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Ramsey, Van (Music Minister)

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10-10-1969

Newspaper - The Shelby Daily Star - Oct. 10, 1969 - Van Ramsey

Elinor Tyner

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The Shelby Daily Star Women's Page

ELINOR TYNER, Women's Editor Phone 482-3811

6—THE SHELBY DAILY STAR, Friday, Oct. 10, 1969

'Tell It Like It Is'

By ELINOR TYNER
Women's Editor

To an over-flowing crowd and to a radio audience of unknown number, a man said "I wish the local newspapers would tell it like it is — publish in tomorrow's paper about the youth here tonight."

It was youth emphasis night Thursday at First Baptist Church's revival, and as I sat there listening to him, I thought, "Why not?"

Why not tell about the 265 teen-agers of the Sing Out Choir, under the direction of Van Ramsey, who all but made the rafters shake as they happily belted out numbers from their "Tell It Like It Is" program to be presented in the near future?

Why not tell about the feeling of pride that seemed to swell over the room as members of the Shelby High School varsity football team, accompanied by their coaches, filed in and took their places in a reserved section?

Why not tell that in order that everyone have a seat, extra chairs had to be brought into the sanctuary, said to be one of the largest in North Carolina?

Why not tell that when all persons under 25 years of age were asked to stand, more than half the people there were on their feet?

Why not tell how the piano all but danced while under the influence of Roland Leath's keyboard knowledge?

Why not tell that after hearing Van Ramsey sing "How Great Thou Art," backed by the Sing Out Choir you knew why Shelby's Young Man of the Year for 1968 was one of six men in the United States chosen to arrange a concert tour for next August in Russia — the invitation received from the Intraco Travel Agency in New York City by authority of the Russian Minister of Culture through Intourist, the official agency for all travel to and from Russia.

Why not tell of the youth (I lost count) that flanked the young minister during his closing invitation?

Why not tell about the people's favorable comments on the youth as they left the church? Because there's not enough space.

Tell it like it is? I can't, really, and do justice to the intended message.