

BASEBALL AND PENNY CANDY By Merle Eaton Dustin, Holten High School '42

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When I was about five years old, my family moved to a new home on Lane Parkway. As you know, this is a short road that runs between Park St. and Conant St. opposite the entrance to the baseball field at Plains Park. At the time, ours was the only house, although after a few years, a family named Doherty built a home on the Park St. side and the Keenans built on the Conant St. side.

The park was a busy place for baseball in the summer. The twilight league played ball here, and as long as the daylight lasted, the game went on. We kids would go into the park when dusk caused the games to end and as the adults and older children were leaving. Then we went directly under the bleachers and scoured the area for the spare change that had been carelessly dropped by the fans. The next day, with treasure in hand, we walked to Russell's store at the intersection of Conant and Franklin Streets to select our penny candy.