

ON THIS DAY IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY NOVEMBER 19



On November 19, 1928, Presbyterian mission worker Mary Behner arrived in Scotts Run, where she would serve until 1937.

CSO: SS.8.24, ELA.8.1

Investigate the Document: (Mary Behner Christopher Collection, Ms89-1)

1. What was the primary purpose of the “Scott’s Run Charm School?”
2. What was the final “Charm” from the school’s program?
3. What are the three points of “The Charm Triangle?”

Think Critically: Describe the societal roles expected from women during the 1930s. How did the Great Depression impact the number of women in the workforce? List three occupations that you think a woman may have had in the 1930s.

Students Follow Christ to a Stable

THE BEGINNINGS OF A CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND COAL MINERS



Ruth Voithofer persuaded Andrew Blackwood, left, and Paul McClanahan, Wooster undergraduates, to spend their Easter vacation at Scotts Run to study the effects of the depression on the coal industry



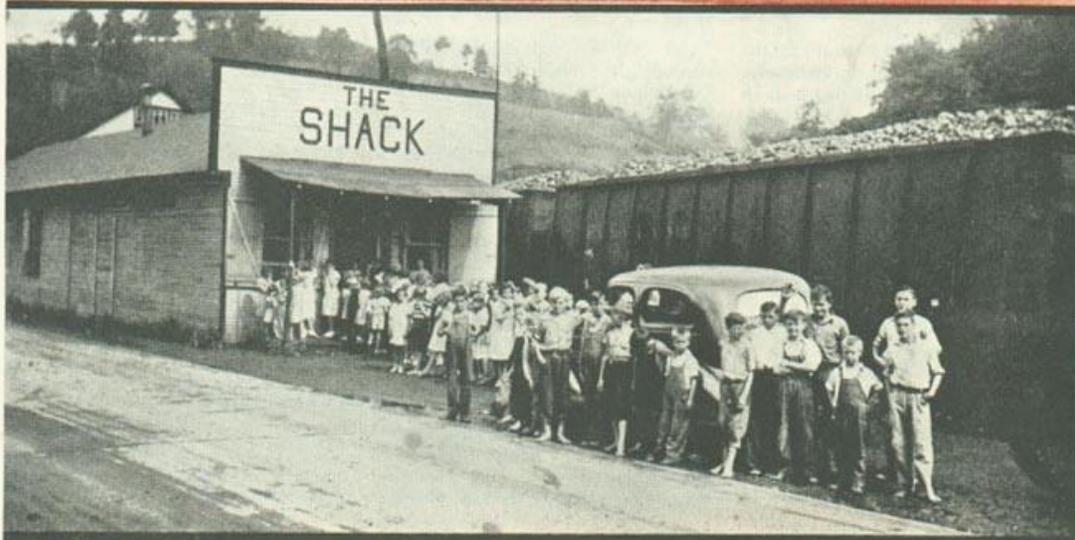
Drinking water for this family is a quarter of a mile away. The three youngest children have never had shoes.



See "The Shack," on page 12

Down to the mines from their hillside homes come workmen like the one above. Until The Shack became a going concern their children played on the coal cars and along the tracks. Gangs like the "Dirty Dozen" were persuaded into purposeful club

activity. It was often a case of coming to eat and remaining to play. Distrustful at first of the college students who were club organizers, the girls and most of the boys of this mining district have since come around to a firm Shack loyalty



EXTRA CHARM SCHOOL NEWS EXTRA

"GOD FIRST, OTHERS SECOND, I'M THIRD"

SCOTT'S RUN, SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1931

BANK OF HEALTHLAND ROBBED

HISTORY OF SCOTT'S RUN CHARM SCHOOL

The Scotts Run Charm School movement began in February, 1929. As a part of a social service program directed by Mary Elizabeth Behner, representing the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church. Its purpose was to teach adolescent girls of the coal fields how to become charming.

For a period of 3 months of Saturdays including February March and April during the past 3 years, girls between the ages of 12 - 18 have been meeting at the Pursglove school house for Charm instruction.

The first Charm School program was built around a very simple plan. Each Saturday program was divided into three divisions. In the first part the Charm School theme was presented. Each Saturday a new Charm theme was explained to the school. Beginning with the physical Charms such as Charm of Posture, Exercise, Sleep, Diet, Sanitation, Personal Cleanliness, etc. the program gradually worked up to the inner Charms such as Charm of Spirit, Charm of Manners, Speech, Intellect, Friends, and Sex. The final Charm of the school was Charm of Sociability expressed in the form of a party.

Methods Period

After the presentation of the Charm Theme the "Methods Period," followed in which the particular Charm of the day was made more forcible thru some method particularly adapted to the theme. For example in Charm of Sleep, the girls were obliged to pass a bed making test. Charm of Diet initiated a hot cereal contest for which cream of wheat samples were given. Charm of Spirit was illustrated with an individual plant given to each girl for tending. The Charm lessons were illustrated further by games, songs, stories, posters and note books.

(Continued on Page 4)

GREETINGS

To the mothers of Phi Chi Delta from the Charm School. We wish you could have visited us while our school was in session. Since that was impossible we are glad to be with you this afternoon and to try to give you some idea of the things accomplished in Charm School.

PROGRAM GIVEN BY CHARM SCHOOL

Nineteen Charm School Girls will take part in the plays to be presented at the Phi Chi Delta Mother's Day tea, Saturday, May 9 at the Presbyterian Church.

TODAY'S PROGRAM

The Charm School Girls Present
The Charm Triangle
Spirit.....Candlelight Service
Mind....Famous Women at Tea
Body....A Prisoner at the Bar
Music.....Martha Lewis

The cast of "Famous Women at Tea" includes the following: Clara Barton, Ruth Voithofer; Madame Schuman-Heink, Irene Csernok; Helen Keller, Elizabeth Csernok; Sarajini Naidu, Josephine Ammons; Alice Freeman Palmer, Mary Cikovic; Mary Slessor, Myra Wilkins; Madame Curie, Mildred Fox; Rosa Bonheur, Julia Netro; Charm School girl, Annette Tolle; maid, Naomi Zetty.

Characters of "A Prisoner at the Bar" are as follows: Clerk, Mary Cikovic; Prosecuting Attorney, Madeline Maurin; Judge, Gracie Meyers; Health Penny, Louise Voithofer, Health Dime, Josephine Ammons; Health Nickel, Mary Sandor; Health Quarter, Lucile Haga; Health Half-Dollar, Freeda Weaver; Charm School girl, Roberta Lay.

"Famous Women at Tea," written by Ruth Voithofer, has for characters all the women studied as a part of the Mind side of the Charm School Triangle.

The same women will compose the jury of the trial which

CHARM SCHOOL GIRL ACCUSED OF THEFT

TRIAL TODAY

Stumptown, May 9—The fate of Roberta Lay, who is charged with robbing the Bank of Healthland, will be decided this afternoon by a jury of women composed of Clara Barton, Madame Earnestine Schuman-Heink, Alice Freeman Palmer, Sarajini Naidu, Rosa Bonheur, Madame Marie Curie, Mary Slessor and Helen Keller. Judge Meyers will preside at the trial.

Charges were brought against the defendant by the Charm School when she was forced to drop out of school because of illness. For several days preceding the arrest, Miss Lay complained of headaches, tiredness, and a general run-down feeling. This aroused the suspicions of her schoolmates and a warrant for her arrest was sworn out by Julie Netro, Public Health Officer.

Miss Lay will be brought to trial this afternoon before a jury of famous women. To determine her innocence or guilt, Prosecuting Attorney Maurin will question the defendant and the following witnesses: Louise Voithofer, Josephine Ammons, Mary Sandor, Lucile Haga, and Freeda Weaver. Naomi Zetty will act as Clerk for the trial.

THANKS

The Charm School wishes to thank Mrs. French for the encouragement and help she has given, and the following persons for transportation: Mrs. Morgan, George Stathers, Norman Parsons, Dorothy Brand, Dr. French and George Ratcliffe.

is to follow. A Charm School girl will be brought to the bar accused of robbing the Bank of Healthland, that is, of breaking all health rules. The play will present the Health side of the triangle.

All the members of the School will participate in the candlelight service which, as the Spirit part of the triangle, will open the program.

1679



Mary Elizabeth Behner, director

"The SHACK IDEA"

Born and Developed in a Mine Camp Stable

Since 1928

Scotts Run, W. Va.

A center which is inspired by, and holds the purposes of, the Christian Religion as applied to the problems of personal and communal life. A center where democracy may function with freedom of speech and action---regardless of race or creed.

- 1 A center for Community Education
 - Adult Education
 - Public Forums
 - Nurse Schools
 - Public Library
 - Miners' Study Groups
 - Workers' Education
- 2 A center for Religious Education
 - Sunday Schools
 - Vacation Bible Schools
 - Christian Endeavor
 - Seminars and Conferences
- 3 A center for Wholesome Recreation
 - Athletics
 - Dances and Parties
 - Dinners and Teas
 - Moving Pictures and Plays
 - Story Telling Hours
 - Reading Circle and Book Clubs
 - Boys and Girls Clubs
- 4 A center where the varied interests of the community may be expressed.
 - P. T. A. Meetings
 - Garden Clubs
 - Miners' Unions
 - Political Groups
 - Mens Brotherhoods
 - Labor Organizations
 - Nationality Organizations
 - Festivals and Holiday Programs
- 5 A center for Community Service
 - Child Feeding
 - Relief
 - Medical Service
 - Clinics
 - Credit Unions
 - Shower Baths
- 6 A Center of Creative Activity where Individuals and Groups may discover new Skills, Interests, and Talents, and have an opportunity to develop them.
 - Dramatics
 - Music
 - Handicrafts
 - Domestic Science
- 7 A Center developed Ideally and Materially in cooperation with the people of the Community
 - Shack Committee
 - Volunteer Labor and Contributions
- 8 A Center for Friendliness and Cooperation through which a Christian Community may be realized.
 - Community Council
 - Planning Associations
- 9 A Center where the advantages of the nearby State University in Morgantown may be extended.
 - W. Va. Student Service Project
 - Summer Industrial Inquiries
 - Volunteer Student Service
 - Assistance of University High School
 - Practice teachers.
 - Cooperation with Sociology, Physiology, Economics and Education Dept; W.V.U.