

High School, a trip she made by streetcar. Although most of her friends went to school in Plymouth, she chose Wayne because the daily fare there cost less.

After her graduation in a class of 21 graduates in 1916, she began a career as a teacher in a one room schoolhouse for \$40 a month. Her duties included the teaching of about 50 students as well as sweeping out the building and seeing that the wood burning stove was properly lit. She had a paddle for disciplinary purposes, but never had to use it.

When Mrs. Ryder was married in 1920, she moved to the house she still lives in today on Ann Arbor Trail near Newburgh. Then the road was paved in dirt and farms lay all around.

Newburgh had been a small trading settlement, dubbed "new burgh" by early settlers who arrived mostly from New England and New York.

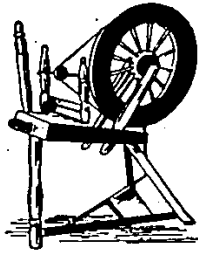
TODAY THE AREA of Ann Arbor Trail and Newburgh is still dotted with signs from quaint and earlier times. The old Newburgh Methodist Church, built originally in 1834, supplies motorists with a bit of the nostalgic past as does the old four room brick Newburgh School.

One of the last standing streetcar depots in Michigan is to be found at 37413 Ann Arbor Trail, a reminder to automobile drivers of the days when many people got around the area by trolley car.

Mrs. Ryder's home, too, tells many a story about the past. It is filled with a cozy clutter of antiques, such as Tiffany lamps, hand carved furniture and old style picture frames, many of which have been in

her family for as long as two generations.

Seated in an alcove off the living



room is a colorful collection of some 300 old fashioned dolls of many types. The oldest doll dates back to 1866 and belonged to Mrs. Ryder's mother. Her collection also includes dried apple dolls, a Mary Todd Lincoln doll and one transplanted all the way from Germany.

Mrs. Ryder grew up on the Smith farm, now a nursery run by her brother Clyde Smith and his sons on Newburgh Road south of Joy. Her husband, Donald Ryder, was descended from one of the first families to settle in the Livonia area. She herself is a member of the Livonia Historical Commission.

Does she regret the passing of the old days before technology and a burgeoning population transformed the countenance of her old town?

"I doubt that people were happier then," Mrs. Ryder stated comfortably amidst her antiques and memorabilia. "They had their problems. Actually, every age has its good times. I like things the way they are."

COUNTRY STORE

*I never pass a little country store,
Remote from rush and hurry of the town,
Its roof and walls dust-stained and weather-brown,
Without an impulse to walk in the door.
I want to hear again, with lifting latch,
The soft, far music of tinkling bell,
That brought from somewhere as its warning fell,
A quaint storekeeper, with a tangled thatch
Of long white hair. How tall he seemed to stand!
While I, all trembly, looked at peppermints,
At dolls and cakes, at mirrors catching glints
Of sunlight stealing through this fairyland;
Debating, wondering, half-alert, half-shy,
What three bright pennies in my hand might buy.*

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