

MRS. COGSWELL DONATES GROUND FOR SCHOOL BLDG.

Mr. John R. Dyke Calls on Citizens of South St. Clair for Their Aid Toward Erecting a Stone Building.

The heavier the burden the greater the reward.

To the people of South St. Clair County, Greeting:

We, the Board of Education, of St. Clair County have located the ground upon which to build the High School for South St. Clair County. Now to get this school your representative had to pledge that we would furnish the ground on which to erect the building and play ground to the amount of five acres, which is the amount the State requires for accredited high schools.

Mrs. Sumter Cogswell has come to our relief and donated a beautiful plot of land containing the required five acres. Now it is up to the citizens of South St. Clair County to erect the building which is to be of stone.

Now it will cost 50 or 65 thousand dollars to complete this building. We have to get up half of this money and I will be to see you in a few days to solicit your donations to be used in the erection of this high school building.

We are going to try to erect a building that will be a credit to the people of South St. Clair County, and that will show to the world at large that we believe in an educated people and one that future generations can point to with pride and feel proud that their ancestors erected this building to which they can come and seek knowledge that they cannot be robbed of.

We hope and trust that the teachers in this institution will take pride in teaching all children put in their care. Honesty and Efficiency, Honest of heart, honest of purpose, honest of words and honest of action with the wisdom of industry will produce an intelligent and an efficient people.

Now we hope to see this little plant bring forth good fruit in every nook and corner of South St. Clair County.

Now we aim to visit every home in the southern part of the county and give each and every one an equal opportunity to help on this school building. It is our intention, and our right for future generations to know who gave them this building and grounds. Consequencely, each person's name and the amount he donates will be registered on a book and when the building is completed it will be published in The Pell City News showing who donated to this great cause.

Now, hoping that one and all will join in and say, "I will help," and when everyone pulls together it makes the wagon go. Look for me, I will be there.

Your humble servant,

John R. Dyke.

The present
Pell City High School
Today - March 1989



Pell City High School + Grammar School

Pell City Is One Of Alabama To

COMMUNITY NOW PUSHING FORWARD

It Is One Of Best In State, Both In Social And Industrial Way.

BY FRANK WILLIS BARNETT, Staff Correspondent, The Birmingham News.

PELL CITY is one of the towns which came into existence when the eye of outside capital began to look towards Alabama for investment. It is not as old as Anniston, Birmingham, Ensley, Bessemer and some of the other manufacturing cities, but stands out as having been born in the new era of the South's development.



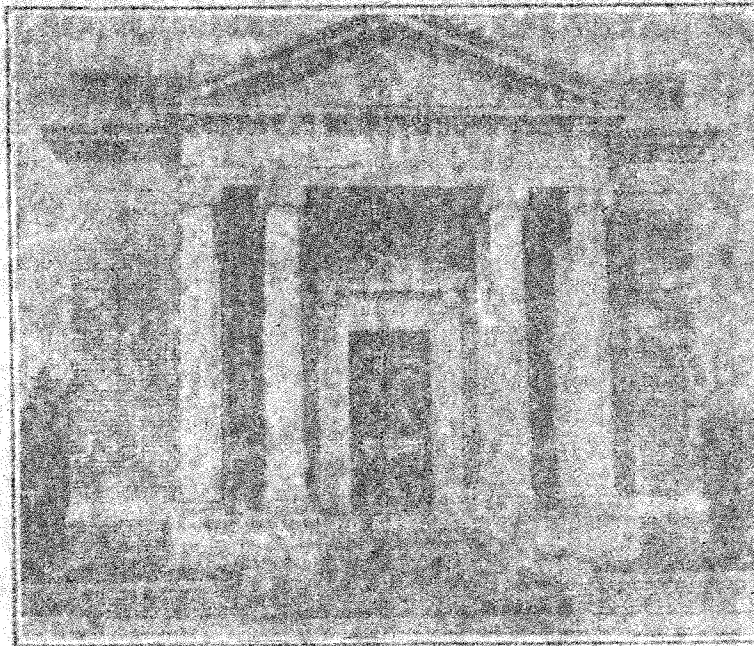
In 1891 the town site was acquired by the Pell City Iron & Land Company, and a charter under the general laws obtained in 1902, but the panic of 1907, which slowed down business all over F. W. BARNETT, the United States, stopped its development for awhile. It was named in 1896 for George H. Pell, of New England, the original promoter, who came in 1889.

It is an industrial town in St. Clair County, now firmly established, and has a bright future before it, as its citizens are wide awake to the opportunities and showing the right public spirit to make it what its promoters fondly hope it would be a veritable hive of industry.

The original settlers of the locality were Green G. Evans, John Truett, Martin Haskewood and Abney Lacy, but none of the quartet or any of their neighbors had visioned a community like Pell City until it was sprung on them from the outside. Men laugh at promoters as visionaries and yet the world owes them a debt of gratitude for the industrial seed of the day has in his blood something of the daring of the adventurers of old.

The pioneers of old in their quest of gold took many chances and in their greed brought ruin upon many, but always there was the risk of paying for their greed with their lives. There by promoters, twentieth century mechanics, who lay traps for unwary investors, but with the "blue sky" laws they have a good chance of spending a season in jail. However, because there are promoters who are not on the square is no reason to think that none are on the level.

The men who came to Alabama, or living here, risked their money and gave their time to developing its natural resources, opening mines, building mills, starting furnaces, out of which towns and cities grew, will live as benefactors, even though they may have adventured into business with a view to profit. The real financial prophet has a right to take a profit out of his forecasting.



FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF PELL CITY

the county, the indications are quite extensive.

De Soto found the country opposite banks of the Coosa River quite thickly settled when he visited Coosa in 1540, and it is very reasonable to suppose that these settlements extended west. A town of the Cherokees was located some 25 miles northeast of Brown's villages in Marshall County, but little is known of it. This much has been sketched to give the proper background for the coming of the white settlers, who came into the Indian haunts nearly three centuries after the Spaniards had at least skirted it.

Mention has been made of some who came in 1815, but the influx of settlers greatly increased in 1818, and many permanent homes were made in what later became Shelby County. Settlers from Madison County traveled down the old Indian trail which led from Dora, leading to New Town on the Chatahoochee, while East Tennesseans came down the Tennessee River in flat boats, landed at Deposit or Genter's Landing, and thence made their way overland to their place of settlement.

The Georgians and Carolinians reached the Creek session on the Coosa by crossing the Chatahoochee at the Upper Shallow Ford, passing through Rome, Ga., crossing Will's Creek near Bennettsville, and thence skirting the east side of the mountains. To show the rapid way in which the district was settled up it is only necessary to point out that by 1818 the first session of the Alabama Territorial Legislature found it necessary to create 12 new counties. The Territory of Alabama increased in population to such an extent that Congress authorized the people to form a state constitution. A convention was called which convened at Huntsville on July 5, 1819, and St. Clair sent David Connor as its elected representative to sit with the body. This was his first touch with the outside world through one of its sons, but from that time until the present it has been sending out great men to sit in the councils of the state as well as the nation.

Arthur St. Clair.

Mention was made of Arthur St. Clair.

The aldermen are U. C. Martin, Sumner Cogswell, E. W. Webb, N. R. Shockley and J. L. Rugland.

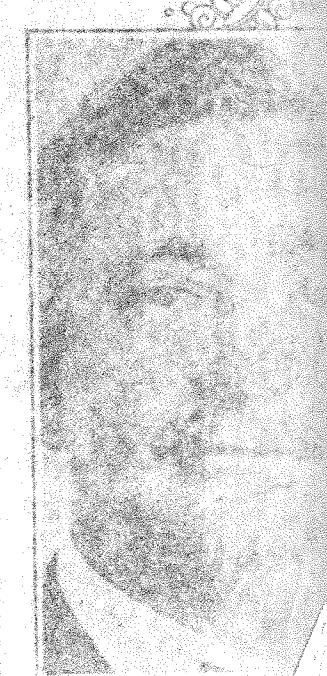
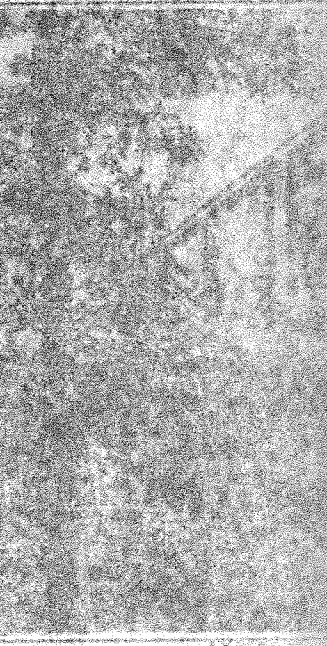
Fraternal Activities.

St. Clair County is well organized from a Masonic standpoint, having lodges at Asaeville, Springville, Tagland, Moody, Otensville and Pell City. The one at the latter is named in honor of a Birmingham citizen, who justly deserves the tribute, as he has been for years a faithful Mason. It is called Ben M. Jacobs Lodge No. 644. The officers are J. V. Davis, worshipful master, J. P. Edmond, senior warden, J. F. Miller, junior warden, L. D. McSwain, senior deacon, E. B. Griffin, junior deacon, O. L. Eckwizel, secretary, U. C. Martin, treasurer, and J. W. Keller, tabler. Communication first and third Thursday in each month.

Pell City Lodge No. 236 Knights of Pythias is officered as follows: W. T. Starns, chancellor, commander, E. B. Griffin, vice chancellor, commander, B. A. McBrier, president, Fred Lawler, master at arms, U. C. Martin, master of exchequer, J. L. Rugland, keeper of records and seal and master of finance, M. L. Nelson, master of works, H. G. Alexander, inside guardian, and J. W. Keller, outside guardian. A committee composed of U. C. Martin, chairman, W. T. Starns and J. L. Rugland is co-operating with one from the Chamber of Commerce in an effort to locate the State Pythian Home at Pell City.

Churches.

Pell City had not long been founded before the Baptists and the Methodists and the Episcopalians began to be organized for sites for churches. It need not be recorded, however, that the first preacher to get a footing in the town was the late Rev. A. E. Burns, one of the most beloved Baptist preachers in the state. He is the father of Dr. P. B. Burns, the brilliant English scholar at Howard, whose recent address at the Tutwiler on "Evans in Perspective" before the Evans League made such a hit. The Baptists built in 1902 the church members of the Pell City Baptist Church being Mrs. John Cameron and Miss Martha Cameron, Mrs. B. A. Fife and returned, provided, Miss Miss Nell Fife, Mrs. and Mrs. G. A. Cornett, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Kline and Mrs. Dixie Kline, Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Williamson.



SUMNER COGSWELL

ted in" and at last it was made but later granted to find... "I shut up the little... warden" after several... turned to him and said... "Do you know about... eyes brightened as he... know all about the... story... "King" was the reply... let me use four... Yes," he shot back... through a window at... and get my exercise... Several of the kids... along with him and... returned, provided, Miss... accept in the writer's... of the land... Williamson...

Class of Nineteen Twenty-seven
Kell City High School
Graduation Exercises
Friday evening, May twenty-seventh
High School Auditorium

Class Colors
Pink and Lavender

Class Flower
Sweet Pea

Class Motto
Follow the Gleam

Class Roll

Alta E. Bain	Mary Ruth Martin
Lucille Elizabeth Burns	Evelyn Elizabeth Pearson
Anna Ekwurzel	James Lee Ragland, Jr.
Rose Shirley Garry	Emma Saultter
Alfred Fay Graves	Elette Shurbet
James Vester Gray	Sara Elizabeth Smith
Nellie Lucille Hamilton	Mary Ossylean Stewart
Amy Odell Jones	Elizabeth Neff VanDevander
Madeline Elizabeth Martin	James Barnes Walker
James E. Willingham	

Montgomery, J. Manly Inzer

The plan of escort and parade committee for Centennial and Unveiling of the Monument at Ashville on April 26, is that all school children, veterans, veteran's widows, and daughters take part. Promptly at 10:30, the parade will be formed in extreme eastern portion of the town going to cemetery where wreaths will be placed on graves of each deceased veteran. All daughters are urged if possible, to wear white. Arrangements have been made at each hotel for a rest room to suit the comfort and accommodation of all the public.

The entertainment committee, wishes to announce that lunch will be served by Chapter Hostesses to all visiting daughters, veterans, veteran's widows, and speakers, while the cafes and hotels of the town will be prepared to furnish food at nominal price.

R. F. D. No. 2.

**ASHVILLE. ALABAMA
MONUMENT UNVEILING
AND CENTENNIAL PUB-
LICITY COMMITTEE AT
WORK**

Beginning April 3rd, the Con-
federate Monument Unveiling
Centennial and Home Coming
Publicity Committee, with (Mrs)
Harriette Young Prickett as
Chairman, is beginning their
Publicity work in earnest. Their
posters and invitations are being
sent out. Posters to be used in
the County, while the invitations
are intended to be sent to St.
Clair Countians and friends who
reside elsewhere. Any one in
the County desiring some of these
invitations to mail, may obtain
same by communicating with the
Chairman of this Committee.

We especially desire Veterans
and Veteran's Widows, to be our
guest, on this day, and if for lack
of transportation you do not anti-
cipate attending, and if at a nor-
mal cost you can secure same,
and will notify Chairman of Pub-
licity Committee, we will bear
cost.

GARD OF THANKS

Mayer & Jones Department Store
1923 - 1974 - 51 years of operation

Peggy Pruett (Thompson)

Evelyn Davis

Virginia Nelson Burkacek

L.J. (Red) Hennings (deceased)

Essie Lovell (Sorett)

Tom Lovell (deceased)

Louise C. Smith

Laurel C. Starnes

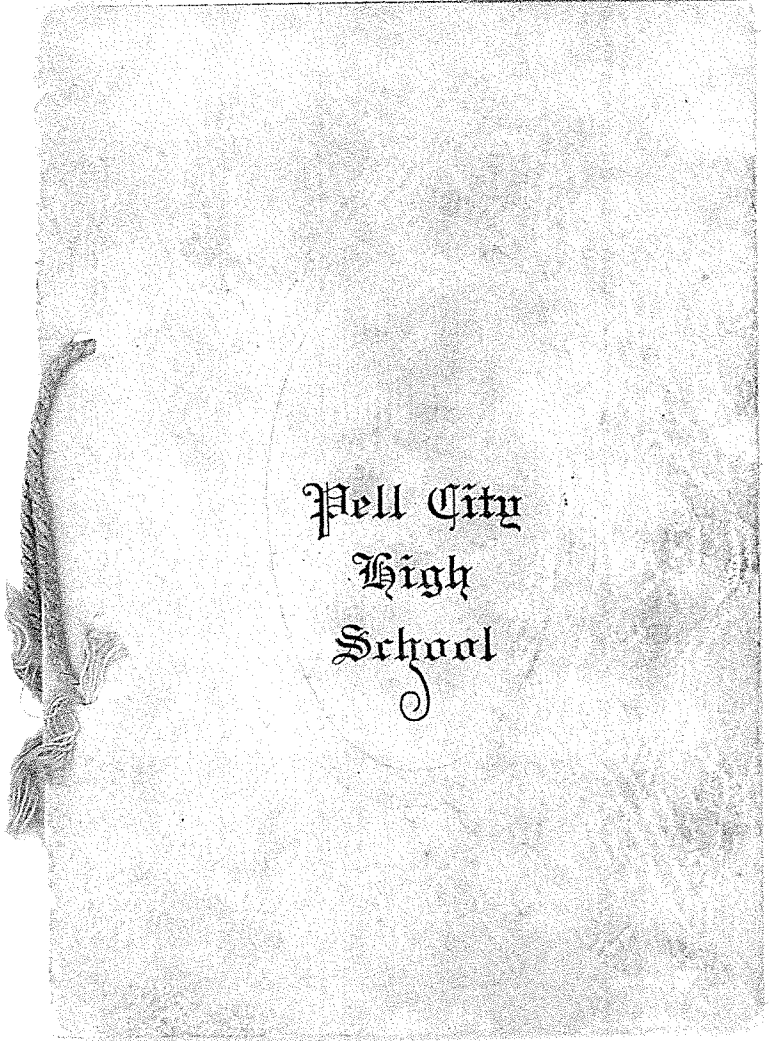
Florence O. Compton

Nettie D. Corbett (deceased)

Jessie B. Hall Smith

Blair Jones (deceased)

J. Warner Hammett (deceased)

The image shows the front cover of a book. The cover is a light, textured color, possibly silver or light grey. On the left side, there is a decorative tassel. In the center, the text "Bell City High School" is embossed in a gothic-style font. The text is arranged in three lines: "Bell City" on the top line, "High" on the middle line, and "School" on the bottom line. The "S" in "School" has a decorative flourish at its base.

Bell City
High
School

V. Edwards

The Faculty and Senior Class
of
Pell City High School

invite you to their

Graduation Exercises

Wednesday evening, May nineteenth

Nineteen hundred twenty-six

High School Auditorium

eight o'clock

Class Roll

John Robert Dyke, Jr.	Irene Carreker
Ralph Patrick Renegar	Laura B. Willingham
Hugh Teague Lonergan	Vida Belle Vaughan
Alpha H. Walker	Robert Newman Walker
Alfred Gaston Starnes	Sara Elizabeth Crump
Jessie Carolyn Williamson	Annie Rebecca Yarbrough
Edith Irene Love	Rebecca Elizabeth Watson
Mildred Devore Huggins	Charles Ross Fay, Jr.
Vivian Ruth Ginn	Mavis E. Ingram
Kate E. Savage	Jimmie Sue Shockley

CLASS COLOR— *Crimson and White*

CLASS FLOWER—*Rose*

MOTTO—*What we are to be, we are now becoming*

PROGRAM

PELL CITY HIGH SCHOOL

Pell City, Alabama

"The Arrival of Kitty"

A Farce in Three Acts

PRESENTED BY THE SENIOR CLASS

Wednesday Evening, May 23, 1928

8:00 o'Clock



CAST OF CHARACTERS

William Winkler	GASTON COOKE
Aunt Jane, his sister	EVA SINGLETON
Jane, his niece	ANNIE LOU STONE
Bobbie Baxter	LEONARD GRAVES
Benjamin More	GORDON FOWLER
Ting, a bell boy	CECIL LONERGAN
Sam, a colored porter	DEWIN TRUITT
Kittie, an actress	BETTY EATMAN
Suzette, aunt Jane's maid	LOUISE BRAMLETT

SCENE—The office of the Haleyon House in the Catskill Mountains.
TIME—One day last August.

Act I.—Late morning.
Act II.—Early afternoon.
Act III.—Almost Evening.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES
PELL CITY HIGH SCHOOL
May 19-24, 1929

Baccalaureate Sermon, 11:00 A.M., Sunday, May 19th.
Awakening Chorus.....Choir
Invocation.....Rev. C. L. Ellis
"Holy, Holy, Holy," No. 31.....Congregation
In the Garden.....Senior Class
Duet, "Day of Redemption".....
Miss Annie Lou Stone and Mr. Dewin Truitt, Senior Class
Announcements.....Mr. Black
Scripture Reading and Sermon.....Dr. L. O. Dawson
"Come Thou, Almighty King," No. 32.....Congregation
Benediction.....Rev. C. L. Ellis

Musical Review
"MARRYING MARION"
Monday, May 20th, 8:00 P.M.

Scene: Living room of Hillendale Seminary.

Cast of Characters

Simpson, a supposed butler.....Charles Ragland
Miss Prudence McWhiffle, an elderly teacher.....Miss Grace Kirksey
Marion Stanton, a popular student.....Miss Christine Graham
Ruth Ripley, Marion's roommate.....Miss Ruth Mize
Dr. Henry Bohunkus, head of the Hillendale Seminary.....Elzy Simms
Mrs. Henry Bohunkus, by far the better half.....Miss Irene Honeycutt
Charles S. Smith, a prof. by proxy.....James Ragland
Cicero Socrates Smith, a janitor by necessity.....Mr. E. F. Young
Chorus—Bobbie Jones, Katherine and Martha Willingham, Dixie Ann Jones,
Emily Ruth Garry, Estelle Love, Louise Lonnergau, Christine Willing-
ham, Mary Ellis, Emma Jean Griffin, Eunice Steed, Edna Davis, Vera
Lovell, Louise Bramlett, Mattie Pearl Lawley, Jennie Mae Honeycutt,
Juanita Walker, Mildred Evans, Mary Frances Walker, Mary Edmunds,
Anna Bell Stewart, Mattie Lee Truitt, Lovis Lovell, Lola Mae Hoyle,
Vivian Masters, Bernice Bell, Emma Frances Inzer, Christine Freeman,
Arveilla Singleton, Birdie Mae Polk, Sadie Zackie, Emma Sue Lovell.

Admission: 25 Cents and 35 Cents

Senior Class Play
"CYCLONE SALLY"
Wednesday, May 22nd, 8:00 P.M.

Cast of Characters

Jack Webster, owner of the Webster estate.....Gordon Fowler
Reggie Manners, a young Englishman.....Dewin Truitt
Jim Jerkins, courted for 20 years but not yet discovered.....Elzy Simms
Willie Clump, Sue Bascom's beau and the world's eighth wonder.....Fred Dycus
Sally Graham, Cyclone Sally.....Louise Bramlett
Jenny Thatcher, object of Jim's persistence.....Edna Davis
Ruth Thatcher, a peach Reggie would like to pick.....Mary Meehan
Effie Varden, a cute little neighbor.....Vera Lovell
Vivian Vernon, the belle of Cedar Point.....Eva Singleton
Scene: Living room on the Webster estate, near the town of Cedar Point.
Time: The present, early fall.

Admission: 25 Cents and 35 Cents

SENIOR CLASS NIGHT, MAY 23rd, 1929, 8:00 P.M.

Welcome Address, Salutorian.....Jennie Mae Honeycutt
School Song.....Senior Class
Class History, Class Historian.....Fred Dycus
Class Prophecy, Class Prophet.....Laney Butterworth
Quartette, "Bells of Saint Mary's".....Senior Boys
Class Poem, Class Poet.....Eunice Steed
Solo, "The Flatterer" (Chaminade).....Jennie Mae Honeycutt
Last Will.....Louie Payne
Awarding of Gifts.....Gordon Fowler
Valedictorian's Address.....Gordon Fowler
Class Song.....Senior Class

FINAL EXERCISES, May 24th, 8:00 P.M.

Class Song.....Senior Class
Introduction of Speaker.....
Address.....Prof. P. W. Hodges
Duet, "Light Cavalry" (Von Suppe).....
Mattie Pearl Lawley and Jennie Mae Honeycutt
Awarding of Medals.....
Issuance of Diplomas.....W. H. Black

"Wonderful Play"

PROGRAM

PELL CITY HIGH SCHOOL

Pell City, Alabama

"The Dear Boy Graduates"

A Comedy in Three Acts

FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 18, 1928

8:00 O'CLOCK

Coach young as "The Dear Boy"



CAST OF CHARACTERS

Clyde Walker, the Dear Boy.....	SAMMIE FOWLER
Genevieve Walker, his elder sister.....	EDNA DAVIS
Mamie Walker, his little sister.....	MARY ELLIS
Carolyn Walker, his mother.....	JESSIE MAE CALDWELL
Grandma Walker, his grandmother.....	VERA LOVELL
Mrs. Mary Milton, an aunt.....	MILDRED DAVIS
Helen Milton, his country cousin.....	EVA JANE GAINES
Mrs. Martha Westfield, an aunt.....	ELEANOR STUCKEY
Leona Westfield, his city cousin.....	HELEN DYKE
Bessie Moore.....	MATTIE LEE TRUITT
Jerusha Walker, an old maid aunt.....	GLADYS WALKER
Tom Leonard.....	JOHN L. LONERGAN
Dick Reed.....	FAY LOVE
Harry Duff.....	HOMER SINGLETON
Prof. Edwin Young.....	J. W. SMITH
Prof. Black.....	CHARLES RAGLAND

Handwritten initials or signature.



HERE'S HOW THE WELL-DRESSED GRADUATE LOOKED
... Back In 1920, That Is

Pictured above are members of the Class of 1920, Cropwell High School, which held a reunion last week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Gray, Sr., in Pell City. From left to right, they are: Sally Boley Goodwin, Elizabeth Knight, Scott, Mary Mays, Annie Scott Stephens, Addie Scott Gray, and Ethel Boley Morris.

Class Of '20 Reunites —All Six Of Them

CLASS REUNION —

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

all the members are related by pairs. Elizabeth Knight, who later became a sister-in-law of the Scott girls, is a first cousin of Mary Mays; Addie and Annie Scott are sisters; Sallie and Ethel Boley are aunt and niece.

All were present for the reunion, along with Mr. and Mrs. Roy Gibson. Other invited guests, who were also Cropwell graduates, were Mrs. Millard Lawley, Mrs. Leonard Scott and Mrs. Cecil Gray, Jr.

The Cropwell High School graduating Class of 1920 — all six of them — got together recently for a brief but enjoyable reunion with one of its members, Mrs. Addie S. Gray, at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Gray, Jr.

The six ladies, shown above in their graduation picture, met on the birthday of one of the members, Mrs. O. B. Morris of Riverside, and spent an enjoyable two hours reminiscing and looking at school pictures which their former teacher, Mr. Roy Gibson, brought along for the occasion.

There are several remarkable aspects about the class which graduated 48 years ago, perhaps the most notable being that all six and their teacher are still living and active in public affairs.

For instance, four of the six taught school, and one is still teaching. All acquired third grade teachers' certificates after they had finished the eighth grade at Cropwell.

THEY WERE taught a variety of subjects by one teacher — Mr. Gibson — including English, Grammar, Arithmetic, Agriculture, Health, Spelling, Reading, Geography, Alabama and United States History; first year Latin, Cicero, Caesar,

Algebra, Plane and Solid Geometry, Rhetoric; Ancient, Medieval and Modern History and History of England; the works of Shakespeare and Dickens and other English writers and Literature.

All members of the class attended college. Two, Miss Mary Mays and Mrs. Elizabeth Knight Scott, went to Judson College. Miss Mays, after graduating from Judson, attended Randolph Macon College in Virginia later became a buyer for a large Baltimore firm.

Three attended Florence State Normal School. They were Mrs. Ethel Boley Morris, Mrs. Annie Scott Stephens and Mrs. Addie Scott Gray. Mrs. Stephens, then Miss Annie Scott, graduated from there, later taught in various counties throughout the state. She is now employed as bookkeeper at Pell City Rexall Drug Co.

Mrs. Addie Gray reared a family of three and, after 40 years, graduated from Alabama College with a major in Social Science and a minor in English. She is now teaching third grade at Iola Roberts School.

THE OTHER members of the class are homemakers. Another unique aspect is that

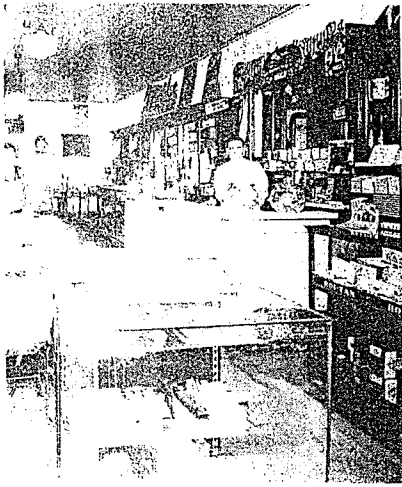
Cont'd To Back Page

FIRST SECTION

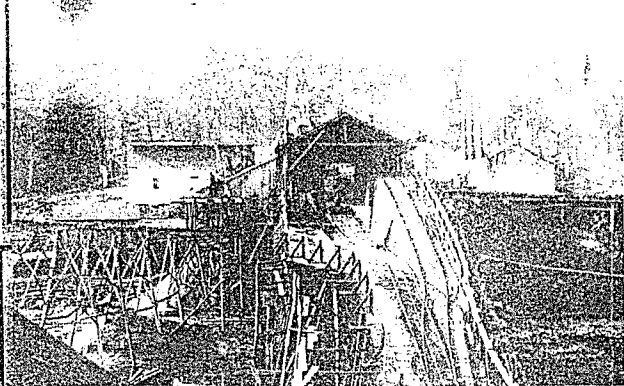


ASHVILLE COTTON GIN—Continental Cotton Gin in Birmingham made this picture circa 1920 of a modern gin and used it in their international

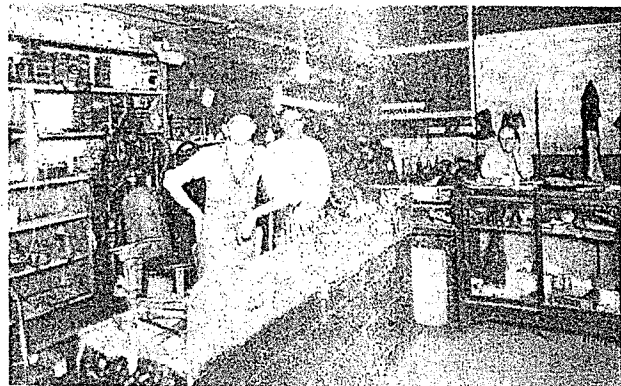
magazine. The cotton gin in Ashville was located where Ashville Park is now. The two men standing in the cotton are U.H. Prickett and Sam High.



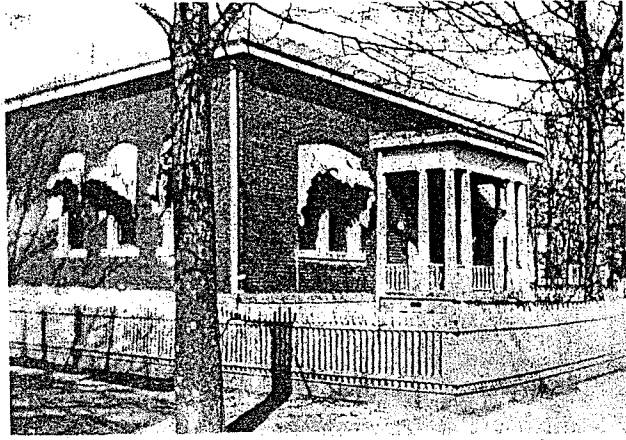
SPRINGVILLE DRUG STORE—Mrs. Otis Laster and Mr. Lee Laster are pictured inside Springville Drug Store. Time era of the picture is unknown.



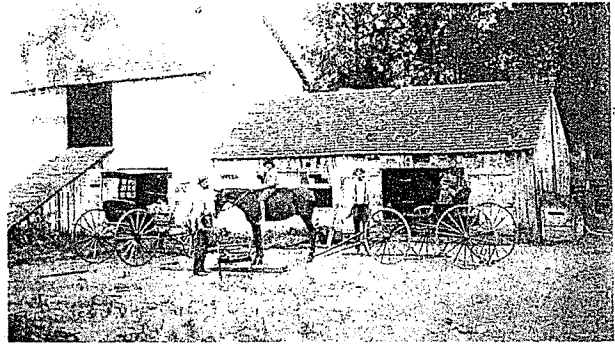
MARGARET MINE—The coal mining industry in St. Clair County was very a very important part of our history. This picture of the Margaret Coal Mine was taken pre-1940.



SINGLETON SHOE SHOP—This shoe shop was located in Pell City near where Griffin's Jewelry Store is now. It is believed that the picture was taken in the 1920s or 30s. Shown (l-r) are Anthony Slacy, William Lafayette Singleton (1876-1940) and Lucy Hindsman Singleton (1880-1959).



AVONDALE OFFICE—The administrative office at Avondale Mills once looked much different from the way it looks today. It used to be red brick and had awnings over the windows. Today the building has been painted white, and the awnings have been taken down.



BLACKSMITH SHOP—This picture shows the Theo Scott Blacksmith Shop that was located on Main Street in Springville. The blacksmith shop was run from water from Spring Creek and was the only shop with a rubber tire machine for buggies. Wagons and buggies were built and repaired there. The picture was taken in the early 1900s.



INSPECTION DAY—This picture, taken in the early to mid-1940s, is of an Avondale Mills Inspection Day. The corporate managers would make visits to inspect the plants and this day they were captured on film.



**Proud To Be
A Part of
St. Clair County
Since 1980**

**ALABAMA
SAW** COMPANY