

April 28, 2021

TOURING SULLIVAN COUNTY'S MUSEUM . . . while dusting

When filing away acquisitions that have come to the museum in the past year, a small well-worn booklet caught our attention. It is a 1902 Annual Report of the Superintendent of Schools for Sullivan County. Some interesting statistics were within this report. Keep in mind that this was written for June 1st, 1902.

Estimated population of Sullivan County was 14,000. Number of schools was 102 (this included advanced, grammar, intermediate, primary). Of the 13 school districts, there were 78 directors, 30 male teachers and 72 female teachers (only single women as you couldn't teach once married). The average age of teachers was 26. Teachers were qualified by Normal School diplomas, professional certificates and could teach without previous experience (17 fell into this category). The average teacher's salary was \$32.56, for females was listed at \$28.12. Of the 102 schools, there were 3,044 total students enrolled. Of those 1,512 were male and 1,532 were female. The number of pupils over the age of sixteen was 328. The state appropriation was (remember that it is 1902!) \$13,399.53. Noted in the report was that the Friends' School in Elkland Township and Convent of the Immaculate Heart at Dushore were both considered private and not reflected in the report numbers. The General Report, which is broken down by categories, was prepared by F. (Francis) W. Meylert.

Here are the schools listed by the thirteen districts.

Cherry Township: Bernice, Woodside, Holmes, Satterfield, Baelman, Albert, Quinn, Gahan, Birch Creek, Sugar Hill, Kelley, Lemmer, Green Settlement Harrington, Ringer Hill, Wampole, King, Barth, Fulmer, Donahoe, Cherry Mills and Hollacher.

Colley Township: Lopez, Bellasylva, Obert, Colley, Thomas Run, Vaughn, Ricketts and Ganoga Lake.

Davidson Township: Sonestown, Muncy Valley, Hemlock Grove, Elk Lick, Centennial, Sugar Grove, Glidewell, Emmons and Sheet.

Dushore Borough: Dushore. Ealges Mere Borough: Eagles Mere.

Elkland Township: Estella, Church, Center, Blackwater Run, Lake Run, Lincoln Falls, Union, Green Mountain, Bethel and Gilmantown.

Forks Township: Millview, Black Creek, Warburton Hill, Campbellsville, Pleasant Valley, Schrimps, Jordan Hill Forest City and Reeder's Camp.

Forksville Borough: Forksville. LaPorte Borough: LaPorte

Fox Township: Center, South, East, North, Lower and South Hill.

LaPorte Township: Nordmont, Sugar Ridge, Ringdale, Sugar Point and Kings.

Shrewsbury: Mountain, Victor, Otterville, Bunker Hill and Rock Run.

This listing shows 81 locations of schools within the thirteen districts but does not list for instance the two school buildings for Estella Advanced and Primary. When all was counted from the listing there are in fact 102 schools reporting.

We'll continue this reporting next week. You can visit the museum by appointment for now by calling 570-946-5020 or emailing museum@scpahistory.com. Meanwhile visit our website at www.scpahistory.com and see us on Facebook.