

**SCHOOL GRADUATION PROGRAM**  
**BUFFALO VALLEY, PUTNAM CO., TN**  
Herald Citizen Newspaper, Cookeville, TN  
27 March 1947

The Buffalo Valley School gave the following graduation program:

The song was "My Tennessee."

**"My Tennessee"**

Adopted in 1955 as the official public school song.

Written by Frances Hannah Trnum.

**First Verse**

Beloved state, oh state of mine,  
In all the world I could not find,  
Where God has strewn with lavish hand,  
More natural beauty o'er the land  
From ev'ry stream and valley green  
His wond'rous art is ever seen  
Ah, let my heart beat true to thee,  
And swell with pride for Tennessee

**Second Verse**

Thy rocks and rills, and wooded hills,  
My mem'ry keeps the childhood thrills  
You gave to me, that I might know  
The joys supreme, you could bestow  
The song of birds, the whisp'ring trees,  
The low of herds, the hum of bees,  
It all comes back so dear to me,  
My childhood home in Tennessee

**Third Verse**

Your battles fought, and vict'ries won,  
Your freedom bought and duty done,  
With daughters fair, and sons so brave,  
To do and dare, their deeds they gave  
Courageously, without a fear,  
And won the name of volunteer  
In sacred trust, let those who will,  
By being just, preserve it still

**Chorus**

Oh, Tennessee, My Tennessee,  
Thy hills and vales are fair to see,  
With mountains grand, and fertile lands

There is no state more dear to me  
Thro' other climes tho I may roam,  
There will be times I'll long for home,  
In Tennessee, Fair Tennessee,  
The land of my nativity

Devotion was led by the **Rev. A. B. Taylor, Jr.** followed by a song, "When It's Iris Time In Tennessee."

**"When It's Iris Time In Tennessee"**

words and music by Willa Mae Waid

Sweetness of Spring memories bring  
Of a place I long to be.  
Land of Sunshine calls this old heart of mine,  
Come back to Tennessee.

Chorus:

When it's Iris time down in Tennessee,  
I'll be coming back to stay  
Where the mockingbird sings at the break of day  
A lilting love song gay.  
Where the Iris grows,  
Where the Harpeth flows,  
That is where I long to be.  
There's a picture there that lives in memory  
When it's Iris time in Tennessee.

Introducing of guests was done by **Johnny Love**, and following subjects were discussed: History of Buffalo Valley by **Evelyn Whitehead**; Early Pioneers by **Aldon Williams**; First Happenings by **Ina Duke**; Other Firsts by **Blaine Pedine Pedigo**; Early Incidents by **Alfred Garrison**; Story of Indians by **Sarah Catherine Helmn**; and Mineral Resources by **Walter Ray Denny**.

The principal address was made by **Dr. Harry L. Upperman** of Baxter. Presentation of diplomas was by **W. W. Jared (Walter Wirt Jared)**.

With **Joyce M. Williams**, a seventh grade student as giftorian, the following pupils were presented perfect attendance certificates; **Ann Carr** and **Aldon Alcorn**, First grade; **Jimmy Neal**, 4<sup>th</sup> grade; **Jimmy Nell Russell** and **Hilda Herd**, 5<sup>th</sup> grade; **Martin Luke Medley, Jr.**, **Christine Russell**, **Walter James Alcorn**, **Peggy Alcorn** and **Lois Leftwich**, 6<sup>th</sup> grade; **J. D. Herd** and **Blaine Pedigo**, 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

<http://www.ajlambert.com>