

Diamond Drill

Out of the Past

August 11, 1949

Since 1930 the Iron County School enrollment has declined 43% from 7,932 students in 1930 to 4,527 in 1948. A tabulation of the figures: Iron River (1930=2,301 / 1940=1,829 / 1948=1,424); Stambaugh (2,529/1,903/1,370); Crystal Falls (1,708/1,209/944); Bates (480/429/297); Mastodon (442/355/245); Hematite (397/247/195); Mansfield (75/59/52) The crop of post WWII babies soon to turn school age is expected to significantly increase the enrollment numbers in Iron County.

Iron County's share of the Michigan State Sales Tax distribution totaled \$31,983. The distribution is divided amongst the 14 governmental units in the County based on population. Total Iron County population (20,243). Iron River City received \$6,977 with a population of 4,416 residents. Crystal Falls City (Population=2,641); Stambaugh City (2,081); Caspian Village (1,797); Crystal Falls Township (1,792); Iron River Township (1,533); Stambaugh Township (1,470); Bates Township (1,278); Hematite Township (889); Gaastra City (773); Mastodon Township (516); Alpha Village (497); Mineral Hills (344) and Mansfield Township (216).

Enrollments Swing Upward After Decline

Since 1930, the year-end membership total in the schools of Iron county has declined 43 per cent, from 7,932 in 1930 to 4,527 in 1948, a survey compiled by E. Burr Sherwood, county superintendent of schools, reveals.

Since the state aid for school districts is based upon the per-child membership, the resulting slump in income from state educational funds has kept pace with the drop in the number of boys and girls in the class rosters in the seven township school districts.

A tabulation of year-end membership figures, which tallies closely with the school census, is hereby presented for the years 1930, 1940 and 1948, showing a total decrease of 3,405 children:

System	1930	1940	1948
Iron River	2,301	1,829	1,424
Stambaugh	2,529	1,903	1,370
Bates	480	429	297
Crystal Falls	1,708	1,209	944
Mastodon	442	355	245
Hematite	397	247	195
Mansfield	75	59	52

Totals 7,932 6,031 4,527

The Mansfield township school was closed last year by a mandate of the people and the children were transported to Crystal Falls.

A reversal in the downward trend is evident in the increases most lower grades show in attendance last year over the 1940 total. The crop of war babies is making its impression on school enrollments and consequently qualifying the county schools for increases in their state allocations.

The \$31,093 payment to Iron county will be distributed through the office of Treasurer Edward H. Sensiba as follows: (population figure is in parenthesis)

Bates township (1,278)	\$2,019.24
Crystal Falls township (1,792)	2,831.36
Hematite township (889)	1,404.62
Iron River township (1,533)	2,422.14
Mansfield township (216)	341.28
Mastodon township (516)	815.28
Stambaugh township (1,470)	2,322.60
Crystal Falls City (2,641)	4,172.78
Iron River City (4,416)	6,977.28
Stambaugh City (2,081)	3,287.98
Gaastra City (773)	1,221.34
Alpha Village (497)	785.26
Caspian Village (1,797)	2,839.26
Mineral Hills Village (344)	543.52