

being located on No. Martine, Dr. Osher's home and offices were at the corner of Russell Rd. and North Ave. There was also Dr. William McGinn, in Scotch Plains, a tall, grey-haired man who also served as the school physician, and has later had a school named for him.

Transportation was chancy, especially during the war. We depended largely on the #47 bus (later called #45) which ran east and west on South Ave., and which you could take to Plainfield or to Westfield (our usual destinations). Strangely, though Plainfield was 3 miles away, it cost but a nickel; whereas, Westfield, just 2 miles away, cost a dime! You gave the driver your money when you boarded and he gave you a small, square ticket which you yielded to him when you "de-bused". The buses, initially, were huge red-and-cream-colored behemoths with large truck-like grilles and scratchy plush seats. It was said that they had been formerly used as "Atlantic City buses". They were later replaced with more modern and streamlined grey and white conveyances.

Both Plainfield and Westfield were shopping meccas in those days.....wonderful stores like Tepper's and Rosenbaum's, PLUS, four, count 'em, FOUR, movie theatres in Plainfield from which you could choose. There were the Strand, glittering on a Saturday night, the Paramount, the Oxford, and the Liberty! Pure heaven! In Westfield, in addition to some equally fine stores, we had the Rialto Theatre which was frequently attended. The buses were therefore much used.

Many times, as high school girls, my friends and I would hop a #47 right after school, purchase maybe a new lipstick, or a record, or get our loafers shined, then come right back on the next bus, having spent a really fun but not costly, afternoon hour or so.

Often among our purchases, especially at the Fanwood corner store, would be "songsheets" which were very popular then. They carried the words to all the current songs, and we learned many, many of them, just through the songsheets. During the war, that included patriotic songs like, "The Caissons Go Rolling Along" (the Artillery's official song), or "The Marine's Hymn", etc. It was wonderful to learn all the words to those and others of your popular favorites, most of which are still recalled to this day. It was, without our even realizing it, very effective memory training. I don't believe these songsheets exist any longer. I remember my favorite "song of songs" was "God Bless America". I still love it!

For a period of time during the 40's, there was a music shop on South Ave., just down from the corner store, run by an Earl Gardner. It was heaven