Saubert, director and Franz Hayne, clerk. One acre of land was offered for a school site. The site was described as follows: From the N¼ of the N¼ of Sec. 13, T. 20 N., R. 24 E., approximately along the range line near Land Creek (now Molarsh Creek), 10 rods from north to south, and 10 rods from east to west. The owner was to receive the sum of $2. Should the land be found not suitable, it was to be returned to the owner, and the $2 paid back without interest.

The first schoolhouse was to be constructed of round “land wood” (logs) and was to be 20 x 26 feet. All voters agreed to this and the meeting was adjourned. On June 21, 1862, a special meeting was held at the home of Fredrick Saubert (the present Moskosh home). The following resolutions were acted upon:

1. To pay for having the deed properly transferred and recorded for the school site.
2. To accept the school site first chosen.
3. To clear the school site on July 5 by the land owners in a friendly spirit.
4. To deliver building materials such as logs, timber, rafters, etc. in a friendly spirit on July 7th.
5. To accept an offering and a donation of 3,000 feet of lumber and 7,000 shingles.
6. To select a committee of three to enforce the necessary preparations for the building of the school.
7. To pay for all materials from the school treasury.

Fredrick Saubert, John and Jacob Land, Henry Zermuehlen, Sr., Dreier, Eberhardt, Neuser, Horner, and Heyne agreed to make one trip with their team to haul the necessary lumber, shingles, etc., without charge. The remaining land owners agreed to do other necessary work towards building the school. The voters also voted that the first teacher be a female who was to be hired for $75 for the three month term of 22 days per month. They also agreed to raise $150 for the erection costs of the log school.

217
The first annual meeting for this district was held Sept. 29, 1862, at the Saubert home with Nick Horner as chairman. Since the schoolhouse could not be completed for the winter term, it was decided to utilize a room in a home for the time being. A Mr. Franzzag offered a part of his home for three months as a schoolroom. Upon investigation his offer was declined because the rent was not suitable. Further search brought an offer from Franz Heyne in section 13 for a room in his home. This offer was accepted and school held from October to January with Caroline Volk as the teacher.

The first annual meeting in the new school was held on September 25, 1865. At this meeting John Meinecke was re-elected clerk and Franz Heyne the treasurer for a term of three years. The sum of $500.00 was voted for the following year. On this amount was set aside to pay Susanna Meyer for six months of teaching. It was voted that Franz Heyne clear the school yard of building debris in preparation for the opening of the school and to build steps at the entrance for $10. The schoolhouse erected in 1863 to 1865 was destroyed by fire in 1878.

The second and present brick school was erected that same year with Herman Witte hired to do the carpenter work. The total cost of this structure was $373.68. The building as constructed then was about 20 x 21 feet with three windows for each long side. An entrance door led directly into the schoolroom in which the wraps and dinner pails were stored and in which the children recited. The room was heated by a box stove and the furniture consisted of crude home-made desks and seats at which four to six children could sit and work.

By 1898, the enrrollment had increased so much that an addition, 20 x 30 feet, was added to the west end of the school. The construction was of brick and followed the pattern of the old school. That same year the double desks in use until 1947 were purchased for $130. The school is now heated by a floor furnace located in the northwest corner of the schoolroom. The old open pail and dipper were replaced by a water jar with a bubbler attached. That in turn was replaced by a pressure water system in 1940 when water was piped from the Wm. Monk home next to the school on the north. Since the addition was made in 1898, the district has added a frame storm shed to the front of the school in which the pupils can store their overshoes.

In the 1930's, the northeast corner of the room was partitioned off from the rest of the schoolroom for a cloak and storage room. The west wall of this partition facing the schoolroom was built up with open shelves to store library and text books. Electric lights were installed in the later 1930's. At present the building lacks indoor lavatories, proper window lighting, and a basement for play, fuel, and furnace rooms.

The schoolyard now is large and well laid out. The limited yard at first resulted in many broken windows during the baseball season. The district required that such breakages be paid for by those who broke the windows. Then, too, in batting away from the school, the ball would land in a neighbor's field causing damage when the boys retrieved the ball. Finally the district decided to buy an additional one-half acre of land to the south from Mr. Vogeltanz for $100. The first well was drilled in 1892 and was only 15 feet deep. In 1903, the well went dry and a second one was drilled which lasted until 1913 when a third well was drilled.

Two Rivers No. 6 has had a growing school population as indicated by the need for larger schools as the decades past. The county records reveal that during the later 1800's about 50% of the children of school age attended school. Even as late as 1905 only 68 out of 115 school age pupils attended. Today the enrollment averages between 20 and 30 out of a school population of about 50 because of parochial and high school attendance.

The Rangeline district has had its share of graduates who became successful in business, agriculture, and the professions. Two of the more well-known graduates were Carl and Herman Schlundt. Many former pupils have remained in the district with some serving long and faithfully on the local school board. Among those who served more than 20 years were August Schultz, Fred Schultz, Fred Saubert, Fred Kemp, Henry Zermuehlen, Chas. Zermuehlen and John Bugler who has now served continuously for 38 years.

The list of teachers is complete from the time that the school began. Those who taught this school before 1906 were: Caroline Volk 1862-5, Susanna Meyer 1865-8, Christian Trautman 1868-71, Mary Walsh 1872-4, Charlotte Flynn 1874-8, Fred Dangler 1878-80, Otto Wiegand 1880-1, Wilhelmina Berger 1881-2, Cora Buhr 1882-4, Hattie Seims 1884-8, Tina Arrenmann 1889-90, Felix Walsh 1890-1, Martha Sechrist 1892-5, Sophia Jens 1895-9, Ernest Ferman 1899-1900, Aug. Nimmer 1900-1, Otto Engel 1901-2, Louis Levenhagen 1902-3, H. C. Wilke 1903-6.
The district has two places of interest. Point Beach state forest is located at the eastern extremity of the district along the lake shore. The government lighthouse at the point is also located in this park. Both places promise to become recreational and tourist areas for eastern Wisconsin.

A souvenir pamphlet "History of Rangeline School" issued in 1945 by Mrs. Josephine Guetschow was distributed to each district resident. It gives a more detailed history of the district than this article does and is a credit to the writer.

**TWO RIVERS 7 — OAKLAND**

**Mrs. Lily M. Arneman**

At the time that schools were officially named certain automobiles were very popular in some districts. The Oakland car was popular in the Two Rivers No. 7 school district. When the question of naming the school in 1918 was being considered, one of the district mothers at the annual school picnic casually suggested the name Oakland school since most of the residents had Oakland cars. That name proved to be acceptable and was chosen. Formerly, and even today, the school is often referred to as the Funk school as it is located across from the Funk home and because the present site was purchased from Henry Funk, Sr.

Two Rivers No. 7 was organized on Oct. 1, 1856 and included then parts of the present Two Rivers 6 and Two Creeks 2 districts. According to the 1856 assessment rolls the district was made up of sections 1, 2, 11, 12, in T. 20 N. and R. 24 E., sections 6 and 7, R. 25 E., and sections 34 T. 21 N. and R. 24 E. When the present Two Rivers district No. 6 was organized in 1862, this district was restricted to all of sections 2, 11, 14 and the west one-half of sections 1, 12, 13 all in T. 20 N., R. 24 E.

The first log school was located on a half acre plot purchased from Henry Molle on June 6, 1857 for $2.50. The site was cleared of trees and stumps that same summer for $12. The first school was located one-fourth mile south and one-fourth mile west of the present schoolyard on what was then known as the old corduroy road between Two Rivers and Two Creeks.

The log structure was built by Charles L Sinkel for $53 for labor. About 3,000 feet of lumber were used for the floor, roof, and frame work at a cost of $30. The district raised about $200 to construct this building. The building was of logs with a shingle roof, a double floor, five double windows, and a framed door. Mr. Sinkel was also engaged to construct 13 seats and desks about six feet long for the scholars, a table 3 x 4 feet for the teacher, one "black" board 3 x 5 feet, one large arm chair, and two settles (a form of chair or bench). In September 1858, the school was plastered by Henry Manger for $9. No record is given as to the disposal of this building.

On August 25, 1879, the voters upon motion made and carried authorized the construction of a new school and voted to change the site since the old school was not centrally located. The vote was to purchase an acre of land from Henry Funk, Sr. for $25. It was decided to build a brick structure 24 x 36 feet with three windows on each long side at an approximate cost of $600. The stone foundation was to be put 3 feet into the ground. John Samz, Henry Kasch, and Frederick Mandel were appointed on the building committee. Every district voter had to furnish his share of labor or hauling or to pay his share in money. The money to pay for the building was borrowed at 10% interest.

The brick school erected in 1879 is the one in use today. The front of the building faces west and has a small storm shed. The entrance door opens into a small hall about 4 x 4 feet. Two doors, one to the left and one to the right open into cloakrooms which are a part of the regular classroom. A jacketed stove near the north-
west corner heated the small schoolroom until an oil burner was installed during the fall of 1947. Library shelving and cupboards along the north wall store and display the text and library books. Blackboards line the east wall which the pupils face from single, adjustable, pedestal type desks and seats which replaced the old double desks purchased in the 1880's or 1890's. Electric lights were installed in the summer of 1946. The rest of the schoolroom equipment consists of a sandtable, teacher's desk, tables, chairs, maps, globe, and reference books. To the rear of the schoolyard are the outdoor toilets and a large woodshed. The playground equipment consists of a merry-go-round.

The enrollment has fluctuated with the times. This has never been a large school although the county records show that about 60 pupils attended in 1885. The number of children of school age has never been up to 100 since its organization. In 1870 only 31 children attended and only 54 children of school age lived in the district. With each passing decade the enrollment decreased. By 1941, the yearly attendance was only 5 pupils so the voters decided to suspend their school and to transport the children to the Twin Elder graded school. In 1946, there were again 11 children attending public school so Two Rivers No. 7 re-opened after suggested building improvements were made.

The Funk and Eis families were among the earliest families and their descendants still reside in the district. Henry Volche was the first school clerk, Frederick Brandes director, and David Mandel treasurer in 1857. Other district residents serving on the board up to 1906 after which the County School Annuals were issued were Clerks John Sechrist, Henry Reisland, Fred Lohmary, Ed. Stolberg, Adam Sechrist, Fred Schwartz, and Fred Mandel. The treasurers were Ed. Stolberg, John Sechrist, David Mandel, Henry Reisland, Fred Mandel, John Bugler, John Schmidt, Fred Schwartz, Michael Silbersack and Julius Eis. The directors before 1906 were Fred Brandes, Nicolaus Gier, Ed. Stolberg, August Bruhn, Frederick Raech, Henry Funk, Sr., Frederick Bruhn, and Chas. G. Schmidt.

The district record books are well kept from the time of its organization. Interesting bits of district history are found in these records. Caroline Volche, the first teacher, taught a six month term for $16 per month. She taught this school in 1859 and 1860. Other teachers who taught this school before 1906 were as follows: 1860's: Adam and Bertha Sechrist, Alvira Birdsell, Caroline Volk, and Susanna Magee. In the 1870's: Etta Pilon, Mary Ann Wright, Mary Ross, Mary and Katie Walsh, and Aggie Scott. In the 1880's: Fred W. Broer, Mary E Burke, Hattie McIntosh, Rose Burke, J. F. Magee, and Mattie Sechrist. In the 1890's: Lizzie and Katie Sechrist, Henry Behlow, Ernest Fehrman, Reinhold Eis, and Julius Schwantes. From 1900 to 1906: John Wrieth, Edgar Jonas, Dora Knutson, Ora Mcmillan, and Mary Wallau.

Two Rivers school district No. 7 has had its share of prominent graduates and former students. These people did not become state or national leaders, but every one of the descendants of the pioneer families has become successful in his chosen field. Many have become master farmers and reside in this and other communities. Among the graduates becoming teachers we find the names of Esther and Helene Naser, Marcella Grimm, Naomi Bruhn, Reinhold Eis, the Sechrists, and others. John Bruhn was a pioneer county co-op movement leader. Erwin and Roy Schmidt are prominent in farm organizations.

The road which passes the present school site was once known as the shingle mill road. A shingle and saw mill was once owned and operated by Gustave Volk on the present Jos. Franz farm. A part of this mill building is still standing. Today the district is a community of prosperous farmers who are giving this matter of public school education serious and careful consideration. They realize that a school census of about 25 children of school age will not make possible an ideal rural school setup for their district.