

A WALK THROUGH GREENFIELD

No one, not even the KKK, was going to scare Greenfield's immigrants from their new homes. They were here to stay, working in the mills or setting up shops to serve the millworkers and their families. The Avenue became a bustling shopping district, with tiny delicatessens and candy stores scattered about the surrounding streets. Let's take an imaginary walk up Greenfield Avenue in this day and time. We'll start at the railroad trestle in The Run.

Now if you stand at the railroad trestle looking up Greenfield Avenue and turn to your right to head down Irvine Street, about a mile along, you would come to Hazelwood's bustling business district. We'd be heading there if we were getting ready for a holiday supper.

If we wanted something very, very special in the way of food, we went to Hazelwood where you could buy a live chicken. They would tie the legs together and put it on the scale—sometimes the darn thing fluttered off and landed down on the floor. You could take it home and kill it yourself, or you could have the butcher kill it. Then you poured boiling water over it so the feathers would come out easier.

But for everyday shopping, we'll head up the hill along Greenfield Avenue. There are shops and stores all along the way, and when you get to the top of the hill, the stretch of road where it levels off holds the main business district.

Right now, let's walk up The Avenue, starting our tour in The Run. On the left, across from the First Baptist Church, are Mr. Ponteri's barber shop, Dunay's drugstore and Doelfel's candy store. You might be surprised to know that Mr. Doelfel, who is blind, can always give you the right change.

Up a little farther is the Second Avenue Ten Cent Building and Loan, across the street from the B&O Railroad field office.

My mother and dad built a home, and I used to have to go down The Run to the building and loan to pay the mortgage.

Next to the building and loan is Mr. Kleppick's laundry and Carmen Milto's shoe repair shop. Across from that is the iceman and Liska's grocery.

A little farther up the hill is Twigg's jewelers and Yalch's drugstore. Cisar's candy store is next to Gratton's grocery.