

The Pell City News
10 1945

Former News Editor Writes of City's Early History

Following is a letter from
Mr. C. G. Catner, former editor
of the Pell City News, to
other papers in St. Clair
County. He later published
it in the Daily and is at present
editor of The Daily Press, a
daily paper at Davis, Florida.
Mr. Catner's letter tells briefly
the early history of this city,
emphasizing the vital part played
by Mayor Sumner Cogswell and
C. G. Cogswell.

Dear Sir,
I am very much impressed by
this and by the fact that the
ring of the wheel of time
was all in all of one and the
same time, and, with the constant
and eternal march of humanity
to the end of the road of its
tragedy we have knowledge of and
to the abyss of things that only
faith we can see, causes our
visions to melt our hearts and
crystallize our minds more and
more on the kind of records we
have behind.

And that is whole history
more or less. In some way, believe
me, our past every bit of it
is living history with us life.
I am also very much impressed
by your use of most recent
getting the name for mayor at
all this and that we moved
from Cogswell, or someone of
that name, and that we moved
from there, after the town, which had
once boomed (again back in the
early part of the "Gay Nineties")
and, like a mushroom, had folded
up.

Cogswell came to Pell City in
1861-62 and gave it a new start.
He was the cause of this writer
coming over the mountain from
Asheville and starting a small pa-
per there.

We had passed through the so-
called gay nineties at Asheville,
and after working for nine
months with James P. Montgomery,
at Vicksburg, Miss., yours
truly got in touch with Cogswell.
In 1902 Cogswell had already
moved to Pell City and was turning
things up.

The people of South St. Clair,
dread of crossing the mountain to
go to Asheville, voted for a branch
court house at Pell City.

I will never forget the little
venture I made. The Eagle on
which I was helping my father,
Geo. R. Catner, had bought out
the Southern Alliance, the popu-
lar paper at Asheville, and on a
very cold afternoon in January,
1902, I started out with two two-
horse wagons (only they were
pulled by mules) with Southern
Alliance Nonpartisan Job Press,
some type and galleys, etc., in true
pioneer fashion, for Pell City.
There was no good roads in those
days. So when we reached the
mountains, my "double-team" left
over there, spent the night in
Asheville and reached Pell City
Sunday morning.

Cogswell must have thought I
had a lot of nerve, coming over
to Pell City, when merely a rail-
road crossing with printing press
type and cases and starting a pa-
per.

This weekly came out with its
first issue in January, 1902, and
was named "The Coosa Valley" and
made a hit over the county
from the start, but had hard
times sailing. I was truly a
pioneer venture.

We rented the old building
fronting the present court house
and where the hospital is now sit-
uated and back such for nine
months. The situation there
was no church or Sunday school
in Pell City at the time. Mrs.
Carolyn Alverson and myself
started a movement to have a
Sunday school. There was no
place to meet. No court house, no
City Hall, no school house, no
vacant rooms. So rather than be
whipped in our objective we pro-
cured some wooden boxes and first
young Pell City couple who
had keys for seats and both be-
came sweethearts. These hills
in the office of The Coosa Valley
around the town will always be
loyal. Pell City's first Sunday
school was very popular from the
where I worked and won the heart
start. It was held in the after-
noon and people came from other
places to attend.

Then we had church services
and named the building and mill
right in there with the type and
printer's ink and stamps, making
the two-room, great school
could hold both and the Sunday
school was strictly an independ-
ent affair.

Finally, with the personal as-
sistance of Mr. and Mrs. Cogswell
and other good people and with
our own labor, we built a rooming
house and church service as
service building. Mr. Cogswell
gave the lot and afterwards was
of St. Clair County the school
district.

What is now the Church of St. Luke
Mary the Virgin was at that time
our school house. Interdenominational
church building now named Mrs. M. M.
day school room. Some services
held here. It all by heart as the
saying goes. And God has a
for their great endeavor, work
in the early history and the city
and since. And I for one believe
his past and future will be
our past and future will be
in a little wooden building
hollow, what we called a school
because it was all in the
notion of the present church
way school building.

Now our first school building
day school in our present school
has supply room and
Mr. T. J. H. of the
month and I believe the
some and I believe the

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we feel in Pell City, in
and Lydia Cogswell, in
people who make up that
and other good people and
I was very much impressed
in our own labor, we built
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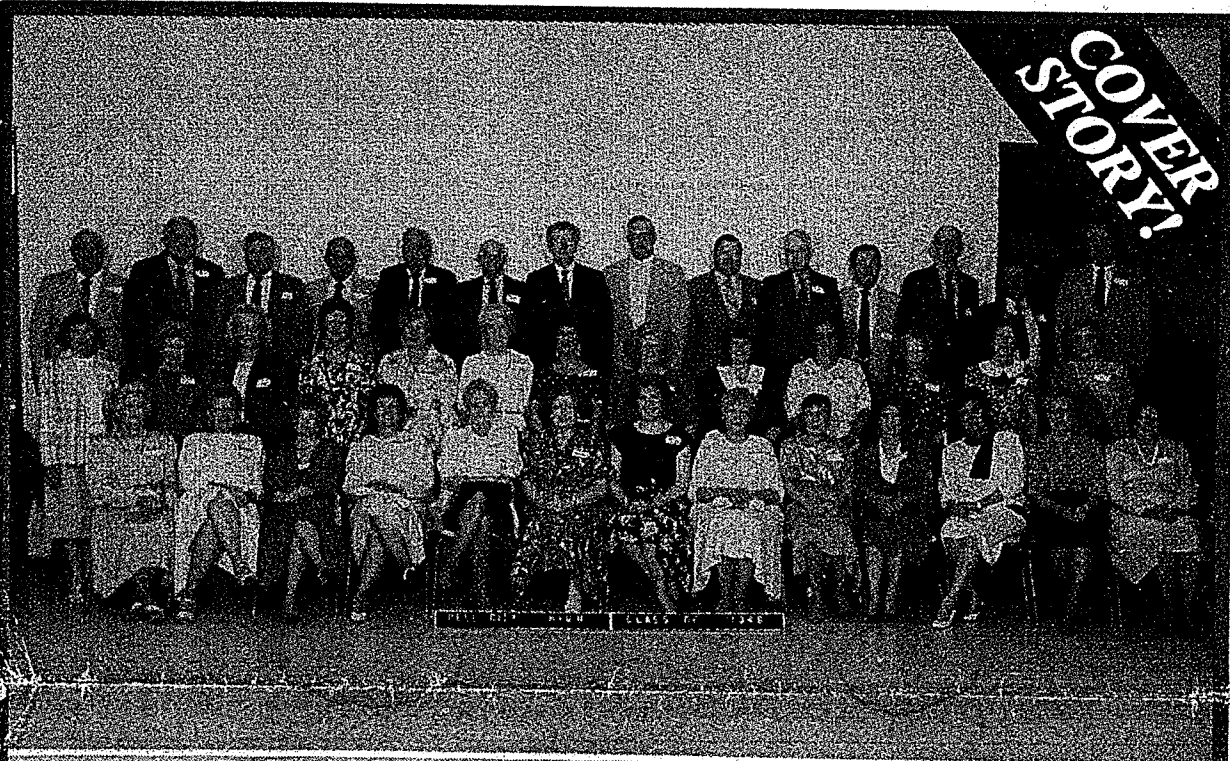
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**COVER
STORY!**



PCHS Class Of '48 Reunion

'Back-To-School' After All These Years

Thirty-nine members of the Pell City High School Class of 1948, the first class to graduate in the then new school building which was recently torn down to accommodate third-phase construction of the current PCHS building, gathered recently at the school lunchroom, along with spouses and friends, for their 40th-year class reunion. There were 65 members of the Class of '48 and six of those are deceased. *Pictured in the front row (left to right):* Bernice (Richey) Smith, Betty Ruth (Vines) Turner, Bobbye (Hall) Ledlow, Betty June (Richey) Foster, Miami (Crump) Fambrough, Barbara Butterworth, Emma Jo (Moore) Harris, Peggy (Hollis) Merrill, Mary Ellen (Patterson) White, Elizabeth Patterson, Betty Sue (Lee) Novick, Betty Jo Bishop, and Mildred (Martin)

Walker.

Second row (left to right): Betty (Bain) Singleton, Elizabeth (Hare) Graham, Betty (Ingram) Cospers, Lily (Pope) Callahan, Dean Ingram, Emma Jean (Barber) Yarbrough, Mary Lois (Bannister) Smith, Jerry (Adkins) Hollis, Elizabeth (Haynes) Cox, Ozell (Howard) Seals, Annie Ruth Savage (*teacher*), Laverne (Clearman) Harris and Betty Lou (Simpkins) Bowman.

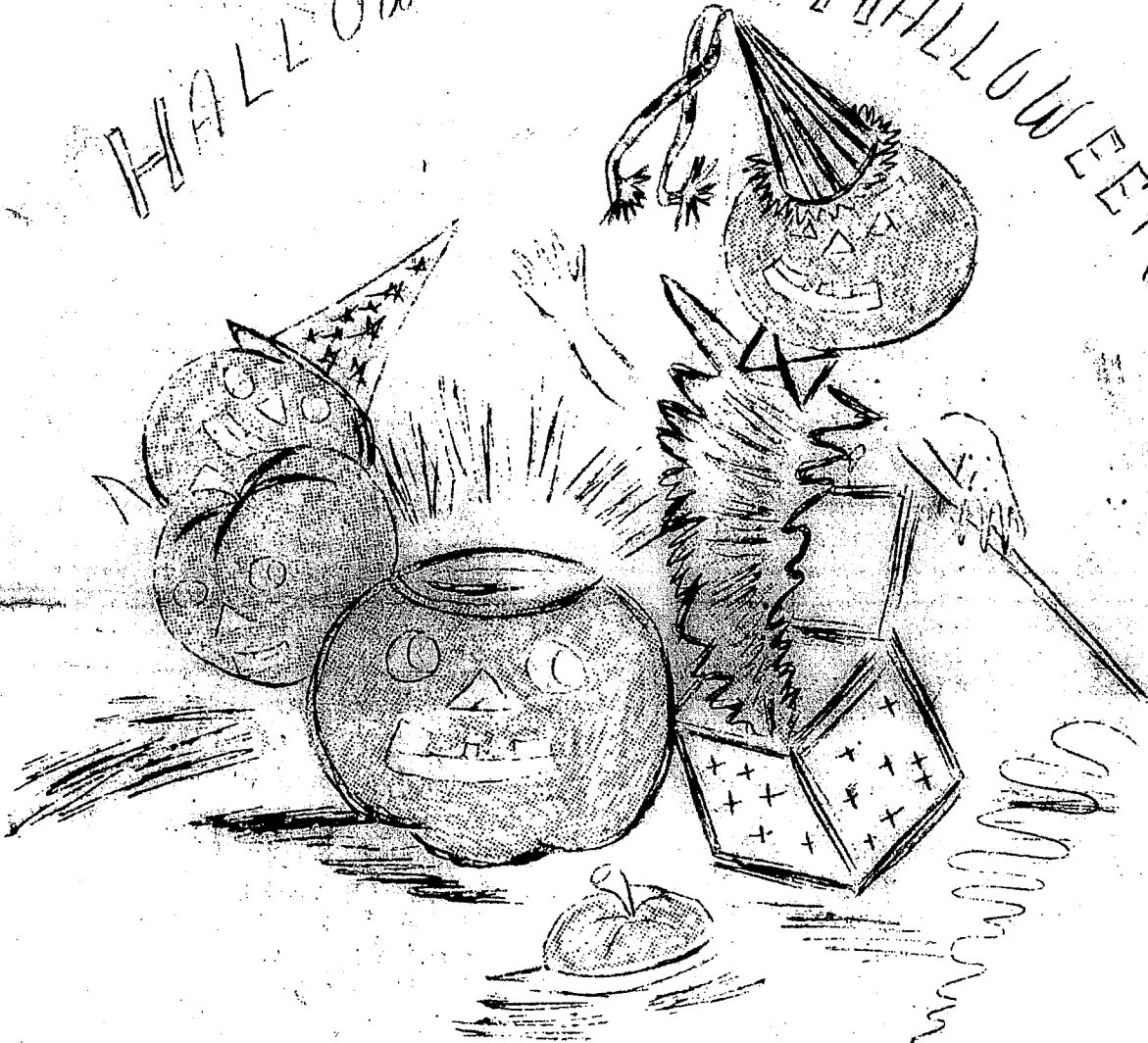
Back row (left to right): Bob Hollis, Bob Cornett, Bob West, Jimmy McCoy, Millard "Waldo" Weldon, Howard "Dobb" Vaughn, Ray Watson, Don Walker, Jr., Eugene Goss, Bill Cornett, Prince Preston, Coy Davis, Billy Smith and Eugene "Red" Harris.

CCC

Commercial Club Chronicle

HALLOWEEN

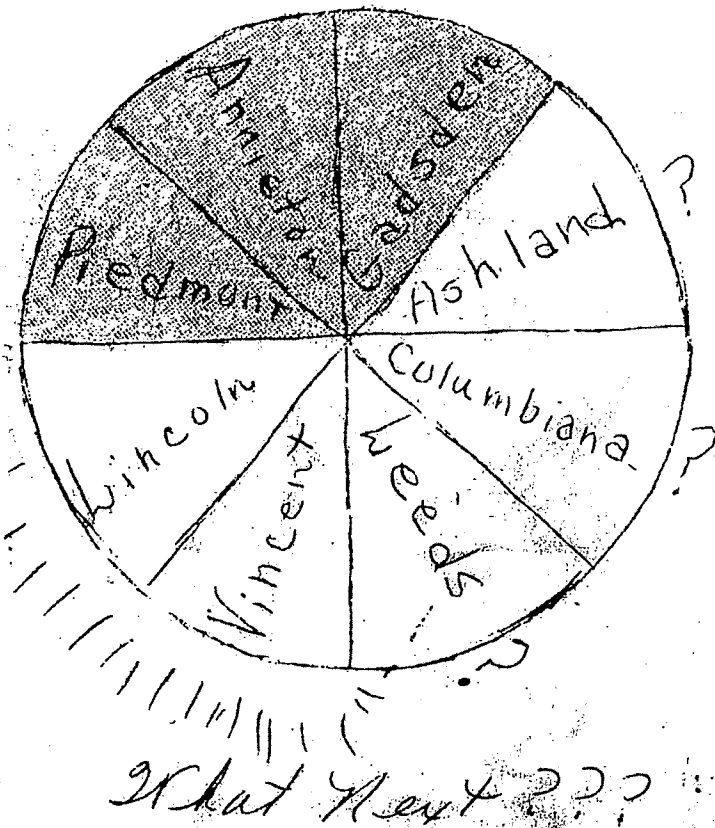
HALLOWEEN



HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1944
PELL CITY HIGH SCHOOL

There will be a special program given by the Junior Class, including a cake walk in the Auditorium and various other things such as the "HOUSE OF HORRORS", "FISH POND", "FORTUNE TELLING", and a "BABY SHOW" in the other rooms of the High School.

The Junior Class urges everyone to come as it is really going to be a fine Halloween Carnival. The ADMISSION will be 10¢ and the TIME 7:30 P.M.



THE HOMEROOM

Your homeroom should be an administrative unit of the school. Has your class organized yet? Each homeroom should have at least a president, a vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer. Each officer should perform those duties usually ascribed the office by a standard authority. Outstanding students with fine moral and educational records should be placed in these positions of leadership. A large part of the success of the homeroom depends on the selection and work of committees. Much of the actual work of the homeroom is done by the committees.

The arrangement and appearance of your homeroom can have a great influence on satisfaction. Nothing is more uninviting than a large traditional class room. Such surroundings are not very helpful in developing a home-like spirit. Rearrange the seats, have curtains, and provide a few flowers and pictures. Make your home room attractive as well as comfortable.

During your home room period, you have the opportunity to work on any problem that is vital to your development whether your problem is educational, social or moral.

DON'T FORGET

THE CARNIVAL IS NEXT TUESDAY NIGHT!!!!



Navy Day Chapel Program

Last Wednesday, as a tribute to Navy Day, the Sr. 1 boys put on an excellent chapel program.

Bob Adams, R. W. Bain, Roberta Maples, Ed Walker, Irvin Thompson, & Eddy Gossett, gave the history and told practically every thing there is to be told about the Navy.

To end the program Mr. Turner told some of his funny experiments while he was in the Navy.

I'm sure everyone enjoyed it all and here's hoping we have more just as good.

Remember the banana, everytime it leaves the bunch it gets skinned...

Men of few words have less to take back.

The neighbors arrived home, bring and baggage.

No two people are alike and both of them are glad of it.

Here rest the bones
of Emily Bright;
She put out her left hand
and turned to her right.

Fun!! Fun!! Fun!! at the carnival Tuesday night

STAFF

- EDITOR: EVELYN NELSON
- ART EDITOR: MARTHA ALVERSON
- SOCIAL EDITOR: DORIS COOPER
- BUSINESS MANAGER: ALMA SHADDIX
- SPORTS EDITOR: CHARLEE ABBOT
- ASSISTANT EDITOR: LURLIN BAIN

Junior High

Senior High

This is the beginning of the fourth week, and second month of a beautiful year for the Junior I's and also for the Seniors.

What's this about Davie Robertson, finding a sweet heart????????????????

Wonder how that Kerbo and Mitchell case is getting along.

Wonder why that little girl is that Huston Bunster keeps eyeing these days could it be Davie Robertson.....

Wonder why Peggy Jean goes to Ragland so often/.....

Why does Evelyn and Violet always keep their eyes on Owen G.????????????

What is the matter with Don H. this year Evelyn?????

Wonder what is wrong with Howard T. and Margaret Thomas?????

Pete B. and Ann J. both are liking Dewey B. this year. Now girls lets calm yourselves.

Why was Anna Lou Meehan and Ned Gunter passing notes in Science class??

Just gossiping around hearing things on the Jr III's but seems as if the girls can't find available boy friends!!!

"Miss Savage" passed from the eighth to the ninth grade with the rest of the girls.....

We would like to see Mary Ellen Walker shoot and arrow between the hearts of Frank and Betty!!!!!!!!!!!!

What was that I heard Mary Ozell saying in Math class ...Couldn't be that "I think Prince Preston is a cute boy."

A certain little girl can't make up her mind about Bob C. or Millard.... Look out Mary.....

I wonder who that little Betty Pardue likes this year is it still the same one

Wonder why Aline S. did not go to the party Sat. night.....

Laverne W. and Bobby S. seems to be getting along just fine

Whats this I hear about Dixie Steed and Waymond Adams,?????????Think we've got something there.....

What happened to Doris's and Dandford's romance????????????????????????????

Who has Peggy been making 600, 600, eyes at?????

We Sr. II's were really proud of Mr. Turner Wednesday morning in assembly. What Jokes!!What a man!!What a teacher!! Three for Mr. Turner.

This year our class is expected to do big and great things, and to do so we all must co-operate, so come on Sr. II's lots get busy and do our stuff.

In case you boys don't know it there are plenty of pretty girls in the Jr. class this year, for instance JO Godwin, Elouise Richey, Hazel Dickey, Ernestine Clearman, Ester Harmon, Betty Lou Dickey, Jesse Mae Downings and Penny Harmon....

Theres a new romance blooming in our class, Howard Smith and Ruth Elaine..... More power to you kids!!Also Don and Thelma.....

Wonder where Mac Bell got her poison oak!!!Could it be from a certain red headed boy!!!!!!

If by chance Helen Bain doesn't have her lessons every morning, its because she writes letter every night.

Well I guess you will hide the clock again won't you Virginia?????Say looks like you could just have told one story.

Red and Lum got by last year pretty good with their story-telling but this year it looks as if it just won't work, will it??????

Looks like we might get our rings a little earlier than we expected..... Of course we can hardly wait!!!!!!!!!!

Miss Garry sure is working us in typing this year, you can't be hard boiled Miss Garry?????????

I just wonder if Sarah found out the news!!!!!!About three different people told her.....

Handwritten notes:
Help Community
Chest Bay
Die Now and War Bonds!!!!

Vertical handwritten note: General Manager's Review

Vertical handwritten note: Oct. 27

F.F.A.

F.F.A. OFFICERS
1944-45

The following are officers in the Pell City High School Vocational Agriculture Chapter for 1944-45.....

James Starnes-President--a Sr. III in school Hopes to graduate..Lives at Riverside.. a bus driver..a willing worker..comes up in Future Farmer work..A good one.
Aulton Rich-Vice-President--Sr. III.Hopes to graduate..From Cooks Springs. Willing worker..Quiet easy.. Will get along.. a Coon Hunter on the side..

James Maples "Speedy"-Secretary--Sr. III An excellent officer..shows initiative willing..always takes a side if it is the other side..Comes from Park Hill..

Kenneth Tucker-Treasurer..Bus Driver.. from Cropwell..willing..Pleasing personality..Good organizer..usually finishes what he starts..a good athlete.

Charles Abbott-Reporter..from Eastonville.. easy going..willing work..good mixer..second year in FFA..Likable fellow..

Dwight Davis-Captain..Sr. III..from Watts ville..Wid Jackson's cross roads..will rest when going gets tough.. Always doing his part..

This winds up the list of FFA officers for this year..These Officers were elected last June.. That is except Davis and he is a recent selection.. They are all exceptional..are doing their job the best they know how..

Initiation Chapter Farmers

On Thursday, the F.F.A. Chapter initiated the following Chapter Farmers..... Howard Smith, Charles Abbott, J.P. Berryhill, Jack Davis, Charles Castleberry, Gilbert Pope, Jack Hannah, and Billy Thornton..These chapter Farmers are all second year members in the F.F.A. Chapter as well as being members of the Animal Husbandry Class in Vocational Agriculture..All are regular class members..Carry a varied Supervised Practice Program at Home and are all leaders in School. and community.

F.H.A.

The Vocational Home Economics Classes prepared 30 plates and served the Civitan Club Thursday, Oct. 26. Each class took an active part in preparing the meals



Well, here comes snobby again...

To start things rolling, I'd like to congratulate the Sr. I Boys on the excellent assembly program on "Navy Day" last Wednesday...We've had two boys from the Navy visiting us this week. They are Ray McKelvy and Bob West...It's nice to see these boys around the campus.....

The Juniors had a visitor from Leeds this week...Her name is Scott.....

Most of the girls have been "sporting" gayly colored sweaters and shirts this week.....

Well, we got our report cards this week..Some were pleased and some were not....

I think Louis McKnight was the worst displeased of them all..Can't you keep your mind off of Jewel Wright, Louie???

Charles Castleberry seems pretty well pleased with his ability to work plain geometry.. He just finished working the following theorem:

Theorem: If one loves another he will return it..

Given: That I love you....

To Prove: That you love me..

Proof: All the world loves a lover, and you are all the world to me...

Therefore: You love me. (SAS=SAS)

Has anyone noticed the new Romance in the Sr. II Class...Ruth Elaine Robertson and Howard Smith..(Not Bad)

The FHA has organized a basket ball team. Mary Dee Lockridge, Captain, Doris Cooper, co-Captain, Maxine McKnight, Erstene Clearman, Ruth Brown, Aleta Cospier, Elóise Richey, Kitty Jean Smith, Joyce Walker, Marie Smith, Annie Ruth Brown, and others... Mr. Turner has given them some of his time and is helping the team get organized. Thanks.....



CLASS MOTTO:

GIVE THE WORLD THE BEST YOU HAVE AND
THE BEST WILL COME BACK TO YOU.

CLASS COLORS:

LILAC AND WHITE

CLASS FLOWER:

WHITE ROSES

CLASS OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

JAMES TAYLOR

VICE-PRESIDENT

KENNETH TUCKER

SECRETARY

CHRISTINE POPE SMITH

TREASURER

ALMA SHADDIX MACHOVEC

CLASS ROLL:

MARTHA ALVERSON	HELEN PARKER
LURLIN BAIN	CHRISTINE POPE
VAZELLE BARNES	DAN ROE
RACHEL BRADY	AULTON RITCH
PAULINE BURNHAM	ALMA SHADDIX
JESSIE DEAN HALL	JAMES STARNES
BERTIE HARE	JAMES TAYLOR
VIRGINIA HARMON	KENNETH TUCKER
BILLY HARMON	LUCILLE WELDON
SARAH MACHOVEC	JACQUELINE EPPERSON
EVELYN NELSON	MARY DEE SMITH
RUBY LEE CASTLEBERRY	

THE SENIOR CLASS
OF
PELL CITY HIGH SCHOOL
Presents

WHERE'S GRANDMA?

A 3 ACT COMEDY

by

Priscilla Wayne & Wayne Sprague

PELL CITY HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

April 27, 1945

8:00 P.M.

SCOTT

Taxi for Service

"Where's Grandma?"

She, grandpa and the rest of the family
Trade at

The People's Store

MAYS & JONES

Cast of Characters
In order of their appearance

Gretchen Blake, a modern young wife-----	Alma Shaddix
Bob Blake, her husband-----	Kenneth Tucker
Jack Worley, Gretchen's brother-----	Bill Purdy
Carol Worley, Gretchen's sister-----	Virginia Harmon
Midnight, the colored houseman-----	James Starnes
Dahlia, his "high yaller" bride-----	Evelyn Nelson
Arline Truesdale, Gretchen's friend-----	Mary Dee Smith
Luck King, Jack's sweetheart-----	Rachel Brady
Grandma, -----	Christine Pope

STRUT TAP: Juliette Petznick, Jackie DeGaris, Myrthe McKnight,
Betty Kersh, Joan McLeod
Pupils of Miss Edna Higginbotham

Woco Pep
Service Station
for Service

Phone 52

Moore - Smith
Hardware
Hardware, building
materials, and
furniture.

Phone 120

Cohen's
Store

Holladay's
for
Your gas, oil, tires,
batteries, tire
repairs and
Lubrications

Mitnick's
DRY, GOODS, CLOTHING & SHOES

Place: The living room of the Worley home
Time: The Present

Act I. The living room about noon on a Sunday
Act II. The living room Evening, several weeks later
Act III. The living room the next morning

Play under the direction of: Mrs. Frances McLeod
Miss Emily Garry
Furniture through the courtesy of Jefferson Home Furniture

HENDERSON'S
Beauty Shoppe

Smith's Market
Hill's Grocery Store
Freshmeats at all
times
Phone 23-54
MARCUS SMITH Prop

ROBERSON'S

COMPLIMENTS
OF
J. L. RAGLAND
Staple & Fancy
Groceries

A. & P.
TEA CO.
Dewey Upchurch
Manager

COMPLIMENTS
OF
Hill Grocery Co.

<p>Pell City Jewelry</p> <p>L. H. Scott Prop.</p>	<p>Jefferson Home Furniture</p>	<p>Citizens Drug Company Pell City, Ala. Jack D. Davis Prop.</p>
<p>Try Rexall Store First Pell City Drug Co. J. H. Stokes Prop.</p>	<p>Pell City Cafe Always has something Lillie Scott Phone 59 Prop.</p>	<p>Kilgore Funeral Home Phone 33</p>
<p>Visit The Grill For Home Cooked Meals</p>	<p>Compliments of Community Cleaners</p>	<p>See "Tack & Roy" Model Barber Shop</p>
<p>Gunter Grocery No. Tobacco</p>	<p>Pell City Hdwe. Co. Hardware implements & Furniture Phone 37</p>	<p>Compliments of Rapid Shoe Hospital</p>

1945

Does this bring back any memories?

CLASS NIGHT

Friday Night 8:00, May 11

Class Song	Senior Class
President's Welcome	James Taylor
Class History	Vazell Barnes
Class Poem	Lucille Weldon
Last Will and Testament	Jessie Dean Hall
Piano Solo	Martha Alverson
Prophecy	Evelyn Nelson
Giftorian	Kenneth Tucker
Presentation of Key	James Taylor
Junior Response	Helen Bain
Alma Mater	Audience

HISTORY OF THE CLASS OF 1945

In September 1933 if one eye could have viewed the vicinities of Cropwell, Easonville, Eden, Coal City, Pell City, and the Avondale Mill Village schools it would have seen hundreds of small boys and girls prancing along the road to the schoolhouse. It was their very first day and they were happy. They met new friends and teachers who were willing to help them get a start. That first day they probably built aircastles imagining what they would do if they were big girls and boys. ~~xxxx~~

After that year the time flew by. These classes were graduating from grammar school. They felt that they had accomplished very much in the year's that they attended the small beloved schools.

The next fall they were ready to enter high school. Again they would meet new friends. These students came from the tiny communities and united in one great class in Pell City High School. Yes, that was a great day. We had climbed one step higher on the ladder of success. We were a contented happy energetic class of boys and girls striving to ~~xxxxxx~~ reach a goal that was out there in the future.

Then the year we were to graduate from Junior High School a fearful enemy struck ~~xxx~~ our country. On December 8, 1941, our country declared war. We worried about our loved ones that would have to go but we never ~~xxxx~~ it to last long enough to take our fellow classmates.

A few of the girls and boys dropped out in Senior II. We had a wonderful time as Juniors in arranging the banquet and other gatherings for our schoolmates.

In 1944 we entered school as Seniors. Our class was smaller than ever before. We had only ³⁰~~29~~. These were: Martha Alverson, Lurlin Bain, Vazell Barnes, Rachel Brady, Wallace Brazier, Pauline Burnham, Ruby Lee
Dwight Davis,
Castleberry, Jacqueline Epperson, Jessie Dean Hall, Bertie Hare, Billy Harmon, Virginia Harmon, Sarah Machovec, James Maples, Evelyn Nelson, Helen Parker, ~~Pauline Fatterson~~ Christine Pope, Aulton Ritch, Dan Roe, Alma Shaddix, Evelyn Smith, Mary Dee (Lockridge) Smith, James Starnes, James Taylor, Marths Ann Stewart, Kenneth Tucker, Lucille Weldon, Jimmie Whitten. Some of these dropped out, until our class had only 23 to graduate.

Tonight we miss the boys who should have been here with us, but Uncle Sam needed them. Some of ^{the} boys that are in service are: Jonas Luker, Jack Tucker, Leonard Glidwell, Norman Smith, Howard Smith, John Smith, Bill Brown, Wallace Brazier, Ray Bowman, and James Smith. We wish they were here with us as they use to be, but since they cannot we wish them the bast of luck in the service that they are rendering their country.

Now we come to the present. We feel that we have reached another