HILL DISTRICT OF PITTSBURGH, AS I KNEW IT
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I read with a great deal of interest the nostalgic story of old Allegheny in a recent Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine. I go along with the author that a person "who is tied with unconscious chains to his childhood and living in the past is a neurotic." I must confess to being in that category. My childhood was spent in the Pittsburgh Hill district.

The Hill as I knew it in the early 1900's was bounded on the west by Tunnel Street and Old Avenue; on the south by Fifth Avenue; on the north by Grant Boulevard (now Bigelow), and on the east by Dinwiddie and Devilliers Streets. The east and south limits were quite fluid, since population, when it moved, gravitated toward these directions — east towards Herron Hill and Oakland, East End and Squirrel Hill; south toward the Bluff area.

After the Civil War, the lower Hill was inhabited by the Irish moving up from the Point, some Scotch-Irish, a few Germans and a scattering number of German-Jewish families. With mass emigration of the 1880's from Eastern and Southern Europe, the Hill quickly became populated with Italians, Jews from Russia, Poland and Roumania; Russians and Slovaks, Armenians, Syrians and Lebanese. The Hill took on an international color. A sprinkling of Chinese laundries added color to an international spectrum. The Irish, Scotch-Irish mostly resided between Tunnel and Congress Streets, Webster and Fifth Avenues; the Italians mostly on Webster and Bedford Avenues, Wylie Avenue, Elm and Congress Streets; the Jews mostly south on Wylie Avenue extending to and including Fifth Avenue. The Syrians, Armenians and Lebanese concentrated on Webster and Bedford Avenues close to Grant Boulevard. Intermingled with these groups were comparatively few Negroes who concentrated on Fulton, Congress, Clark and Colwell Streets. Mention should be made of a

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small colony of Greeks who settled on lower Webster and Bedford Avenues. Thus the Hill became truly a human cauldron, or an American melting pot — a mixture of Irish, Germans, Scotch, Jews, Italians, Greeks, Negroes, Armenians, Syrians, Lebanese and a few Chinese.

The culinary arts of each ethnic group resulted in characteristic odors which clearly defined that particular section of the Hill. These ranged from the garlicky pungency of the Mediterranean to the exotic wafts of the Middle East. The Italians specialized in spaghetti with different sauces, tart salads, ravioli, veal and chicken disguised in many forms. The Jewish diner reveled in gefulite fish, borscht, chopped liver, marinated herring, kreplach, blintzes, heavy chicken noodle soup and topped off with strudel and glasses of hot tea. The Armenians liked their shish kabob served on an iron rod. The Greeks had their piece de résistance: fish soup and lamb kabob. The Lebanese had a special delight, "keppi," sharply resembling the shish kabob of the Armenians. The Irish had Irish stew, corned beef and cabbage. The Scotch-Irish held forth with their Scottish broth and soured mackerel. The Negroes came into competition with chitterlings and pork chops. Truly a medley of gustatory and olfactory treats.

I was born on Fulton Street (later Fullerton Street) near the intersection with Center Avenue. One of my earliest recollections was of our house being used as a voting headquarters for which the family received seven dollars for a general election and five dollars for a primary election, which moneys went a long way towards filling the family larder. The Hill was a Republican stronghold, and the very few Democrats made only feeble efforts to break the reigning slate. Legislative bodies, Select and Common Councils, were unwieldy and often inefficient groups, and fortunately gravitated to our present compact and more maneuverable single Council. There were no bath facilities and no inside toilets and it was quite an arduous feat to chart a course to the outdoor "Chic Sales." In the winter, among the usual nocturnal street sounds, we came to recognize the thunderous thud of the sanitation wagon on its round of emptying the outdoor cesspools.

Our City Fathers, in laying out the streets of the Hill, had history in mind when looking for suitable names, as attested by the following: Devilliers, DeSoto, Van Braam, Reed, Roberts, Chatham, Clark, Townsend, Boone, Sachem, Crawford, Vickroy, Webster, Logan, Bedford, Colwell, Tannehill, Arthur, Franklin, Stevenson, Scott, Forbes, Soho, Kirkpatrick, Wylie, Fulton, Washington, Gilmore, Cassatt, Seneca, Miltenberger, Wooster, Trent, Charles, Magee and Granville.
The public school system centered around Franklin, Hancock, Moorhead, Second Ward and Grant Schools. In addition there were three parochial schools. Academically, the Franklin and Hancock Schools were only mediocre. The Second Ward School was known best for munificent picnics. The Moorhead School was rated high in academic status. This school, located on Granville Street, was named for the old and distinguished Moorhead family. The father, General James K. Moorhead, built the family home on 113 Center Avenue, a stone's throw from the Moorhead School. A daughter, Elizabeth Moorhead, wrote an interesting book, *Whirling Spindle*, based on the family life in the Center Avenue mansion. Later, this house was razed and the Irene Kaufmann Settlement was erected on this lot. The Grant School was indeed a credit to the otherwise muddled Pittsburgh school system. This school had dedicated teachers and high educational standards and was blessed in its principal, Miss Martha J. Graham. An indomitable and strict disciplinarian, she devoted her entire life towards the Americanization of first-generation youngsters, torn between the mother tongues at home and the new way of life in the New World. Samuel Rosenberg, the distinguished local artist, and of the Hill lineage, painted a beautiful portrait of Miss Graham, and it was presented to her at a public ceremony. To carry out the enforcement of the iron-clad discipline, there were the following teachers: Misses Hoffman, Provo, Andrews (daughter of the school superintendent Samuel Andrews), Havis, Jenkins, McLean, Martin, Unks, Schmitt, Lewis, Anderson and Murray. This list should strike a nostalgic note in many Pittsburghers. Our annual picnics at Rock Point (almost thirty miles on railroad cars) were high spots in our somewhat humdrum school life. Prayers for favorable weather always were answered; there is no record of any rain to mar those festive days. The home pre-picnic preparations involved thorough scrubbing of the winter's accumulation and new linen, and it was a hardly recognizable group that boarded the trains at Union Station.

There were two High Schools, Central and Fifth Avenue. The attendance at the High Schools was limited to a small number of students because the economic pressures made it imperative to find paying jobs as soon as possible. A public school (eighth grade) diploma was usually deemed sufficient for the rank-and-file.

The rivalry between the parochial and public schools should be mentioned. Students of the Catholic schools were not attuned to the ecumenical attitude that prevails today. Non-parochial students were
labeled \textit{persona non grata} and this resulted in many pitched battles between the students. The intervention of the priests, the nuns and the teachers prevented many a cracked head and bloody nose.

Business colleges were popular, where typing, shorthand and telegraphy were taught. The tuition fees were modest and attracted many business-minded students.

\textbf{Recreational Facilities}

Recreational facilities were very limited. There were no official municipal playgrounds until 1909. Until then the streets and alleys were used as temporary playing sites. Our favorite sporting Mecca was a thoroughfare called Boone Alley, which extended from Hazel Street to Colwell Street and was intersected by the famous Clark Street. This alley was about thirty feet wide and was paved with cement cobblestones, provided with projecting edges to help horses to gain a foothold. The alley was just wide enough to allow the passage of a two-team vehicle. This was where we indulged in our favorite sports, baseball in summer and football and soccer in the fall. Basketball was played in between seasons.

Baseball was the favorite sport, as it is now, except that the paraphernalia and rules were a wee bit primitive. The ball in play was a tightly-wound sphere of cord with machine tape as the covering. This called for frequent time-outs to repair the mutilated spheroid. Home plate was designated by shavings from an abandoned bushel basket, first base by an old derby hat, second base by a used-up beer bottle and third base perhaps by the discarded corset of a female relative. A frequent spectacle was a courageous player who slid for a stolen base and came up covered with broken glass and horse debris. The contests were fast and furious and frequently ended in fistic battles for possession of the maltreated ball.

In the fall, football or modified rugby was the reigning sport. As we played it, it was a far cry from the present day gridiron contests. Sheer brute strength with no forward passes was important in gaining through the line. Play was not stopped until the ball touched the ground. This meant a pile-up of human bodies with consequent contusions and nosebleeds. There is no record of any fatality, but there were many sequelae of black eyes, bruised shins, brain concussions and accidental groin contusions. Seldom were there any calls for an ambulance or a neighborhood physician. The warriors just slunk home to lick their wounds and get ready for the next day’s fracas. Soccer or association football was played in the late fall and in the winter, if
practical. A tin can served as the projectile and a broom-stick as a propeller. We sometimes called this sport "polo" out of deference to our British friends on horseback. Sled riding was popular with the younger set. Sleds were crude but serviceable, fashioned out of grocery boxes with iron runners attached. A popular course was starting at Miller Street and ending at Elm Street, passing the intersections of Fulton Street, Townsend Street, Logan Street and Colwell Street. The hazards were the horse-drawn wagons at these intersections. The sleds had no brakes and it took some tall engineering ability to veer out of the course of the vehicles. One's shoes were used as brakes and this did much to shorten the life span of the already debilitated leather.

Basketball was a very popular sport. The arena was any place available in the streets or yards. The banking board was any fence, a barrel hoop served as a basket, the playing ball any fairly round and firm contrivance, be it a football bladder stuffed with paper or a bundle of tightly tied rags. From these humble beginnings came the nucleus for some of the outstanding basketball teams of this area.

Among the best known quintets were the Coffey Club, Zangwills, Loendi Club, Zionist Council, Colombian Council, W. R. Blacks, Dinwiddie Club, Kingsley House, Irene Kaufmann Settlement, Beth Jacob Club, Y.M.H.A., Pittsburgh Lyceum, St. Peter's Lyceum and Amerita Club.

Washington Park, known as the "Basin," was formerly a city reservoir. It was converted into a city playground and located on Bedford Avenue, between Elm and Townsend Streets with the northern border on the brink of the Hill overlooking Grant Boulevard. The old Central High School overlooked it from its site on Fulton and Bedford Avenues. All forms of sport were played here by youngsters and adults. Interesting baseball contests were those played by the city policemen versus the city firemen. The rivalry was very keen and one game ended in a riot because of the disputed possession of the game ball. During the mêlée one of the police team players "stole" the ball and made a fast get-away. The playing turf was hard baked mud, entirely devoid of grass, suitable for baseball, but offering poor protection for contact sports such as football. Compared to the streets and alleys, Washington Park was a godsend to sports lovers of the Hill. Later the city built a modern clubhouse replete with gymnasium, showers and club rooms. The Director (whose name I do not recall), despite his many duties, found time to pursue his hobby of sculpturing. The Assistant Director (Karl Heinrich) was an accomplished
aesthetic dancer and tried to teach that form of choreography to a reluctant few.

The Pittsburgh Lyceum on Washington Street was a popular spot for athletes and turned out fine football and basketball teams. The rivalry between the Lyceum and the Zionist Council basketball teams produced memorable contests and closely bordered on bloody warfare.

Cultural Interests

Cultural entertainment within the confines of the Hill was bizarre and varied, dependent on the ethnic group involved. Our national holidays were joint efforts with all the groups uniting to celebrate with appropriate patriotic ceremonies. These included parades and fireworks, and were special treats for the young folks. The veterans of the Civil War and the Spanish-American War were still numerous enough to add color to the festivities. The sectional groups had their own celebrations on individual days of their own and were reminiscent of their lives in the "old countries." Election day was a popular event with the torchlight parades and the street bonfires. On this day saloons were officially closed, but the stored-up pre-election supply amply served the thirsty, especially the election victors. Drunken brawls were frequent sources of vicarious entertainment to the younger set.

German bands, noted for quantity more than quality of sound, played in front of saloons or house windows for a few paltry pennies. The mystery was how these corpulently florid players could exist on the scanty subsistence thrown to them. The saloons provided free beer and free lunch so the inner man at least was provided for.

Medicine side shows periodically visited the Hill with the entire works. The full blooded Indian in full warpaint regalia, complete with the tomahawk, scowled and danced for the amusement of the captive audience. The feature of the show was the Barker who, with great flourish of oratory, paraded the virtues of his famous tonic, a cure-all for anything from a hangnail to a brain tumor. The price was right and if the tonic didn't cure the ailments, at least the buyer could enjoy the contents heavily laced with cheap alcohol. Lax laws in those days permitted a high alcoholic content in medicinal tonics.

London's Hyde Park and New York City's Union Square had real counterparts on the corners in the Upper Hill. The speakers and audiences for the most part were composed of recent immigrants from Russia, Poland and Roumania. These men and a few women were imbued with very liberal and revolutionary ideas, especially as related
to the industrial war between Labor and Capital. The constant heckling and the to-and-fro exchanges were most entertaining and enlightening. These people spoke very little English and were considered "green-horns" by the native Americans, but very many of these newly arrived Americans knew foreign languages, industrial economics and international politics on a level far superior to the so-called American "intellectuals." The well-known Communist, Leon Trotsky (born Bronstein), before the Russian Revolution of 1917 held forth over teacups and chess in the cafés on lower Fifth Avenue.

Other Activities

The Salvation Army with its bands always attracted a goodly audience, but the donations unfortunately were meager and few. The lack of contributions apparently did not mar the cheerfulness and loud tempo of the players and speakers. Also the church revival meetings were sources of religious stimulation to some and to others a mere chance to while away idle moments. "New Covenant Mission to the Jews" was located on Logan Street, and later moved to the corner of Crawford and Reed Streets. This mission was sponsored by a local church, and led by Reverend Maurice Ruben, a converted Jew. They gave out numerous religious tracts and held evening outdoor meetings. Very few doubted their sincerity, but the Hill was not fertile territory for proselyting.

There also was the ever-exciting spectacle of the horse-drawn fire engines and the thrill of watching the fire laddies at work. Unforgettable was the occasion when the alarm in the fire engine station came to life: the firemen slid down the greased pole from the upstairs sleeping quarters, the trained horses quickly took their positions for harnessing, the firemen assumed their positions, the bells clanged and we beheld the thrill of a lifetime.

Another rather unorthodox form of entertainment was being a spectator at the periodic raids, mostly Saturday nights and Sundays, by the police on houses of ill-fame and speakeasies. The arrival of the "Black Maria" was a signal for a lusty cheer from the spectators, apparently enjoying the spectacle of their compatriots being hauled in for a ride to the hoosegow. Mention should be made of Colwell Street with its string of houses of ill repute. Allegedly these "dens of iniquity" existed because of a profitable liaison between political powers downtown and the Queen of the Underworld, a nebulous person by the name of Nettie Bear. Regardless of the moral and religious implications, this "line," as we knew it, was a source of revenue to avid youngsters
running errands during daytime and at night keeping guard on the horse-drawn phaetons, which awaited their owners out of the view of passers-by.

Gambling on the scale of modern days was not known on the Hill. There simply was not enough loose change around to lure many to games of chance. Numbers and policy writing were unknown, bookies for race track bets were practically nonexistent. The only gambling was in small card games and dice shooting. These flourished in back alleys and were interrupted occasionally by visitations from beat policemen. To minimize this danger from the Law, lookouts were posted to warn the betting fraternity. Child labor regulations not being in effect, youngsters were hired for a few shekels to holler, "Cheese it, the cops!"

The exploits of the famous Biddle Boys were still a lively topic of conversation on the Hill. These two brothers were apprehended on upper Fulton Street after a gun battle with police and detectives. Accused of numerous robberies and murders, they were imprisoned in the county jail. With the alleged aid of the warden's wife, they escaped but eventually were shot down and killed in the wilds of Butler County. The irony of the entire sad affair was the public criticism of the police who were accused of shooting the two brothers in the gun battle. The public completely forgot the ruthlessness of the two desperadoes, who in cold blood murdered two grocers and their wives in holdups.

Hospitals on the Hill were concentrated in Mercy Hospital (1847) and Passavant Hospital (1849). Later the Montefiore at Herron and Center Avenues came into the picture (1909). Mrs. Barnett Davis, raised on Old Avenue, was the founder of the Montefiore Hospital. Neighborhood physicians were more numerous than they are today and the sick were treated more often at home than in doctors' offices. Hospitals were used mainly for surgery and very serious illnesses. Veterinarians and blacksmiths were kept busy at the horse markets. The owners of drugstores or pharmacies were the real apothecaries, not vendors of miscellaneous merchandise as we know them today. Not only did they fill prescriptions diligently, but they were the neighborhood solutions for anything from black eyes, aching teeth, colds, lacerations, cramps, chilblains and venereal exposures. The Roselia Foundling Asylum, on Cliff Street near Manilla Street, performed noble work in aid of unwed mothers and placement of babies born out of wedlock.

We would be amiss if we did not mention the role played by the physicians on the Hill. They did yeomen's service for the Hill inhabitants under adverse conditions, and often gave free clinical attendance.
On Fifth Avenue we remember Drs. Joseph Buchanan, Parke Davis, Maurice Goldsmith, Clarence Eisner, Alfred Kamens, Philip Kamin, Samuel Marcus, Ben Anderson, Jacob Specter, Samuel Radin, William Howells, Daniel Sable, David Simon, Henry Black, Henry Finkelpearl, Irwin Pochapin, Rube Pearlman, Samuel Rosen and Ben Levant. On Center Avenue were Drs. McKinley, Hamilton, Baruch, Vaux, Simon Seegman, Max Weinberg, Robert Fowler, Jacob Rubin, Ben and Lawrence Wechsler, Isaac Davis, George Feldstein, Jacob Eber, Samuel Lebeau, Isadore Snitzer, Samuel Grekin, Paul Grogin, Julius Goldstein, Fruchs, Blumberg, Simon Marick, Turfley, Phillips, Winstead and M. Lichenstein, On Fulton Street: Dr. Sapirstein, who was also a mohel and cantor in his spare moments. Wylie Avenue: Drs. Hegarty, Cratty, Aiello, Spanos, Joseph Hecht, Burns, Hymen Bernstein, Kallet, Edward Lebovitz, Levy, Harry Herzstein. Webster Avenue: Dr. Salvadore Sunseri. Washington Street: Dr. Romeo Luongo. Chatham Street: Dr. Maurice Menzalora. Colwell Street: Samuel Rubinovitz. Federal Street: K. I. Sanes with Chevalier Jackson and Ellen Patterson. Dr. Chevalier Jackson was the inventor of the bronchoscope and gained fame by extracting foreign bodies from the bronchial tubes and lungs. Ellen Patterson was a niece of Chevalier Jackson. Special mention to Miss Anna B. Heldman, “Florence Nightingale” of the Hill.

The use of tobacco, particularly cigarettes, was blazoned forth as stunting the growth of youngsters. Also the “coffin nails” were cited as the principal cause of juvenile delinquency. We didn’t know of lung cancer in those days.

For those who had the wherewithal there was easy access to the Golden Triangle with its theaters and new-born nickelodeons. For real drama and opera, the Nixon and the Alvin; the melodrama plays at the Bijou; the burlesque at the Academy and the Gayety Theaters; for vaudeville the Harry Davis; for stock companies the Grand and the Duquesne. The second oldest nickelodeon was located on Wylie Avenue near Fulton Street. “The Great Train Robbery” played a solid month with two performances daily. Here I was a steady patron on the free list, one of my relatives being both ticket seller and ticket collector. The first and oldest nickelodeon was built by the Harris Interests on Smithfield Street near Forbes Avenue.

The popular non-academic books of the day were the likes of Horatio Alger and the five-cent paperback novels. The Alger books had the same plot in all the stories and lacked the vitality of the five-centers. I recall a few titles: Young Wild West, Fame and Fortune,
Work and Win, Sink and Swim, Jed the Poorhouse Boy, King Brady, Nick Carter, Phil the Fiddler, Born to Win, Ragged Dick the Newsboy. The educators of my day frowned upon them as reading material and classified them as trash. In fact severe punishment was meted out to those caught bootlegging one into the classroom. I come to the defense of these much maligned periodicals. Admittedly, they were not the highest grade of literature but they repeatedly emphasized the theme of honesty and perseverance leading to fame and fortune.

Maurice "Morry" Goldman (not related to your chronicler): At the age of fourteen years, he enlisted in the United States Army and served in the Spanish-American War for the duration of the conflict. He re-enlisted in the regular United States Army for six years. Upon discharge, he was sworn in as a city fireman at the station located at Webster and Seventh Avenues. He participated in all sports with considerable renown, and he sponsored several well-known local basketball teams. He entered a new career as a clothier under the aegis of "Second Story Morry." At the present time, "Morry" is president of Hughes & Hatcher.

The Draft Board of World War I, located in Franklin School, was a beehive of activity and a focal point for draftees marching off to various army camps, notably Camp Lee, in Virginia. The Board was made up of George McCall, Attorney Samuel Rosenberg and Dr. C. M. Adams. These men served without compensation and performed well the difficult task of deciding who were to go off to the war and who were to remain to "keep the home fires burning." Among the officers who served in the army Medical Corps in World War I were Lieutenants Alfred Kamens, Finkelpearl, Daniel Sable, Dave Simon, Irwin Pochapin, Nathan Ashinsky, Mat Weinberg, George Feldstein and Abe Pervin. The Air Corps had Lieutenants David Abrams and Jack Levenson. In the Navy were Charles Wolk, Johnny Ray and Sidney A. Sanes. Mention should be made of Navy Captain Ben Perlman, graduate of Annapolis, who retired after World War I. Also Admiral Ben Moreell, who commanded the Seabees in World War II.

Special mention should be made of the role played by the Settlement Houses of the Hill. These included the Kingsley House at Bedford and Fulton Streets and the Irene Kaufmann Settlement in upper Center Avenue. Kingsley was supported by voluntary contributions and the Irene Kaufmann Settlement was underwritten by the Kaufmann family. They extended a welcoming hand to all ethnic groups for consultation and help in family and social problems. The additional
programs included gymnasium classes, dancing group training, meeting rooms for various organizations, training classes for printing, typing, domestic science and sewing, Boy Scout troops, classes in Americanization, pre-natal clinics, well-baby clinics and visiting nurses. Eventually these functions were taken over by the municipal and state agencies, but the Settlement Houses showed the need for implementing these important improvements in public welfare. These institutions continue to serve useful purposes in neighborhood areas, such as East Liberty and Squirrel Hill. (The Kingsley House was headed in turn by William H. Matthews, Charles C. Cooper and R. Earl Boyd. The Irene Kaufmann Settlement had as directors Sidney Teller and M. Baird. These men fulfilled their duties well and won the good will of the community.)

The Wylie Avenue branch of the Carnegie Library, located at Green Street and Wylie Avenue, was a popular rendezvous for book lovers and those seeking refuge from cold wintry blasts. The librarians were a deeply dedicated lot and were most helpful in directing those avid for knowledge through books. The added function of these ladies was to keep order in the reading rooms, because of recalcitrant non-readers. Miss Mary Lynch, one of the librarians, was a paragon of patience and helpfulness. She later became the librarian for the Academy of Medicine on Craig Street. A well-deserved salute of deep appreciation should be accorded to those dedicated ladies of that Carnegie Library.

The very close proximity in which the various ethnic groups lived and the existing language difficulty frequently caused serious contentions. There were no real organized riots, but roving gangs of the various areas would challenge the courage of their neighbors. The set-tos were quickly and well quelled by the police, dispatched to the scenes on foot and in patrol wagons. Speedy cops were essential in lieu of motorcycles and police cars.

In the Money Panic of 1907, all suffered from the inconveniences and financial discomfort due to the lack of the "green stuff." The merchants of the Hill were most cooperative in tiding over their customers until normalcy eventually came around. The very impoverished neighbors sought and received aid from welfare agencies of the different ethnic groups. Nobody, regardless of color, creed or nationality, was refused some form of material emergency help.

The Negroes in the Hill were subjected to racial discrimination, but they were so comparatively few in number that no organized protests were made, and so they presented no real major problems.
Restaurants, saloons and theaters practiced segregation. Public schools had few problems of integration and segregation, since pupils could legally register at any school regardless of the area of residence. The end result was that most Negroes attended Franklin School, most of the Italians went to Hancock School, the Jews split attendance between Grant and Second Ward Schools. The Moorhead School catered mostly to the Irish and Scotch-Irish from the upper Hill.

Anti-Semitism existed in a moderate degree, no doubt a throwback from the European countries, where discrimination existed for many years. The Irish and the Italians had their feuds, but their common bond of Catholicism made for temporary truces. The Syrians, the Greeks and Lebanese maintained a cloistered existence in their own territory. The other ethnic groups, the Scotch-Irish, English and Welsh, tolerated the newcomers as necessary in the fusion process of the new America.

From this maelstrom of heterogeneous humanity somehow emerged cross-sections of American citizenry. Among these were included a governor, a mayor, judges, physicians, lawyers, politicians, bankers, pharmacists, security officers, morticians, architects, men of the cloth and businessmen of all types.

Memory at its best is fickle, but I have attempted to recollect names and places which have ties with the original Hill. Also I have tried to locate these in their appropriate categories.

Copping the top place as First Citizen of the Hill is David L. Lawrence, once Mayor of Pittsburgh, Governor of Pennsylvania, a national political figure and foremost in the recent renaissance of this city. Born at the Point, he early moved to Manilla Street on the Hill. There he attended a local parochial school, then business college, next became secretary to Billy Brennan, leader of the then rather lackadaisical Democratic Party. Lawrence started at the political bottom and, as he later attained local and national prestige, he never forgot his original habitat, and was proud of his early associations.

Among the attorneys, I recollect the following: Louis Little, the Aronsons, Harry I. Miller, Richard Martin, Ben Diamond, Harold Obernauer, David and Peter Glick, Charles Sachs, J. I. Simon, Leonard S. Levine, Edward Pearlman, Louis Caplan, Richard and Ernest Nassau, Oscar Friedman, Maurice Wheeler, Robert Semenow, Everett Utterback, Robert Salera, Assistant City Solicitor Randolph, J. D. Golding, Emanuel Amdur, Abe R. Cohen, Benjamin Crone, Abe Kaufman, Richard F. Jones, Emanuel Goldberg, Ben Paul Brasley, Harry Rubin, Marcus Wedner, Mayer Sniderman, Herman Lipsitz,


Churches and Clergymen: The Epiphany Church, Father Lawrence A. O'Connell; Holy Trinity, Center and Crawford Street; Saint Bridget's Church, Enoch Street; Saint Peter's Church, Chatham Street, and Saint Richard's, upper Bedford Avenue. Negro churches at Elm and Wylie and on Kirkpatrick Street. German Lutheran Church, Grant and Strawberry Alley. Protestant churches on Pride and Overhill Streets. Bible Institute, Wylie and Congress Street. Synagogues on Franklin, Townsend, Washington, Crawford, Miller and Roberts Streets. Rabbis were Sivitz, Ashinsky, B. Lichter, Leiter, Martin, Kochin and Bloom. Saint Nicholas Greek Catholic Church, Fulton Street.

Architects: H. Rubin, Meyer VeShancey, Hymen Rosenberg.
ATHLETICS


Boxing, both amateur and professional, was popular on the Hill. Success in amateur circles was a stepping-stone to the paying ranks of professionals. Boxing arenas on the Hill consisted of Turner Hall, Labor Temple, Pittsburgh Lyceum, Continental Hall and Bedford Roller Rink. For more pretentious and roomy halls, there was easy access to Old City Hall, Moose Temple, Duquesne Garden and Motor Square Garden. Barney Hershman, Young Britt, "Boots" Donnelly, Young Goldie, Johnny Ray, Young Eppy, Young Bijou, Patsy Scanlon, Buck Crouse, "Red" Mason, "Kid" Cotton, Phil Goldstein, Ned Chernoff, "Red" Chapman, Bill Sutton (trainer for heavyweight champion Jack Johnson), Vic Borg, M. Tynman, Young Smithy, "Kid" Brooks, Jackie Fromme, Nate Darling, Jackie Lightning.

Track: Everett Utterback, Meyer Coon, Dr. Shehan, "Boo Boo" Rosenthal, Jake Frishman, Ben Raphael, Emanuel Friedberg, Gerald
Allen, Maurice Randolph, Roy Anderson, J. Levinson, John Wesley, Carter Robinson, James Krasnow, Frank Rettinger.

**WORLD OF AmUSEMENT**

**Actors:** Adolphe Menjou, Elm Street; Dorothy Raymond (Rubenstein), Maurice and Dolores Costello, Chatham Street; J. Schonfeld, Broadway; Joseph Goldman, magician.

**Music:** Lena Horne, Wylie Avenue; Hazel Scott, former wife of Adam Clayton Powell; Danny Nirella, Billy Eckstein, Jackie Heller, band leader; Harry Hoffman, Rubinoff, Peter Golden (radio), the Levants (Oscar, actor and pianist; Ben, pianist; Howard, violinist; Harry, stage conductor); William Miller, operatic tenor; Morris Brown, boy tenor; Sammy Stept, Anna Laufe Perlow, Earl Hines, Lou Kramer, the Shapiro String Quartet, Lou Robbins, Red Plato, I. Pochapin, Lou Feldman, Max Pochapin, Mary and Frances Gould, Walter Daniels, Sapirstein (pianist), Dave Browdy.

**Management:** Joe Hiller, Ben Kalmenson and Harry Kalmine of Warner Brothers; Roger McKelvey, Mark Browar, Al Mercur, Abe Snitzer (Hollywood), Lou Snitzer, playwright Allen Davis, Milton and George Jaffe.

**NEWS MEDIA**


**Circulation:** Max Silverblatt, Finney, B. Moidel, Sol Morris, Max Rosenberg, Johnny and Dan Coffey, Gypsy Berman, S. Yorkin, author and printer; J. Levy, New York City journalist; Sam Kelsky, Saul Venig.

**PROFESSIONAL and BUSINESS Men**

**Bankers:** Emanuel Dym, Max Perlman, M. A. Cancellieri, M. B. Gefsky, H. Rogal, I. Marmins.

**Morticians:** Schugar, West, Garback, Blank, Brusco, McCabe, Brickley, McTurner.


Restaurants: Dining out on the Hill was not popular, possibly because of the keen competition of home cooking. Lunch and late snacks kept the eateries busy. Over-the-table discussions often were pithy and fervent. Occasional wandering troubadours would entertain patrons with songs reminiscent of the old countries. A notable character was Moxie, fully attired summer and winter with full-dress regalia, complete with silk high hat. His high tenor voice, almost soprano, was much enjoyed and drew frequent encores. Fifth Avenue offered: Al Rice, Richest, Reichbaum’s, Caplan’s, Weinstein’s, Canter’s, Klein’s, Meyers, Wolfson. Center Avenue: Ludin’s, Gold’s, Samie’s Steak House. Webster Avenue: Napol’s, Napoli’s, Sparano’s, Samreny. Fulton Street: Sofi’s. Logan Street: Wolley’s. Wylie Avenue: Gus Greenlee’s and the Chicago Restaurant.

Businessmen: There were numerous small workshops where Pittsburgh stogies were manufactured. For newly arrived immigrants lacking manual skills, stogie-making helped to fill temporary financial gaps.

Department Stores: Frank, Seder, Benny Nieman, Wolf’s. Clothing: Louis Gordon, Morry Goldman, Al Berk, Goorin and Shapiro, Jacob Wolk, Finkelhor. Grocers and Meats: Caplan, Frishman, McQuillan, Slutzky, Sable’s, Lichter’s, Reichbaum’s, Gelman’s, Balter’s, Berman, Stein, Rapaport, Wheeler, Sunseri, Battaglia, Descalzi, Adler’s, Mate’s, Lutz.

Bakers: Caplan, Horvitz, Grauer, Nathan’s, Lou Mallet, Schbotler’s.

Public Baths: Kalson, Daniel, Horvitz, Arena.


Insurance: Saul Perlman, Louis Wechsler, Max and Hymen Rogal, Morris Hoffman.

Haberdashers: Friedman, Frishman, Kleinberg, Crowley, Wolf,
Fireman, Levinson, Supovitz, Glick's, Volkovitz, James Cohen, Charles Loewner.

Soft Drinks: Segal, Roberts Street; Solomon, Clark Street.
Electric Appliances, etc.: Raphael, Diodati, Isadore Perlman, Edward Kelsky, Herman and Wally Siegel.
Veterinarian: Dr. Gratz.
Ladies Hair Dressing: Proctor's, Fifth Avenue.
Greek Oriental Candies: Cappa's, Chatham Street.
Podiatrists: N. A. Lindenberg, Hymen Persky.
Leather Goods: Max Kleber, Leo Ferber, Tauber.
Public Accountants: Max R. Sperling, Josh Cohen, Sam Horvitz.
Roofing: Talenfeld, Heffner, Klein.
Real Estate: Sam Wesoky, Sachs, Saman, Harris, Steinberg, Gold, Aronsons, Max Lapiduss, Talenfeld.
Hardware: J. A. and Ike Williams, Maurice Golomb.
Plumbers: Korn, Larkins.
Tobacco Dealers: Harry and Nathan Rice, Abe Goldbloom, Zugschmidt, Jake Ostrosky, Louis Goldman, Jacob Glass, Al Finn, Hyman Shapiro, S. Krause, Jacob Bloom, Miller, Ruben, Horvitz.
Miscellaneous: Dr. Alexander Silverman, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Pittsburgh; William Sydney Porter, famous short story writer under the pen name, O. Henry (1862-1910).

In the presence of poor to mediocre housing, and the conglomeration of polylingual immigrants and first-generation Americans, one can accurately conclude that the Hill was not a Utopian community. However, the vast majority of the early Hill residents made good in their respective spheres. A minority stayed at the bottom rung of life's ladder. Of these latter were gamblers, hoodlums, a few jailbirds, panderers, ne'er-do-wells, narcotic dealers and numbers runners. It took real American pioneering spirit to rise above the obstacle courses of the Hill and to emerge unscathed morally and physically.

For the most part, the inhabitants of the Hill in the early twentieth century left behind a worthy heritage, which could serve as an inspiration to the present residents of the Hill.