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BERKLEY COUNTY IN WORLD WAR II

Thesis

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the Degree of Master of Arts in the Faculty
of the Graduate School of West Virginia
University

by

Patricia W. ^{Wood}Alger, B. A.
Hood College, 1945

Morgantown
West Virginia
1953

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P.W.A.

Martinsburg, W. Va.
March, 1953

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CHAPTER I

MILITARY

Selective Service

In order to secure men for the armed forces efficiently and equitably without disrupting the economic and social life of the nation, the Selective Service System was created by the federal government. The Selective Service Act which went into effect February 16, 1940, provided that the governor of every state should appoint a local selective service board for each thirty thousand population, as well as an appeal board for each seventy thousand population. Medical examiners, medical and registrants' advisory boards and local board appeal agents should also be appointed through the governor's office.¹

The function of each local board was to register the male population between the specified age limits, classify it, select those men fitted for military service, and deliver them for induction at the appointed times.²

The Berkeley County Selective Service Board was established July 26, 1940. Its organization was carried out by Mr. Harold O. Keedy, of Martinsburg, Clerk of the County Court, acting upon orders received from Governor Homer A. Holt. Mr. Keedy enlisted the aid of the election registrars, and with a few additional volunteers, prepared for the first registration. This was held on October 16, 1940, accounting for 3,600 men between the ages of twenty-one and thirty-six.³

During this month also, the governor appointed three Berkeley County men to compose the local selective service board. The board met and organized on October 28, electing a chairman, secretary and clerk. It served until July 15, 1941, when, due to pressure of business and illness, the members resigned and a new board was appointed. The new board, with the Patterson Building in Martinsburg as its permanent headquarters, continued to serve throughout the war years, rendering efficient service in the best interests of the registrant, his family and his employer.⁴

To assist registrants in the completion of their selective service questionnaire, the governor in October appointed an advisory board with the Honorable Decatur H. Rodgers, a judge of the circuit court, as chairman. This board, composed of prominent local attorneys, was enlarged during later registrations.⁵

The second registration was held July 1, 1941, by the board with the assistance of the office force and volunteers. At this time there were 175 registrants, largely those who had reached the age of twenty-one since the previous October. Other registrations were carried out in a similar manner,⁶ with one major change. Beginning with the third registration, February 16, 1942, which extended the age limit to forty-five and included a total of 1736 men, centers were established throughout the county for the convenience of the registrants. These centers were manned by citizen volunteers who had been trained by the clerk of the board. The staff assistance section of the local Red Cross chapter aided greatly in these activities, as did civic, patriotic and other organizations whenever their services were needed.⁷

On April 27, 1942, the fourth registration accounted for 2,400 men between the ages of forty-five and sixty-five. The fifth, on June 30, 1942, registered 569; at this time the draft age was lowered to eighteen. The sixth registration began December 11, 1942, and was carried on as a continuous process, registering men as they became of age.⁸

Registrants were classified according to the regulations handed down by national headquarters of the selective service. Registrants "sound of body and mind" were considered for class 1-A unless their removal caused a definite hardship as, for example, from a farm, or would hinder the production of some material vitally needed in the war effort. If such conditions were the case, however, and there was no possibility of being replaced by an older man, the registrant was considered for deferment for a six-month period.⁹

As the various deferment cases came before the board it gradually established a policy for future cases of similar types. In cases of industrial deferments it was the consensus of opinion of the board members that industry generally could function efficiently with men too old or physically unfit for military service. Most industries cooperated fully; a few, however, were a little slow to fall in line with the policy and insisted at first upon keeping every employee. The farm labor board worked in cooperation with the draft board, passing on applications for farm deferment before they would be considered by the latter board, and eliminating those which were not vital. The precedent established was that the farm must supply products essential to the war effort to the extent of \$2500 a year for each employee. Orchard workers were rarely considered for deferment since the nature of their work made it possible in most cases to secure replacements. The public, as a whole, seemed to be in accord with these regulations.¹⁰

As to other types of deferments, the dependency allowance was enough to provide for most dependents; therefore a dependency deferment was not granted except in cases of extreme hardship wherein a man's presence was needed in the preservation of life. These were classified 3-D, and a total of three such registrants passed through the local board. There were few conscientious objectors, only one being actually classified 4-E, and he became 4-F upon physical examination. The three who came under the classification of delinquent were turned over to the district attorney and indicted by the United States Court. One of these was sentenced to a federal penitentiary; on being inducted into the service one of the other two failed to pass the physical, and the third was later killed in battle.¹¹

The order number system was used by the board to select 1-A registrants for screening. A group of examining physicians was chosen by the board to administer the examination. The physician chosen as chairman of the examining board appointed each assistant to a special task, such as checking physical defects, eyes, nose, heart, and so on, which constituted one phase of the examination. Systematic organization of this nature permitted a thorough examination of large groups with a minimum of work for each station. The Berkeley County Health Department and the Red Cross supplied technicians as assistants for the examining doctors. These tests were similar to those given at induction centers but were not quite as thorough. The absence of both an X-ray machine and a psychoanalyst shortened the local process by two stations. Other systems of examining had been tried previously but were found less efficient.¹²

The final phase of selective service work was that of reemployment and readjustment. The first reemployment committeeman selected was

Mr. W. N. McBride, who served from September 20, 1941, to September 25, 1945, when he was succeeded by Mr. G. C. McKown. Through the efforts of this committee a number of ex-service men have been restored to their former positions and some have had new positions secured for them. One example of the committee's effectiveness was the case of a veteran who was released from his job in a local factory shortly after being rehired upon his return from the service. He presented his case to the reemployment committee, which in turn contacted the plant superintendent for further investigation. The veteran and a company representative were brought before the committee for a review of the case and the committee, after the hearing, recommended that the veteran be given another chance. Notified of this decision, the company contacted the veteran and reached an agreement with him whereby he was to return to work, receiving his regular wage for time lost in addition to a cash payment providing he release any claim against the company.¹³

The average veteran returned with the expectation that the position which he had held before entering service would again be open to him. Most employers were very cooperative and often elevated their returning employees to a better position than before. There were a few difficulties in placing former service men since in many industries expansion had caused an increase in the number of employees and rearranged the jobs. To this end the United States Employment Service lent invaluable assistance.¹⁴

In all phases of its work the local board functioned smoothly and efficiently, meeting its varying monthly quotas from the time of the first call in November, 1940, to the present. Volunteers made up a large part of several quotas; at least one was entirely volunteer.¹⁵

Service and Honors

The first known casualty from Berkeley County was Guy F. Powell, of Martinsburg, a civil engineer in the Philippines, who was killed by enemy action on December 29, 1941, at Fort Mills, near Corregidor.¹⁶ John N. Richards, also of Martinsburg, had been severely wounded in the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7.¹⁷

Sergeant Gilbert R. Jones, of Martinsburg, served as gunner on a B-24 Liberator bomber with the 15th Army Air Force in Italy. "For meritorious achievement in aerial flight while participating in sustained operational activities against the enemy," Sergeant Jones was awarded the Air Medal.¹⁸

Captain John N. Kilmer, a Martinsburg physician, distinguished himself in the fighting around Aprilia and Campoleone during the Italian campaign. He received the Silver Star Medal with the citation which follows:

Captain Kilmer's battalion suffered severe casualties when its position was heavily shelled. He moved through the battalion area while firing was in progress, supervising first aid for all wounded and directing evacuation. His efforts were an inspiration to the troops of the battalion and undoubtedly were responsible for saving many lives. Captain Kilmer's courage and devotion to duty reflect high credit on the Armed Forces.¹⁹

For gallantry in action in the air war over Italy, Lieutenant Joseph W. Haas, a pilot with the Twelfth Air Force, was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. The citation reads in part:

. . .for repeatedly strafing a concentration of enemy transportation when his aircraft was badly damaged by enemy fire, and destroying four large motor transports and damaging eleven other vehicles.

The flight group to which Lieutenant Haas was attached was part of an American unit supporting the British Eighth Army in Italy. It had given an impressive account of itself in the Libian, Tunisian, Sicilian, Italian and French campaigns.²⁰

Lieutenant Harry H. Mitchell, Jr., bombardier on the flying fortress Sunrise Serenader, was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for "extraordinary achievement" and for his "courage, coolness and skill" during the many bombing attacks in which he participated over German industrial centers and military targets in France. Lieutenant Mitchell had previously been awarded the Air Medal with three oak-leaf clusters.²¹

The Bronze Star Medal was presented to Private First Class Lloyd H. Runkles of the 394th Infantry for heroic achievement in action on the German front, March 3, 1945. Runkles made his way with his machine gun through the hail of enemy fire which pinned down his company, until he reached a position from which he could sweep his fire across the enemy emplacements. He inflicted heavy losses of both men and equipment.²²

From the war in the Pacific came other reports of gallantry in action. Lieutenant Frank C. Thomas, Jr., a Marine Corps fighter pilot, flew forty-one combat missions over Japanese territory. On one mission over Rabaul his plane was shot down by Japanese anti-aircraft fire. Thomas bailed out over the ocean, suffered a broken leg, and was finally rescued by amphibious plane. He was awarded the Navy Cross with the following citation:

On January 9, while escorting bombers over the heavily fortified Rabaul, New Britain, area, he attacked and shot down two enemy fighters, probably destroyed two more and damaged a fifth. On January 27, while again protecting bombers over Rabaul, he repelled an attack by a large number of Japanese fighters, destroying three of the intercepting aircraft. His courageous conduct and superior

airmanship against hazardous odds contributed materially to the success of each mission and was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Navy.²³

Three local Marines, Lieutenant Harold B. Thurston of Pikeaside, and Private First Class William A. Woods and Private Roy Knadler, both of Martinsburg, and all of the Fifth Division, participated in the famous landing on Iwo Jima.²⁴

The opening of the sea war in December, 1941, found Lieutenant Commander Charles N. G. Hendrix, of Martinsburg, who had been graduated from the naval academy at Annapolis in 1939, already on submarine duty in the Philippines. During the early months of the war, life on a submarine seemed to be a series of narrow escapes. On one occasion, finding his path blocked by a convoy of Japanese warships, Hendrix with his sub sailed directly under the convoy to safety. On his first tour of submarine duty he had taken part in the sinking of a 14,000-ton enemy tanker and a heavily loaded Japanese troop transport. Later, he became an executive officer on the famous submarine, Sturgeon, which sank a large Japanese destroyer, captured two Japanese survivors near Wake Island, and rescued three American flyers who had been shot down near Marcus. Hendrix was twice awarded the Silver Star Medal and also received the submarine combat insignia with three stars.²⁵

One of the first county men to be taken prisoner by the Japanese was Corporal Alfred Dorsey Collins, Jr., who was reported missing in action in January, 1942. Except for the two postcards which he was permitted to send, Corporal Collins' family had no word from him during the remainder of the war. After V-J Day they received a letter from him stating that he was well, though having lost considerable weight, and expected to be home soon.²⁶

Gunner's Mate E. B. Taylor and Pharmacist's Mate W. C. Boutyard, both of Martinsburg, were members of SAGO, the Sino-American Naval Organization which served as weather observers, intelligence agents and guerillas behind the Japanese lines. In order to carry on their work, many of the Americans in this group learned to disguise themselves expertly as Chinese.²⁷

Several Berkeley Countians, among them Paul B. Martin and the brothers Frank S. and Allen R. Emmert, Jr., volunteered for duty with the American Field Service. Members of this unit, which helped supply ambulance drivers for the British Army, furnished their own uniforms and equipment and received as pay twenty dollars a month.²⁸ The brothers, Frank and "Buzz," lost contact with each other upon being assigned to two different units attached to the British Eighth Army in Italy. One night while driving down a battle-scarred Italian road, Frank became annoyed by the blinding lights of an approaching vehicle, stopped and got out of his ambulance to wait for the oncoming driver. The argument which ensued was cut short with laughter as one brother recognized the other, and a happy reunion followed.²⁸

One of the highest ranking naval officers in Berkeley County and the surrounding territory was Commodore Thomas E. VanMetre of Martinsburg, an Annapolis graduate, who commanded a fleet of submarines during World War I. After the outbreak of World War II he was made Deputy Inspector-General for the United States Navy, with headquarters at the Pentagon Building in Washington.²⁹

Corporal Reno F. Markle, of Bunker Hill, who was reported missing in action in France but later returned safely, was one of five brothers in service from the county.³⁰ Four sons of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Mongan,

of Martinsburg, were called to duty,³¹ as were the four sons of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stewart, only three of whom returned. There were many more than these; quite a few service flags which hung in the front windows of homes in the county contained at least several stars.

It would be impossible in a work of this type to list the deeds of bravery performed by our men in service, even if all were known. Records are sketchy; citations are often stiff, formalized wordings concealing depths of heroism known only to the few men involved. And countless other acts were passed by unnoticed in a time when the heroic was the commonplace. The incidents cited here were intended only to serve as a reminder that when our way of life was being tried on the battlefronts of the world, men from the farms and towns of Berkeley County were giving to their uttermost.

Celebrations on V-E (Victory in Europe) Day, May 8, 1945, were quiet, most of them in the form of dedications to a task not yet completed.³² On V-J Day, the following September 2, however, mill whistles blew, sirens sounded and people rejoiced as the tensions of the past four years fell from them.³³

The general rejoicing here, as everywhere, was soon tempered by the knowledge that though peace had come, the after-effects of war were inescapable. One of these effects was pointed out graphically to the people of the county by one of its native sons, Sergeant Garnett W. Shipley of Martinsburg, who lost his right arm and his left leg in Normandy. Sergeant Shipley, from his bed in McGuire General Hospital, Richmond, wrote an editorial for the post newspaper which was later reprinted in the Martinsburg News. Said he:

The war was ended for those of us who came through reasonably sound and whole--and for those of us who died before returning.

But to those of us who only died in part--who left behind a part of our³⁴ physical beings as hostages to Mars--VICTORY is yet to come.

Berkeley County was also well represented by its women in service. Virginia Butts Whitacre was the first to be sworn into the WAAC, while Louise Henshaw was the first to join the non-commissioned branch of the WAVES.³⁵ Nurses from the two Martinsburg hospitals went into both branches of the service. Three Kings Daughters Hospital graduates, Peggy Grove, Edna Richards and Catherine Welty, chose to be sworn into the Navy Nurse Corps by a former hospital staff member, Lieutenant-Commander Marvin Porterfield, when the latter was home on leave in August, 1942.³⁶

Names of other Berkeley County women in service are listed in the appendix. The statistics, as nearly as can be gathered, show that the county furnished forty-four WACs, twenty-four WAVES, three Marines, eight Army Nurses and eight Navy Nurses.³⁷

War Training Service Unit

During the first year of the war the military found itself handicapped by an acute shortage of aircraft personnel. To alleviate this condition, colleges and universities throughout the country were urged to undertake, in connection with the Civil Aeronautics Authority, civilian pilot training programs for army and navy air cadets. In response to the call Southeastern University of Washington, D. C., sponsored a school which was opened in Martinsburg on September 15, 1942, under the direction of Edward D. Meigs, flight training commander, and Captain Edgar M. Sites, in charge of the student's military training.³⁸

The program became officially known as the War Training Service. The first class of thirty-two student-pilots received their wings in graduation exercises on January 9, 1943.³⁹ The school remained open until late the following fall, when the army and navy air corps were considered sufficiently staffed and the nationwide program was brought to a close.⁴⁰ During the year of its operation, over five hundred reserve army and navy air cadets were given the eight-weeks' course which consisted of four units: primary and secondary flight training, and primary and secondary cross country.⁴¹

Each course averaged forty hours of flying. One glider unit was offered; in addition the men were taught aero-dynamics, aircraft motors, meteorology, mathematics, physics, aircraft identification, chemical warfare and basic military science. A large percentage were afterwards commissioned as pilots in the army and navy air corps.⁴²

Equipment and use of the twenty to thirty planes stationed at Shepherd Field, located about three miles south of Martinsburg, were arranged for by Southeastern University and financed by the War Department. As quarters for the men, Southeastern officials rented the W. F. Wurzburg house on West King Street and, nearby on Tennessee Avenue, the vacant home of Dr. William L. Haltom, who was then on active duty with the army medical corps. The DeHaven house on West King Street served as mess hall.⁴³ Most training was given at Shepherd Flying Field; however, because facilities at the local airport were limited, school officials arranged to transport some flight classes to the airport at Winchester, Virginia. The Martinsburg armory was used for some instruction and for drill in bad weather.⁴⁴

The school was rated highly at inspections. Its work and standing were given special recognition by the Navy and War Departments.⁴⁵

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER I

- 1 West Virginia Blue Book, 1946, p. 302.
- 2 Ibid.
- 3 History, Local Board, Selective Service, Martinsburg, Berkeley County, West Virginia, by E. M. Sites, Clerk. Hereafter cited as History.
- 4 Ibid.
- 5 Ibid. Complete list of members of boards in appendix.
- 6 The Martinsburg Journal, December 24, 1941; January 5, 1942.
- 7 Sites, History.
- 8 Ibid.; Martinsburg News, December 24, 1942.
- 9 Sites, History.
- 10 Ibid.
- 11 Ibid.
- 12 Ibid.; The Martinsburg Journal, February 3 and 4, 1942.
- 13 Sites, History.
- 14 Ibid.
- 15 West Virginia Blue Book, 1946, p. 303; Martinsburg News, October 9, December 4, 1942; February 26, July 9, November 5, 1943.
- 16 The Martinsburg Journal, January 31, 1942.
- 17 Martinsburg News, May 15, 1942.
- 18 Ibid., November 17, 1944.
- 19 Ibid., September 22, 1944.
- 20 Ibid., November 10, 1944.
- 21 Ibid., October 20, 1944.
- 22 Ibid., June 29, 1945.
- 23 Ibid., October 20, 1944.

- 24 Ibid., May 18, 1945.
- 25 Ibid., October 26, 1945.
- 26 Ibid., September 14, 1945.
- 27 Ibid., September 28, 1945.
- 28 Ibid., December 1, 1944.
- 29 Interview with Mrs. John G. Byrer, niece of Commodore VanMetre, January 5, 1953.
- 30 Martinsburg News, February 16, 1945.
- 31 Ibid., July 23, 1943.
- 32 Ibid., May 11, 1945.
- 33 Ibid., September 7, 1945.
- 34 Ibid., September 21, 1945.
- 35 Ibid., October 9, 1942.
- 36 Ibid., August 14, 1942.
- 37 West Virginia Selective Service Headquarters, Charleston; supplemented by Discharge Records, Berkeley County Clerk's Office, Martinsburg; and Martinsburg News files.
- 38 Interview with Captain Sites; Martinsburg News, January 8 and 22, 1943.
- 39 Washington officials appearing on the program were: Charles I. Stanton, Administrator of CAA; J. F. Morris, Director of War Training Service of CAA; W. S. Stewart, Assistant Director; Charles Plank, CAA Publicity Director; and Dr. James A. Bell, President of Southeastern University. Martinsburg News, January 8, 1943.
- 40 Ibid., July 23, 1943.
- 41 Ibid., September 11, 1942; May 28, 1943.
- 42 Interview with Captain Sites.
- 43 Martinsburg News, August 8 and October 2, 1942.
- 44 Ibid., October 2, 1942, and interview with Captain Sites.
- 45 Ibid.

CHAPTER II

HOME FRONT

"The unhappy consequences of our past, patient unwisdom and inaction, crowd upon us. Discussions of such moot questions are idle. Action alone cures. Academic debates are being settled by the stern voices of bombers in the air, by the mighty battle tones on land and sea. Today, one sentiment must prevail--To the Front! Not alone is that front at Pearl Harbor, Midway, Wake Island, Guam, Manila, and in a thousand other spots cruelly important. That front may be at your door, your elbow. It may be within your business organization. It certainly is wherever the life of any defender of our country is jeopardized by the cunning trickery and sabotage of seeming friends or secret enemies.¹

Civilian Defense

Martinsburg is fifty air miles from the nation's capital. Its proximity to Washington, as well as other industrial centers such as Baltimore and Hagerstown, Maryland, placed Berkeley County in the 'dog-fight' zone--the area over which 'dog-fights' would occur between United States and enemy planes in case of an attack on any of those cities.² There was also the possibility that enemy bombers bound for Washington might decide to rendezvous at a point behind the target, for instance over Harpers Ferry, in neighboring Jefferson County, where the Shenandoah River flows into the Potomac and forms with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad a well-defined path to Washington. If the enemy

should for some reason jettison his bombs, they might strike anywhere in the area.

Besides its strategic location on the Potomac, Berkeley County is situated on two main arteries of transportation: the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, running east and west, passes through Martinsburg, as does U. S. Route Eleven, which nearly parallels the eastern seaboard and was chosen by military authorities as the nation's second line of defense. At the outset of the war Route Eleven was widened and sufficiently strengthened to withstand the wear of heavy equipment. In case of successful amphibious landings on the Atlantic Coast, plans were to install defense equipment 'parks' at intervals along the highway which would then become the front line of the nation.³

In the same event of attack up on any of the nearby cities, the wounded and perhaps other evacuees would be transported here as well as to other less densely populated areas. Civilian Defense, Red Cross and State Guard officials kept this possibility in mind.

Carleton C. Pierce, state executive director of civilian defense (later succeed by Carl G. Bachmann) sent a letter in November, 1941, requesting all West Virginia sheriffs, mayors and county courts to undertake the organization of local defense councils and outlining the suggested procedure.⁴

A chairman and vice-chairman must first be selected and charged with choosing the council, which should include representatives of the following phases of community life: protection, with all existing authorities within the county responsible for police and fire protection; utilities, such as communication, light, power, transportation; education;

business and industry, agriculture, health and welfare, these divisions incorporating housing and subsistence, medical services, hospitals, Red Cross and sanitation; information, including newspapers, radio and speakers; labor; veterans' and service organizations; women's activities; and finally defense bond and stamp sales. Names of council members should be sent in for certification by the governor, and, once installed, members should proceed to organize their work along committee lines.⁵

A defense council had been set up in Berkeley County late in 1940, with Edgar H. Berry, of Martinsburg, as chairman. It met on numerous occasions, drew up a constitution,⁶ discussed plans for the defense of the county and promoted defense bond sales and the aluminum drive. Not until after Pearl Harbor, however, was public interest aroused to the point where definite steps could be taken to put the plans into operation.⁷

When, upon the outbreak of war, the seriousness of the situation became apparent, committees were appointed and the organization worked in close cooperation with state and national civilian defense authorities.⁸ A list of county personnel will be found in the appendix. A report of Philip J. Cochran, Supervisor of the Second District, in January, 1943, indicates that the people of the county and their leaders had taken an active interest and that the defense program during its first year had made excellent progress.⁹

Air Raid Warning Service. Martinsburg was divided into seven zones, corresponding to the seven wards. In the county the zones followed the lines of the six magisterial districts. Heading each major division was a zone warden who worked in conjunction with his precinct wardens, sector wardens, and assistant sector wardens, of

which there were from three to six in each sector. The total county-wide organization included 1500 to 1800 men. Mr. G. William Ropp, chief air raid warden, in explaining the plan at the outset, said that the "sector wardens are the key men in the setup and should be thoroughly familiar with their block as to construction of buildings and should also know the people living in the block as to their abilities to help in emergencies such as doctors, nurses, boy scouts and others. The success of the entire program depends...on how seriously the people take it....It can be ruined by half-hearted interest or ridicule."¹⁰

Training courses for air raid wardens and their assistants began early in 1942, and included ten hours of first aid, three of fire fighting and five hours of general instruction. Upon completing his training each warden received an identification card and arm band with the air-precaution insignia. Instructors of the first two classes were George Ropp and Monroe Janney.¹¹ In April six local workers attended the air raid warden school at Jackson's Mill and returned to start classes of their own throughout the county.¹²

The first "alert" was scheduled for 12:30 p.m. on December 17, 1941. Its purpose was to test the signals and let the people become accustomed to them, in preparation for an actual blackout to come later. The siren atop Ryneal Fire Hall on East Burke Street would sound a rising and falling signal for the "alert," and a single long blast five minutes later would signify "all clear." At the appointed time, however, the siren was found to be defective and the test was postponed.¹³

During the next few weeks progress was interrupted by a shuffling of personnel in the executive committee. Berry resigned his post as county coordinator to accept a position in Richmond and was succeeded by J. Howard Myers, Sheriff of Berkeley County, who served until

January, 1945, when he was called to Charleston to become clerk of the West Virginia State Senate.¹⁴ C. J. Crabill, of Martinsburg, was named chairman of the defense council, replacing W. S. Howard who also had resigned.¹⁵ The interest and enthusiasm shown by these two men motivated the defense program throughout the war years.

The long-awaited blackout was finally held on Tuesday, May 19, 1942, announced in Martinsburg by all available sirens and factory whistles, and in the rural sections by auto horns, telephone calls and various other pre-arranged signals. The postoffice in Martinsburg and the two plants engaged in war work did not participate, but 200 air raid wardens, 45 auxiliary police and a number of auxiliary firemen were at their posts. The blackout was reported successful and, even more important, it greatly stimulated the public interest in defense measures.¹⁶

Other practice blackouts and alerts were held in the months that followed. On August 18, 1942, a county-wide blackout was held following civilian defense graduation exercises. Major J. P. Easley, liaison officer of the Fifth Corps Area, who had spoken at the graduation ceremonies, had high praise for officials and citizen cooperation during the blackout, which he viewed from the air. Two major violations were reported: a service station with tourist cabins and a tavern, on opposite ends of Martinsburg.¹⁷

On March 4, 1943, three Eastern Panhandle counties in collaboration with Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania, blacked out under the newly-instituted system of four test signals. The first sounding of the sirens at 8:27 p.m. warned the beginning of the blackout. On the second signal, at 8:53, all moving vehicles were required to dim their lights. On the third, at 9:12, traffic was stopped and all persons out of doors

took cover. The second signal sounded again at 9:22 and traffic proceeded with dim lights as before. The fourth, at 9:33, signalled the all clear, ending the blackout.¹⁸

The statewide blackout on June 29, 1943, lasted thirty-five minutes. Penalties for violations had by this time brought about more complete cooperation.¹⁹ The blackout on August 31 of that year was a complete surprise, with no notice given to any county official. Director Myers reported public response greater than in any previous blackout; there were no violations and it was generally agreed that this test "hit a new high in mobilization."²⁰

The training program for auxiliary firemen was begun in January, 1942, under the direction of Fire Chief Roland Snyder and his assistants. Nearly all the paid members of both Ryneal and Westphal hose companies had been trained at fire schools in Morgantown and were qualified to act as instructors. Those who completed the course received identification cards, certificates and National Defense Firemen's Auxiliary armbands bearing the symbol of the Maltese Cross. Industries, theaters, hotels, hospitals, churches and all other places where large groups of people might gather were asked to send representatives to the classes.²¹ Both men and women responded to the call and at the end of a year the second district supervisor reported the fire-fighting system of the county "adequate in all respects."

Two drivers' Corps units were organized by women of Martinsburg, Pikeside and Hedgesville. The group met originally at the county defense office to place their cars at the disposal of the visiting medical examining board, and then decided to form the corps to handle other situations which might come up. Personnel of the corps were those

people willing to offer their cars and services whenever needed in the local defense effort. Members received the national drivers' corps insignia, a red steering wheel on white background, upon enrolling. Other drivers' units were provided under the Red Cross organization.²³

Training programs were also organized in the early months of the war for auxiliary police, emergency public utilities, emergency public works, and a messenger corps was formed. On August 20, 1942, at Martinsburg High School, about 700 civilian defense workers participated in a review preceding graduation exercises at which 320 persons received certificates from the various schools of training.²⁴ All volunteer workers became eligible for insurance benefits under the free insurance program of the national civilian defense organization.²⁵

In order to have at least several qualified civilian bomb experts in each county, five bomb reconnaissance schools were held throughout the state in the spring of 1943. Representatives from civilian defense organizations, state guard units, state police and industry in neighboring counties in West Virginia, Maryland, and Virginia attended the Martinsburg school.²⁶ Sponsored by the War Department, the purpose of the UXB, or unexploded bomb, school was to teach civilian leaders what to do in case an unexploded bomb should land in the vicinity. The army instructor sent to conduct the classes had studied first-hand the methods practiced on home fronts in England.²⁷

The first in a series of plant protection schools was also held in Martinsburg in March, 1943. Under this nationwide program all manufacturers holding war material contracts were required to organize protection programs and other plants were urged to do so.²⁸

Since civilian defense touched every phase of civilian life, its work necessarily overlapped that of most existing organizations. The school system and the Red Cross, for example, worked in close cooperation with it, as did the boy and girl scouts and the newspapers. Agriculture, with its great problems of wartime food production, was turned over to the county agent and will be discussed in another chapter.

A notable contribution to the county defense effort was made by H. O. Collison, of Martinsburg, a retired Western Union employee who volunteered his services when civilian defense was first organized. Mr. Collison was given the duty of maintaining a smoothly functioning county office and this he did conscientiously until a stroke left him critically ill in June, 1943. He had by this time become eligible for the 3000-hour service ribbon, with which he was presented in a county-wide ceremony that fall.²⁹

Salvage. While some phases of civilian defense received less emphasis as the danger of invasion lessened, others grew increasingly important. Among these was the salvage of metals, paper, fats and all other materials which might be reclaimed for use in the war effort.

The "Salvage for Victory" Committee, under the direction of Lou Cohen of Martinsburg, started a county-wide drive in June, 1942, to collect old rubber and scrap metal. A storage bin for the collected rubber was built in the public square in Martinsburg,³⁰ and five stations for depositing all types of scrap were set up at feed and supply stores throughout the county. The committee contacted farmers by telephone to urge that they cooperate in the drive.³¹

In August, State Civilian Defense Director Carl G. Bachmann assured county leaders of the use of State Road Commission trucks, while urging them to "be active every minute and to call upon everyone" in this essential defense activity.³²

A second drive with the slogan "Get in the Scrap!" was set for Sunday, October 4, 1942, with Harry Hammann of Martinsburg as drive chairman. Boy and Girl Scouts and air raid wardens made preliminary canvasses to determine the available amounts of material which, for this campaign, included scrap metal of all kinds, rubber, rope and bur-lap. The local American Legion post offered a silver loving cup to the school whose students brought in the most signed promises of donations, and another cup for the classroom with the most pledges.³³ Public and independently-owned trucks collected all day on October 4, and on subsequent Sundays. There was some objection to the Sunday collections, but the committee had chosen the only day when most trucks were available.³⁴

Criswell's Florists, of Martinsburg, added interest to the campaign by displaying in their shop window a collection of keys strung on a wire in the shape of a large V. The 'keylection,' which included several six-inch brass keys, some that were antique, and one to a small gold locket, grew as people added their unused keys to it. When it was turned over to the salvage committee at the close of the drive, the collection numbered close to 5000 keys.³⁵

Scrap collected by the salvage committee was sold to local junk dealers and the proceeds used by the county defense organization to purchase equipment such as air raid wardens' helmets. By mid-December, 1942, the local drives had netted \$2229.³⁶ Other organizations added to their treasuries in the same manner.

The third scrap drive was held in November, 1943, again headed by Harry Hammann, with each air raid warden in charge of canvassing

his sector.³⁷ Other collections were made from time to time between drives, and monthly reports were sent by the committee to the state headquarters at Charleston.³⁸ County quotas were handed down by state salvage officials, but these often went unfilled.³⁹ Nevertheless, Berkeley was the first county in the state to receive the War Production Board Salvage Pennant Award.⁴⁰

Tin cans were collected and flattened for shipment by school children under the leadership of Mrs. John Redue, chairman of the tin can rally, and Captain Melvin Jewett of the Salvation Army.⁴¹ Boy and girl scout troops throughout the county made regular monthly collections of old newspapers, scrap paper, magazines and cardboard, profits going toward the purchase of new uniforms.⁴²

War Finance. To promote the sale of war bonds and stamps the War Savings Staff was set up in West Virginia in September, 1941. Similar committees were organized under the direction of the state staff in each of the counties. In July, 1943, the United States Treasury Department merged the War Savings Staffs of the states with the Victory Fund Committees, composed of the nation's bankers, to form the War Finance Committee, the central and permanent financing organization. A re-vamping of the state organization took place simultaneously. The fifty-five counties were divided into eight regions with a chairman over each, and county committees were reorganized and enlarged accordingly. Berkeley County was included in Region 7 with headquarters in Romney.⁴³

The people of the county were quick to respond to the plea of the government to help finance the war. Sale of defense bonds and stamps boomed after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Within a week local

postoffices and banks reported their sales tripled.⁴⁴ Before the end of December, the Martinsburg Postoffice had sold out of \$25 bonds. Sales continued, however, through the use of Washington-approved receipts which would be exchanged by the purchasers for bonds when the new supply arrived. Bond and stamp sales totaled \$86,518.70 in December, more than three times the sales of a normal month.⁴⁵

Combined with the willingness of the people to buy was a cooperative movement among local businesses, schools and industries to expand the sales mediums and make bonds and stamps easily available to everyone: individuals as well as groups; young and old. In Martinsburg, forty-one places besides the postoffice were handling stamp sales by the end of December. A plan had also been approved and started in several schools whereby pupils might save regularly by bringing their dimes and quarters to school and purchasing stamps to fill their albums. This savings plan was instantly successful, and after Christmas was extended to all the schools of the county.⁴⁶

To county leaders one fact was even more gratifying than the total sales in the early weeks of the campaign. The bonds most in demand were those of the smallest denomination (\$25). This, together with the fact that December stamp sales were nearly twelve times that of November, showed that wage earners of average and even lower incomes had felt the necessity and were giving enthusiastic support to the war fund.⁴⁷

This enthusiasm was evidently sustained. Bond and stamp sales for the month of January, 1942, exceeded \$100,000.⁴⁸ Sales in 1942 to August 1, totaled \$622,500, and a quota of \$120,000 was set for the month of August. By this time every Martinsburg industry of any size was cooperating in the payroll savings plan, begun in April, under which

the worker automatically converted a portion of his earnings into bonds each payday. In the local banks 200 man-hours per month were being donated without pay to the sales program.⁴⁹

At intervals throughout the war period, drives were held to emphasize and accelerate the bond purchase program. After the organization of the War Finance Committee, seven war loan drives were held nationally. County and state quotas were set for each drive after the first. Berkeley County sales progressed from \$110,987 in the first to \$1,724,242 in the seventh campaign, the latter exceeding its quota by 173.1 per cent. In one drive, the third, this county fell short of its quota,⁵⁰ but as the months went by, purchasing power increased. During the seven war loans the people of the county invested a total of \$6,688,399 in their nation's future. This was an average oversubscription per drive of 121.3 per cent.⁵¹

USO Servicemen's Center. The Martinsburg USO, of which the entire county was justly proud, was brought about largely through the efforts of one man, C. Granville Smith, recreation chairman of the Berkeley County Defense Council. Throughout the spring of 1943, Mr. Smith and his committee made plans and solicited funds for the establishment of a center for the use of air cadets stationed in Martinsburg, Newton D. Baker Hospital patients and enlisted personnel, and other members of the armed forces.⁵²

Work was begun early in July to remodel the Boyd Building in the public square, prewar location of the Dunn and Seibert Garage. Plans included the installation of a lunch counter, dance floor, writing tables, ping-pong and pool tables, toilets, shower room and lounge.

Blueprints and cost estimates were furnished voluntarily by William A. Goff, architect engineer of Newton D. Baker, and his staff. As the enthusiasm of the chairman spread throughout the community, donations began to pour in: cement, sand and gravel for the floor; venetian blinds and drapery material; a counter, tables and chairs for the luncheonette; a colonial front doorway for the entrance; a gas range, a piano, and the \$2000 needed for construction and remodeling.⁵³ Additional funds for maintenance were subscribed from time to time. Beginning in the fall, expenses were shared by the national United Services Organization. About \$25,000 in all was spent on the center.⁵⁴

By the end of August the center was ready for use, and shortly thereafter became associated with the national USO. J. T. Maddrey, of Raleigh, North Carolina, a trained program director recommended by national headquarters, was employed by the local executive committee to manage and club under national regulations. Mrs. Paul Bennett and Mrs. John Redue, chairmen of the senior and junior hostesses, respectively, had charge of registering persons interested in assisting with social events. Miss Jane Ropp managed the snack bar. Upon the resignation of Maddrey in February, 1944, Mrs. Sallie Ailes was appointed director.⁵⁵

Once organized, the USO functioned smoothly, expanding its services as increasing numbers of patients were brought in to Newton D. Baker. Dances, with orchestras, held on Tuesday and Friday nights, and the Sunday afternoon music hours were well attended. Coffee was served free at all times and there was no charge for Sunday evening supper. Wednesday and Thursday nights were set aside for service men and women to make free recordings of their voices to send home.⁵⁶

A formal wedding was held at the center on Thanksgiving evening, 1943. One room was arranged with an altar, candles and flowers, and

at the dance following the ceremony wedding cake and refreshments were served by the Women's Club of Martinsburg. The groom was a sergeant on the hospital staff; the bride, a civilian hospital employee.⁵⁷

So popular did the USO become that by mid-winter of the first year it had outgrown its quarters. In January, 1944, the executive committee arranged to expand the center by obtaining three rooms in an adjoining building to the rear. This made possible the opening in the spring of a terrace which overlooked tennis courts and horseshoe pits.⁵⁸

The Martinsburg USO received national publicity as an outstanding club. In 1945, of the 4000 in the nation, it was selected by the National War Fund and the USO Public Relations Department to be the subject of a publicity story appearing in magazines and newspapers throughout the country.⁵⁹ The center was closed June 30, 1946, having served, during its peak, an average of 25,000 men and women per month.⁶⁰

A USO for colored service personnel was also opened in Martinsburg through the efforts of the Smith committee. Located on West Race Street, the club held its formal opening on January 31, 1945, and was well attended until it closed in June, 1946. Mrs. Fred L. Ramer was the club director.⁶¹

Red Cross

The record of the Berkeley County Chapter of the American Red Cross has indeed been creditable. Chartered in 1917, the chapter operated during World War I and carried on its routine health and welfare services in time of depression and disaster in the peacetime interim.⁶²

As world-wide need for such services became greater in 1939, the chapter, in accord with national policy, prepared to expand. The call

for relief to the overrun countries of Europe was met during the summer of 1940 by an extended sewing program, in which garments were cut by the Perfection Garment Company, of Martinsburg, sewed by volunteers, usually in their homes, and assembled in the Red Cross room. A total of about 9000 women's and children's dresses and skirts, men's and boys' pajamas, baby layettes, and 'toddlers' packs' consisting of about thirty garments, resulted from this combined effort.⁶³

With the onset of World War II, new projects were launched. In cooperation with the Farm Women's Club the chapter began to assemble army 'kit bags.' These utility bags, of which about 3600 were manufactured, contained some fifteen useful articles and were distributed to overseas-bound troops as they boarded the ships.⁶⁴

Materials for the clothing, kit bag and other such projects were purchased with the fifty million dollars which the federal government had set aside for that purpose. From this fund also, the area Red Cross purchased the yarn with which the local chapter carried out its knitting program. The volunteer knitters produced a total of about 5000 garments, using two types of yarn. From the so-called 'refugee wool' were made sweaters, caps, mufflers, scarves and similar articles for the needy peoples of Europe, while the regulation military wool went into army and navy sweaters, helmets, scarves and cast covers. To facilitate the knitting program as well as to make sure that a minimum amount of yarn was wasted, the chapter made knitting instruction available to all the women of the county. Various members also met with Girl Scouts, Junior Red Cross and other young volunteers, and no one started a sweater until she had shown her ability. As a result, the chapter has to its credit the fact that not one garment was returned.

Each was inspected and then sent to one of the two professional dry cleaners who contributed blocking service. Records kept of the wool show that every bit was knitted up.⁶⁵

From June, 1943, to October, 1945, a surgical dressing room was in operation with sub-chairmen appointed for each afternoon and evening. Surgical gauze was sent in, measured and inspected and about two and one-half million dressings were folded for shipment overseas. Toward the end of the war a waterproof wrapping was added in order that the bundles might be thrown overboard and pushed to their destination on the islands.⁶⁶

Some surgical dressings were also made for Newton D. Baker General Hospital, but more important than these were the hundreds of thousands of necessary items which were sewed both before and after the opening of the institution. The hospital furnished unbleached muslin and a sample of each article, and Red Cross production workers went daily to the hospital to do the sewing.⁶⁷

The organization of these 800 to 1000 women who took part in the Red Cross wartime program was no small job. The chairman, vice-chairman, secretary and treasurer, in addition to all the corps chairmen and a representative of each county district, a total of about thirty-six with the new corps added during the war, met twice monthly.⁶⁸

It was through the corps that the greater part of the Red Cross contribution was made to the war effort. The first of these were the Nurses Aides. After an eighty-hour course at the Kings Daughters Hospital these girls were assigned to the two Martinsburg hospitals and Newton D. Baker, performing the routine duties which proved such valuable aid to the rapidly diminishing nursing staffs. Of the ninety trained, six went on the national honor roll for over 2000 hours of service.⁶⁹

The Canteen Corps consisted of over a hundred women who had passed the nationally prescribed forty-hour course. This group prepared lunches for the blood donors and in the case of several forest fires carried food back into the mountain to the firefighters. Committees working in shifts maintained twenty-four-hour service at Newton D. Baker, while others met all incoming planes at the airport with food for the patients.⁷⁰

To provide clerical assistance for all the chapter services a group of women with some knowledge of stenography volunteered. Two twenty-four-hour courses were held at Burke Street School in Martinsburg, from which sixty-four persons received certificates. Staff assistants were thus available to the draft board when needed, to mobile units, such as X-ray, and to the ration board. They registered all blood donors and kept complete Red Cross case records of service men.⁷¹

The Grey Ladies belonged to a group officially known as the Hospital and Recreation Corps. By visiting and offering advice and counsel to the patients, shopping for them occasionally, and bringing comfort in many small ways, these women proved their worth as morale builders. The corps as a whole provided outings and picnics for the men, among these being a trip to the White House, where they were received by President Truman. Since the work of this corps centered around Newton D. Baker, it was active, averaging 275 hours a week, until the close of the hospital in June, 1946.⁷²

The Motor Corps was set up to provide transportation for members of all other corps, for example the canteen workers and Grey Ladies to and from the airport and hospital, as well as bringing in blood donors. About thirty-four received the training which included standard and advanced first aid and motor mechanics. The chapter was fortunate to

have as its official vehicle a Buick which was lent for the duration by one of Martinsburg's leading citizens.⁷³ This was turned back when the chapter later came into possession of a new Ford station wagon. There were no accidents of any kind.⁷⁴

The smallest corps was that of Arts and Skills. Made up of artists and professional people, it worked entirely at Newton D. Baker, helping in the occupational therapy department with painting, ceramics, plastics, gardening and other things which might develop into postwar vocations or avocations for the wounded veteran. Through this service were provided delicate mechanisms which it would have been impossible to obtain through regular hospital channels.⁷⁵

In addition to the broadened scope of its corps, wartime pressure also brought about expansion of the routine Red Cross services. Foremost of these was blood doning, for which the national Red Cross mobile unit was in Martinsburg nine times.⁷⁶ The blood collected was shipped to Philadelphia where it was made into plasma and sent overseas. A registration booth was usually open two to three weeks ahead of time so that donors might sign up for a certain time during the three-day period.⁷⁷

The process for each donor included three interviews, one by the staff assistants at the time of registration, another by the nurses aides at Calvary Methodist Church in Martinsburg, where the donation was to be given, and a third by the person in charge of the mobile unit. Blood was taken by the doctor in charge; the donor was then fed by the canteen corps and in many cases taken home by the motor corps. The lunches, cost of which amounted to around seventy-five dollars, were donated each day by some organization or individual, often in memorium.⁷⁸

Since public response to the blood donor drive was slow at first, the committee found it necessary to put on an extensive campaign.

Cooperation was urged through movies, churches, radio, newspapers, placards and other means. Many merchants solicited in advertisements and window displays, in an effort to have 160 donors each day after the eliminating process had taken place. As a result of this campaign the quota was met each time except once, that failure being due to an epidemic of influenza. A total of 4080 pints was collected, and fifty-four persons upon donating eight pints received the pin and certificate of the gallon club.⁷⁹

Special note should be made of the full cooperation by the Interwoven Mill. Mill officials arranged that workers be let off on the days they volunteered to give blood. They also provided transportation, supplied iron pills to the donors, and hired a nurse to check on them occasionally after their return to work.⁸⁰

Fear was the impetus for a great deal of first-aid training during the early part of the war. All civilian defense training was turned over to the Red Cross.⁸¹ State headquarters urged all air raid wardens and others taking part in civilian defense activities, as well as factory and business personnel, to enroll in a first-aid course.⁸² Many who attended the classes were housewives. In this manner a knowledge of first-aid became more widespread among the people of Berkeley County than ever before.

Red Cross funds were raised by means of a drive in the spring and fall of each year with the exception of 1942, when the fall drive was not held but carried over and combined with the National War Fund Drive in March, 1943.⁸³ Goals, which ranged from \$7000 to \$24,250, were exceeded in every case, sometimes by as much as \$3000.⁸⁴

The Junior Red Cross, besides meeting in knitting classes once a week and contributing to the army and refugee garments, made articles such as smoking stands for Newton D. Baker.⁸⁵

Water safety had been a permanent part of the Red Cross program since 1932, its importance due mainly to several local quarries with very treacherous swimming conditions. The county program included sending two persons each year to the national Red Cross Swimming School for training qualified instructors. During the summer months classes were held in the Martinsburg City Hall pool ranging in grade from beginning swimming to life saving.⁸⁶ These were discontinued, however, during two war years: in 1943 to help prevent the spread of a polio epidemic, and again in 1944 when the army took over the pool for hospital use.⁸⁷

Under the head of disaster preparedness a very detailed plan was worked out, with an organization set up to provide food, shelter, transportation, nursing and first-aid in case of an emergency. No emergency, however, presented itself.⁸⁸

Six classes in home nursing were held by registered nurses during the early part of the war.⁸⁹ The number diminished later as the already overworked nurses became almost impossible to secure.

The Red Cross also offered its services to parents who wished to locate and visit patients in Newton D. Baker, and was responsible for checking on illness in families for emergency furloughs.⁹⁰

An account of the Berkeley County Chapter would not be complete without mention of an outstanding personality in Red Cross, Mrs. Russell J. Bergen, whose record of service cannot be overlooked. In the national organization, Mrs. Bergen served on the rules of procedure committee for the national convention which met in Philadelphia

in 1946. She was the only woman on the committee of ten selected to set the national Red Cross budget. A volunteer worker since 1921, she was chairman of the Berkeley County Chapter from 1935 to 1947, and has served on the board of directors since her retirement. Her wartime duties included the organization of all corps and serving as volunteer special services chairman. To these tasks Mrs. Bergen devoted 18,200 hours.⁹¹

The Educational System

On Monday, December 22, 1941, classes in Martinsburg High School were interrupted by three short rings of the bells. Students and teachers filed out of their classrooms, marched to the lower halls and lined up in double file. In two minutes another bell sounded the 'all-clear' and the students' first experience with an air raid alarm ended in an orderly manner.⁹² Similar drills were soon to be held in the other schools of the county, in preparation for the day of an actual attack.

Soon after the outbreak of war, State Superintendent of Schools, W. W. Trent, mailed a bulletin to the office of each county superintendent requesting that "victory" programs be organized in West Virginia schools to meet the "unusual problems before us and the new problems which will face us during the reconstruction."⁹³ The superintendent suggested that feeding and sleeping facilities be made available in schools in case of emergency. He advocated extension of vocational training classes, especially in agriculture, and asked that home economics teachers work in cooperation with county nutrition committees to set up community centers in which to care for local people and refugees from nearby sections who might be made homeless in the event of an attack.⁹⁴

In response to the state superintendent's recommendations, a survey was made in Berkeley County of school buildings which might be used for quartering troops or evacuees, feeding capacities, available cots, and other pertinent information. Results of the survey were forwarded to the state office of civilian defense and included in the State Survey of Available School Facilities for War Emergency.⁹⁵ The county report is summarized in the appendix.

Also in response to the superintendent's suggestions, vocational agriculture shops in the three Berkeley County high schools were opened for evening classes. Information on the newest methods of scientific farming, pest control, fertilizers and other data from the Department of Agriculture and the experiment stations were in this manner made available to the farming public. Farmers who wished to do so might bring equipment to these shops for repairs. Many farmers found this service invaluable to their continued operation.⁹⁶

Community canning centers were set up as part of the Hedgesville, Martinsburg and Bunker Hill school programs. Operating under the supervision of the vocational agriculture instructors, the canneries were open several days and evenings a week during the canning season. Anyone might bring in produce or meats, prepare the food himself with the aid of a trained instructor and steam pressure equipment, pack it into containers and leave it to be processed. This new method, besides being efficient and inexpensive (the processing fee was a few cents per can), provided the opportunity of companionship with other canners. The advent of the community canning center made such institutions as the home apple-butter kettle almost completely a thing of the past.

One of the chief contributions of the Berkeley County Educational system was the training of war workers. Close proximity to Washington, Baltimore and the Fairchild Aircraft Plant in Hagerstown, Maryland, gave rise to the need for a specialized training program which was instituted in the summer of 1940--one of the first in the United States. Through the National Defense Training School, located in the old high school building in Martinsburg, a total of 1233 pupils were trained in welding, sheet metal work and auto mechanics. Most of these students became Fairchild workers, although some went to Glenn L. Martin and Bethlehem Steel in Baltimore.⁹⁷

In the high schools more emphasis was placed upon mathematics and physics as preparation for service in the armed forces. Secretarial training also became a popular and important course and a great many girls from Berkeley County schools soon upon graduation became workers in Washington offices. Enrollment in all the high schools dropped as boys (and some girls) of age left school to go into industry, to help at home, or to volunteer for military duty.⁹⁸ By May, 1943, fifty high school boys were doing full-time farm work and others were working on a part-time basis. Under a state ruling of April 1 of that year, which permitted leaves of absence for such work providing they had passing grades, the students were given extra school credits.⁹⁹

Twenty teachers entered the service and twenty more went into war work. There was no real shortage, however, since many former teachers made their services available. Not over a dozen emergency teaching certificates were issued during the war.¹⁰⁰

Graded schools, junior high and high schools alike participated in the salvage of tin and fats and in the bond and stamp sales.¹⁰¹ The

The teachers of the county contributed more than ten thousand hours to the war rationing campaign.¹⁰²

In general, the school system was subjected to the same dislocations as any industry in wartime. Parts for busses, furnaces and other equipment became increasingly difficult to obtain; upkeep and supplies were curtailed; but after the endless adjustments and intensive planning necessitated by the war years the school system found itself with a vital and a more fluid program.¹⁰³

State Guard

The national guard company serving Berkeley County is the descendant of a rather illustrious ancestry. It has the distinction of being the second oldest military unit in the United States. Organized by Morgan Morgan in 1735, it has participated in every major struggle since the French and Indian War. During the Civil War it was known as Company F of the First Regiment, West Virginia Militia, one of the few regiments in the country with companies in both the Union and Confederate Armies. Regimental insignia now carry both the blue and gray. In 1926 the First West Virginia Infantry, having been reorganized, became the 201st Regiment, National Guard, and Company F has since been known as Company D.¹⁰⁴ Upon the outbreak of World War II it was again mustered into federal service, sent to Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, for further training and thence to Alaska. Later it crossed the Pacific to take part in the New Guinea and Philippine Campaigns.¹⁰⁵

With the state militias away, communities of this and other states were left without protection. Governors of the respective states, in

conjunction with the National Guard Bureau, therefore, authorized the activation of state guard units. Governor Matthew M. Neely immediately issued an order providing for the formation of a state guard in West Virginia.¹⁰⁶ In February, 1942, Adjutant General Carleton C. Pierce instructed Edgar M. Sites, of Martinsburg, to reactivate Company D as an infantry rifle unit in Berkeley County. Sites organized the company and it was officially recognized in March, with two officers, Sites as Captain, B. Wood Rannels, First Lieutenant, and forty-two enlisted men.¹⁰⁷ In August of that year Sergeant Cecil W. Wood was commissioned Second Lieutenant, supplying the full complement of officers.¹⁰⁸

At least two local industries contributed material support to the unit. Some twenty-five to thirty blankets, factory rejects, were obtained from the Dunn Woolen Company for a nominal sum, while the Interwoven Mill furnished each member of Company D with two pairs of socks.¹⁰⁹

The company drilled twice each week during the war years, using the armory in Martinsburg as headquarters. Its training schedule, while following the basic training of the regular army, laid particular emphasis upon guard duty, traffic control, bayonet practice, quelling of domestic disturbances, rifle marksmanship, first aid and protection against chemical warfare. During the height of the war, weekend maneuvers of some type were held every other week. These included twelve-mile hikes with full field pack, bombing raids in which paper sacks filled with flour were used as explosives, and drill demonstrations on the Martinsburg High School athletic field depicting the dispersion of crowds.¹¹⁰

Company D was equipped with bayonets, tear-gas, rifles and sub-machine guns. One case of ammunition was set aside to be opened only upon orders from the adjutant general in the event of an emergency. An instant mobilization plan was kept ready.¹¹¹ Blackout notices were relayed to the commanding officer as soon as received by the local civilian defense office. Within fifteen minutes the company could be mobilized and performing its blackout function, that of guarding state and federal property. If, in case of an actual attack, an unexploded bomb should become imbedded in the surrounding territory, state guard instructions were to maintain a guard line around the place where the bomb entered the ground until an army bomb expert could arrive to remove the detonator.¹¹²

The unit did not participate but was alerted during the hurricane disaster at Shinnston. It was called to active duty on one occasion to help fight a forest fire in the northern section of the county. At the Martinsburg airport the company guarded the Fairchild experimental planes brought there for trial flights. Some of the officers and non-commissioned officers were used in the training of army and navy reserve cadets studying aviation under the War Training Service at Shepherd Field.¹¹³

The age limit for the company was eighteen to sixty-two; physical examinations were waived during the war. One great contribution of this and other units of the state guard organization was that of pre-induction training to those who went into the national service. Men who went from the ranks of the state guard into the regular army found it less difficult to make the adjustment from civilian to military life and in many cases promotion was rapid. Of the thirty to thirty-five

members of Company D who entered the various branches of the federal service, all had good records and all emerged either commissioned or noncommissioned officers.¹¹⁴

The local unit was represented at the staff school for guard officers held at Fort Knox in February, 1943, and November, 1944, by the Fifth Service Command, and at summer training camps during the war years at Camp Dawson, Preston County.¹¹⁵ Company D was chosen to put on the field demonstrations at camp¹¹⁶ and received in 1944 special commendation for efficiency and services rendered from the chief of the National Guard Bureau of the War Department. Lieutenant Wood also received special commendation for services rendered during the summer training camp of 1944 from the army instructor and commanding officer of the West Virginia Military District, Colonel John A. Bickel.¹¹⁷

In 1945 Captain Sites was removed as captain and given active command of the First Battalion which included Martinsburg, Morgantown, Fairmont and Kingwood. He was replaced as commanding officer for Company D by Lieutenant Rannels. Lieutenant Wood at the same time was made captain and placed on the general staff of the First Regiment as intelligence officer. This honor is mentioned because two such promotions had not previously been made from the same county.¹¹⁸

Adjutant-General Pierce in June, 1945, received from Major-General John F. Williams, acting chief of the National Guard Bureau of the War Department, the following commendation:

I have reviewed with interest the Annual Inspection Report of Company D, First Regiment, West Virginia State Guard, Martinsburg, West Virginia, dated 2 April, 1945, and especially the remarks of the inspecting officer:

This is an 'Excellent' unit. In the completeness and thoroughness of the training it is the best unit this inspector has inspected in the West Virginia State Guard.

This is significant and I commend the officers and men for their interest and industriousness in maintaining an excellent unit.¹¹⁹

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER II

- 1 From an address by Dr. Henry T. McDonald to the Martinsburg Kiwanis Club, December 31, 1941, The Martinsburg Journal, January 2, 1942.
- 2 Martinsburg News, August 21, 1942.
- 3 The Martinsburg Journal, December 21, 1941.
- 4 West Virginia State OCD Bulletin, December 11, 1941, War History Commission Records, West Virginia University Library, Morgantown (Hereafter referred to as WHCR).
- 5 Ibid.
- 6 The Martinsburg Journal, June 20, 1940.
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CHAPTER III

INDUSTRY

Agriculture

Of the approximately 202,240 acres of land area in Berkeley County, 148,806 acres, or 76.3 per cent is utilized in farm production. This land is divided into 1338 farms, averaging 111.2 acres in size and with an average value of \$60.27 per acre. Most farm operations in Berkeley County are diversified, raising a variety of products primarily for sale, fruit orchards are the most numerous, with dairying and live-stock production ranking second and third in importance. In 1940, 2323 persons were engaged in farming, making it the largest industry, from the standpoint of number of employees, in the county.¹

The chief agricultural coordinator is the county agent, appointed by the West Virginia Agricultural Extension Service. The county extension organization consists of the County Farm Bureau and eight community clubs, the presidents and secretaries of which compose a Farm Bureau executive committee with representatives from all communities. It is thus a well informed body and from its discussions and recommendations the county agent builds his general yearly plan.²

After the outbreak of war, emphasis and activities of the county organization shifted away from projects such as cooperative buying and selling and the central theme became one of wartime adjustments.³ It was no longer a matter for theoretical discussion but of vital importance that production be kept as high as possible, yet without greatly

depleting the soil. Studies and experiments must be made with new types of fertilizers since many of those used heretofore contained materials necessary to the war effort and their availability would soon be curtailed.⁴ Through pamphlets, newspaper articles and talks to meetings of farm organizations, County Agent W. N. McClung and his aides urged farmers to cooperate closely with the Soil Conservation Service. Typical of the methods stressed by these leaders was that of using the same amount of fertilizer on fewer acres of the best land so that, regardless of the length of the war, erosion and intensive production would not leave the soil depleted.⁵

Special attention was given to the saving of all crops produced. Farmers were posted on methods of adapting old machineries to new uses as well as those of using labor more efficiently. A new machine for husking corn on the stalk was introduced as a labor saver and came into popular use during the war. In the field of horticulture organized assistance was given to growers as to the proper practices in soil building, fertilization and cover crops, resulting in a larger fruit crop than would have been possible ordinarily under the same circumstances. A similar program pertaining to livestock was equally effective in bringing about an increased production of eggs, milk and meat during 1942.⁶

Early in the first year of the war, several new committees were organized in the county to cope with the rapidly arising problems. Farm machinery was allotted by a Machinery Ration Board. Established under the direction of the United States Secretary of Agriculture, this group was headed by the county chairman of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration⁷ and consisted of three farmers and the county agent,

who served as secretary. The board met at regular intervals and apportioned according to the farmers' needs the pieces of equipment allocated to the county.⁸

The AAA Chairman was also named by the Secretary of Agriculture to head the County War Board. This group was composed of the local representatives of governmental agencies in the county: the Farm Credit Administration, the Federal Security Administration, the Soil Conservation Service and the Extension Service. As an overall advisory group it helped locate and make arrangements for essential supplies.⁹ The main function of the board, however, was that of providing a means of cooperation between farm people and the selective service board in recommending deferments. Much time and effort were devoted to this and the draft board cooperated well.¹⁰

As the labor problem became increasingly acute, a local organization, known as the Farm Labor Sub-committee, was set up for the purpose of cooperating with state and federal emergency farm labor programs to provide facilities for housing and feeding imported workers and determining wage scales for piece work, particularly in the harvesting of apples. This organization, which later developed into a legally incorporated agency known as the Eastern Panhandle Fruit Growers' Association, contacted every available source of outside help, and through its efforts and job of harvesting fruit and farm crops was greatly facilitated.¹¹

Heads of local undustrial plants cooperated by urging workers to take farm jobs after hours and much part-time help was secured in this manner. A local publicity campaign with the theme "Let's pick our own apples!" brought many people into the orchards who

would ordinarily have bought their apples already picked. The WPA and the United States Employment Service turned all available help over to the farms. A great deal of work was done by school children and the board of education approved a plan, never used, to close the schools entirely if the necessity arose.¹²

Publicity from the various farm organizations and cooperation from other agencies resulted not only in larger all-round production during 1942 but laid the basis for the "all-out" effort of 1943. It also helped a number of farmers make the necessary adjustments without which their farms would have changed hands or shortly ceased production. In spite of all this the outlook at the close of the first year of the war was gloomy. The county agent wrote:

Never has there been a time, in my experience, when so many farmers were faced with the job of making adjustments in their farming business if they were to keep on operating....Each farm presents its own particular combination of problems.¹³

Most farmers who remained on their land were willing to do everything possible to produce food in the increased quantities so vitally needed for the war effort if they could be sure their crops could be harvested, so that by producing they would not be causing themselves financial loss. It was this fear, however, that caused many farmers to plan their operations according to the supply of reliable and skilled help available. To this end the War Board worked in cooperation with the selective service board, furnishing complete information on cases of agricultural deferment. On the strength of this information, agricultural deferments were granted to nearly five hundred farm men and boys. This was one great stabilizing factor in the problems of food production. The Berkeley County Wartime

Transportation Committee worked with the War Board to get certificates of war necessity and the gasoline necessary for non-highway work.¹⁴

Almost a third of the crop land of the county is set in tree fruits. Of these nineteen-thousand acres, eighteen thousand produce apples and the remaining thousand, peaches and cherries. The 1944 crop totaled 1,350,000 bushels of apples, 150,000 of peaches and 40,000 of cherries. This yield was approximately a ten year average.¹⁵

Two schools in job instruction for orchard foremen were held in February of that year as in the previous winter and were well-attended, which made for better handling of inexperienced help. Because of good weather and the help of 150 to 200 women, boys and girls, the cherry crop was harvested with very little loss. Many cherry workers moved on into the peach picking season and that crop was harvested by local workers with the exception of sixty high school age boys, brought into the county with adult foremen, by the Extension Service.¹⁶

The big job, however, was harvesting the apple crop. The farm labor sub-committee began early in the year to investigate possible sources of labor. When the committee in mid-summer became incorporated as the Eastern Panhandle Fruit Growers' Association, its first move was to raise about \$9000 to repair a deserted livestock auction building in Martinsburg.¹⁸ By September 18, 334 Barbadians had been moved in. The start was discouraging: bad, rainy weather prevailed in September and October; the work of handling the long ladders and picking apples without bruising them was new and difficult. In October an epidemic of mumps broke out, this disease also new to the men. As natives of a semi-tropical climate, they were

bothered by cold mornings; some days more than half stayed in camp. However, when the season ended in mid-November, the men had picked about 430,000 bushels of apples, earning themselves about \$43,000. Growers admitted that in spite of the trouble and confusion, the Barbadians had saved the apple crop.¹⁸

In the spring of 1945, with the labor outlook still extremely bleak, the Fruit Growers' Association, working through the War Food Administration, opened a camp of one hundred Jamaicans. Of these, forty-two refused to work and were sent home, the plan being to replace them later and to secure three to four hundred more for harvest time. The apple crop, however, was reduced to about one-third by killing frosts early in May.¹⁹ Production work could then be handled by local help, and so on May 12 the Jamaican camp was closed and the men returned.²⁰

Because of the freeze the 1945 sour cherry crop was about twenty-five per cent of full production. Picking was done by local help--women, boys and girls. Local women and children also thinned peaches. A vigorous campaign was put on to recruit peach pickers. Extension service aid prevented crop loss here by recruiting about fifty boys in other parts of the state and bringing them in to help with the picking.²¹

Much of this year's small apple crop went to the processing plants. Many growers sent their entire crops and did not operate packing houses at all. This provided more labor for picking and moving the crops, but outside help was still needed. Through the cooperation of officials at Newton D. Baker General Hospital, the Fruit Growers' Association²² succeeded in opening a camp of

seventy-five German prisoners of war on the hospital grounds. Others came later to make a total of 134. These men supplied the additional help needed to harvest the apple crop without loss, prune, clean up the orchards and catch up on other back work. Since the corn harvest was far behind schedule some prisoners were set to cutting corn and filling silos, and while the advent of bad weather found some corn still standing in the fields, the largest part of the crop had been safely stowed away.²³

Many farmers were agreeably surprised at the cooperation offered by the German prisoners. Most of the men were apparently well acquainted with nearly all types of farm work, and were industrious to the point of staying overtime in several instances to repair a broken machine. With the exception of a few who were still arrogantly Nazi, the farmers had high praise for their German workers.²⁴

The war brought about a profound change in agriculture in Berkeley County. As a result of united attempts to increase production, the row-crop type of small farm tractor replaced horses almost entirely. Other types of labor-saving machinery were bought by farmers as they became available: side-delivery rakes, hay loaders, pick-up bailers, forage harvesters, corn pickers, corn binders; and all manner of implements such as plows, cultivators and discs. This county and a few along the Ohio River received practically all the farm machinery allotted to the state, so that the county went almost from horse to power farming. And there was, as a direct result, a tremendous increase in production of food.²⁵

Much custom work was done, machinery being allotted many times on that basis. Nearly anyone who obtained a piece of equipment

arranged to keep it in use throughout the season. There was a great increase in electricity for labor-saving, motor driven devices used on farms. There was also much extension of power lines to sufficient size farms. For example, a farmer might obtain a 100-foot extension for every milk-producing cow he owned. The government made a special effort to increase milk production. When the war began there were very few mechanical milking machines. When it ended practically every farmer had one.²⁶

In order to keep equipment in good working order at a time when its manufacture was so sharply curtailed, three farm machinery repair shops were set up by vocational-agriculture departments in the high schools and two by the farmers themselves. At these shops welding might be done, parts replaced and other repairs made well ahead of the time when a breakdown might seriously disrupt production.²⁷

In addition to power farming, the use of a three-fold program advocated by the extension service and the war board was a second important means of stepping up production per acre. Farmers were informed, through bulletins, talks and newspaper articles, as to newly-developed, higher producing strains of grain. Information concerning new chemicals available for use in pest and disease control was disseminated in the same manner. Finally the farm leaders stressed proper fertilization. If, they said, the farmer would increase his expenditure for fertilizer, the net profits would be far greater in proportion.²⁸

The three phases of this plan were emphasized in particular with respect to corn, with the result that hybrid corn increased during the war period to from twenty to eighty per cent of the total

crop, and corn production has since been going steadily upward.²⁹

The need for increased production of livestock led to a special effort to eradicate diseases. Farmers were urged to vaccinate for cholera and black leg, to cull out animals no longer useful for milk production or breeding purposes and to take steps to reduce loss from diseases and parasites which had formerly received slight attention. This program brought about an improvement in the general standards of livestock production.³⁰

The campaign to get every family to grow enough food for its own use and a little extra was promoted through meetings, movies, and canning demonstrations. Information was made available on preservation of food in brine and by dehydration, methods of producing, and determining amounts needed for home use.³¹ The program met with enthusiastic cooperation. More than one hundred persons attended the garden school conducted in Martinsburg early in 1942 under the auspices of the Department of Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics. Extension workers from West Virginia University gave illustrated lectures on plant diseases and pest control, preparing a garden, and production methods. With less fresh food available, they pointed out, due to war transportation and labor difficulties, and to reduce the cost of living as well as increase the nutritional value in the diet, every family was urged to have a garden.³² At this and subsequent schools, extension service bulletins covering nearly every phase of the subject were made available so that each person might find help with his own particular gardening problems.

In Martinsburg there was good response to the victory garden program,³³ although the drouth during the first year, which reduced production to nearly half, discouraged many. Beginning in 1943 the Junior Board of Trade sponsored a plan whereby the city was divided into zones and a board of local agricultural experts appointed to hold meetings at schools located in the various zones.³⁴ Evidently no production records were kept, nor would they have been impressive; but the vegetables growing in small plots of ground throughout the city indicated a widespread interest in the project.³⁵

Many families in the smaller communities began to raise more of their own food. especially meat. Some obtained stands of bees to produce the honey which would stretch their scant sugar supply. Special allotments of sugar for home canning encouraged the housewife to preserve everything possible so that nothing might go to waste.³⁶

Proof of the fact that both urban and rural families were convinced of the necessity to raise more food may be seen in a statement issued by local chain stores and independent grocers in 1943, to the effect that canned garden products were not moving so rapidly as in former years. This was true in particular of beans, tomatoes and corn.³⁷

Thus did agriculture in Berkeley County meet its wartime challenges. The county was fortunate in having able agricultural leadership during this critical time.

Baltimore and Ohio Railroad

The industry in Berkeley County with the greatest war potential and having the most direct connection with the national war effort

was the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. At the outset, B & O officials, realizing that regular civilian travel would soon be supplemented by thousands of servicemen and defense workers, besides the great quantities of war materials to be transported, began to make ready all available equipment for service.³⁸ Soon they were to find every facility of the whole system taxed to the limit.³⁹

Within six weeks after Pearl Harbor, 600,000 troops had been moved by the railroads of the nation. This was, according to B & O President R. B. White, the "largest single organized military movement in our history."⁴⁰ Nearly twice as many troops were moved in the United States during the next two months. In March, 1942, all B & O freight cars averaged 45.5 miles per day, an all time high.⁴¹ Before the end of the war this record was to be broken many times. By 1944 freight traffic was 122 per cent above that of 1939 and passenger traffic was 324 per cent above the same prewar level. This tremendous increase was accomplished without a corresponding increase in the number of passenger and freight cars and with approximately the same number of locomotives as in 1939.⁴²

In addition to the troop movements which passed through the county, the railroad, after the opening of Newton D. Baker Hospital, brought the wounded in from the ships as they docked in Norfolk and other ports. A spur of the main line provided service direct to the hospital.⁴³

The main wartime importance of Berkeley County to the B & O Railroad lay in its storage yards located at Cumbo. From April, 1942, to the close of the war a total of 7000 carloads of war materials was shipped to the Cumbo Yards direct from the manufacturing

plants in this storage area. Here it was stored, to be released as ships became available in the eastern seaports.⁴⁴

The innovation of the World War II storage yards was a marked improvement over previous methods of supply for two reasons. The fact that materials were not stored at the factories but were moved as quickly as they were turned out had a favorable effect on morale, and indirectly, on production at the plants. Whereas in World War I the yards were full of cars which sat loaded while few were available for shipping, the new system provided an orderly movement and prevented shortages of equipment.⁴⁵

For every man who took part in a landing on enemy territory, five to ten tons of supplies were required.⁴⁶ The two most important items of equipment stored at Cumbo during the early part of the war were railway cars and airplane landing mats. The cars were stored 'knocked down' ready to be assembled upon arrival at their destination. This destination, according to local railroad officials, was the Middle East. Here they were to be put to use by the railroad which was built during the war from the Persian Gulf to Teheran for the purpose of hauling supplies to the Russians. The landing mats, made of steel links, could be unrolled and joined to form landing strips on the sandy beaches of the South Pacific. Smaller amounts of other equipment such as pipe of all kinds, bromide and other chemical warfare materials, and such railroad equipment as asphalt, piling, cross-ties and machine trucks were also stored at Cumbo Yards.⁴⁷

All orders were handled by code number. When markings grew confusing code schemes were changed, until finally a system of colors was adopted to indicate different types of equipment. Thus, whether

a shipment was bound for the war zone in Italy, Africa or elsewhere, the recipient was able to understand and differentiate between, for example, cases of machine guns and those of typewriters. The local office never had a bill of lading returned. Both railroad officials and the government were pleased with the way in which the equipment was handled. The appreciation of the latter was expressed in a letter of commendation from the War Department.⁴⁸

Limestone Industry

Practically all of the limestone produced in West Virginia is found in the Eastern Panhandle, more specifically in Berkeley and Jefferson Counties. During the prehistoric ages of the great inland seas this deposit was formed by the collection of layer upon layer of shells and the skeletons of sea animals into a vast bed one hundred and more feet thick which bisects Berkeley County and extends north with the Appalachian Mountains to Pennsylvania and south into Virginia. The stone in this belt, known as the Mosheim Formation, is almost pure (ninety-seven per cent) calcium carbonate.⁴⁹

Because of its purity the Mosheim limestone is the best substance known for use as flux in the manufacture of steel. About seventy-five per cent of the total production is shipped directly from the mines and quarries to steel mills in the New England States, the Pittsburgh area, Baltimore and the deep South. One thousand to 1500 pounds of stone are required in the production of a ton of steel.⁵⁰

The largest of the several limestone operations in Berkeley County is the Standard Lime and Stone Company, located south of Martinsburg on Route Nine. In addition to the raw stone, which is

graded to suit the various methods of steel production, two other basic products, lime and cement, are put out by the Standard plant. The lime manufactured here is used in the compounding of certain drugs, as a chemical in water purification plants and in other chemical processes. It also has some uses in the steel industry and, after hydration, is widely used in agriculture and in the manufacture of masonry mortars, which compose the third basic product.⁵¹

At the beginning of the war Standard employed a total of 550 men. This figure, due to draft calls and the migration to defense plants, dropped steadily during the war years to a low of 344 in July, 1945.⁵² This loss of manpower, with the corresponding increase in limestone demand by the steel mills, for a time threatened the efficient operation of the plant. The situation was remedied somewhat, however, by increased mechanization of two types, both of which made possible more stone production per man-hour. The installation of larger crushing equipment allowed the use of slower explosives, breaking the stone into larger pieces. This provided a greater yield of the larger eight-by-five inch open hearth stone, the type most in demand by the steel mills. The second factor, conversion from track to diesel trucks for underground haulage, cut down on personnel formerly needed in the maintenance of track and dinkies, and at the same time provided far greater flexibility of operation.⁵³

Textiles

The textile industries in Martinsburg have for nearly half a century made up a large portion of the county's economy. However,

since the close of World War II two of the plants discussed in this section have ceased to operate. The Berkeley Woolen Company closed in 1948,⁵⁴ a victim of the shift in demand from pure woolen goods to those of the newer synthetic fibers; and early in 1953 the Dunn Woolen Company became the second "casualty of changing conditions."⁵⁵

Dunn Woolen Company. The Dunn Company, consisting of the main plant at Martinsburg and subsidiary plants at Bunker Hill and Middleway, Jefferson County, worked entirely on government contracts from the beginning to the end of the war. During the first two and a half years its looms produced twenty-ounce olive-drab suiting for making uniforms and the heavy thirty-two-ounce overcoating--over a million yards of each.⁵⁶

The army quartermaster-general in 1943 informed company officials of a shortage of blankets. This was entirely new product for the local mill. Nevertheless 800,000 to a million blankets were woven. The Berkeley Upholstering Company, closed for the duration, was rented by Dunn officials and here tables were set up for cutting and finishing the blankets.⁵⁷

Because of its high-priority rating the company had no trouble obtaining repair parts⁵⁸ and lost only thirty of its 528 employees during the war years.⁵⁹

Berkeley Woolen Company. The Berkeley mill at Martinsburg, a branch of the main plant at Winchester and a slightly smaller operation than Dunn, also switched entirely to war production, manufacturing cloth for army overcoats and uniforms. Beginning New Year's Day, 1942, both mills began working on a twenty-four-hour day, seven-day week basis.⁶⁰ This was the very critical period in which

thousands of men were being inducted into the armed forces and uniforms were necessary with which to outfit them. After four months of continuous operation, the mills were able to return to a five-day week, still running twenty-four hours a day.⁶¹

Berkeley also filled government orders for army blankets. During the last year of the war, about fifty per cent of its production was military and the remainder, civilian goods.⁶²

Perfection Garment Company. The Perfection Garment Shop and its branch plants in Charles Town and Keyser ordinarily limit themselves to the manufacture of women's house dresses, pajamas and work uniforms. An exception was made during the war when the Martinsburg plant filled two types of government orders. About 25,000 dozen each of seersucker slips were produced to be sent to Europe under the Lend-Lease program, and cotton shorts were made for the men in the United States Navy. The latter were sent to various navy quartermaster depots.⁶³

Some wartime shortages of thread, repair parts and needles were felt, but had no serious effect upon the operation of the plant.⁶⁴ Employment dropped from 395 in December, 1941, to 230 in July, 1945, most of these being women who went into defense work.⁶⁵

Interwoven Stocking Company. Interwoven is the largest exclusive manufacturer of men's hosiery in the world. From the Martinsburg plant direct to the retailer are sold over 2,000,000 dozen pairs of socks a year. Subsidiary plants are located in Hagerstown, Maryland; Berkeley Springs, West Virginia; and Morristown, Tennessee. All production from these smaller mills comes to the Martinsburg plant where it is dyed, finished and boxed for shipping. A million

dozen pairs are kept in stock so that all orders may be filled instantly.⁶⁶

During the war, about twenty per cent of the total production was under government contract. The company manufactured 12,374,000 pairs of socks for the army and navy. These were of cotton, wool, and a new type known as the cushion foot, developed by Interwoven. The latter had a heavy terry cloth sole, particularly useful in the tank corps or wherever heat was intense on the feet. It was adopted by the army as a standard type of sock.⁶⁷

Yarns for the manufacture of civilian socks in wartime were restricted to cotton and rayon. From a total employment of 1707 in December, 1941,⁶⁸ 204 men and women went from the Martinsburg plant into the service. Company officials managed to fill in, mostly with women, so that there was no labor shortage. As an essential industry it was able to defer enough mechanics to keep the machinery in good repair and see that production was not interrupted.⁶⁹

Fruit Products

The apple processing plants in this section came into being as a result of the national tendency toward buying food in cans. It was encouraged by the growers who, particularly after the loss of the European export markets in the 1930's, turned gradually away from the practice of grading and fancy packing, when often the sale was uncertain. The trend in recent years has been for the grower to contact one or more of the processing plants during the growing season and then to deliver the entire crop in bulk, just as it comes from the orchards. The introduction of canned apples in all forms

has proved exceedingly popular. This type of product has largely replaced in food stores the practice of selling apples in bushel, half-bushel or peck containers. The modern housewife finds that with limited time and storage space available, the purchase of apples already prepared for use is convenient, and usually less waste is involved.

National Fruit Products Company. The main National Fruit plant is located in Winchester, Virginia. At its Martinsburg branch the primary products have been apple juice and vinegar. Prune juice was manufactured here to some extent during the war, but the process was later stopped due to the expense of bringing in the fruit. Apple juice became a popular product in wartime. Large quantities were sold to companies who, because of restrictions on sugar, bottled the juice to sell as a substitute for soft drinks.⁷⁰

Although the labor situation was never serious, expected shortages in 1944 and 1945 were alleviated by importing some thirty to sixty German and Russian prisoners. These men were brought here by bus from a camp in Winchester. The Russians appear to have been former German captives who had been placed on the German front lines in labor battalions.⁷¹

C. H. Musselman and Company. Located at Inwood, the Berkeley County branch of the Musselman Company is larger than the home plant in Biglerville, Pennsylvania. During the war some vinegar was sold to the government from the Inwood plant. Its main product, however, was applesauce, much of which was eventually shipped overseas.⁷²

Some cans were given a 'pro-coat,' a protective coating of olive-drab color paint to keep out moisture which might penetrate and rust

cans stored in the damp atmosphere of the holds of ships, or unloaded and stacked in the jungles. At times it was found necessary to toss crates of the cans overboard to be carried ashore by the tide. A crescent printed on the label of each crate was an international symbol indicating a food product, and practically insured that its contents would be salvaged by natives. For shipping conditions such as these, a special type of carton was developed. Made from hard fibers and put together with special resinous glues, these cases were completely waterproof, so that the tin cans they contained would never rust.⁷³

In 1944 some of the Russian prisoners were obtained to supplement and supply of labor, and the following year some work was done by German prisoners of war stationed at Newton D. Baker Hospital.⁷⁴

A Musselman product was involved in an incident related by a Berkeley County man who had been in civilian life a truck driver for a local orchardist. During the Italian Campaign he took part in the fighting around Cassino. The private, detailed to carry supplies from the road to his company's less accessible position among the hills surrounding the city, was startled to find among the supplies a case of Musselman's applebutter. Immediately there came to mind scenes from a remote and less turbulent time when he might have hauled these very apples to the Inwood plant. He sat down and wept beside the carton of applebutter.

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER III

- 1 United States Census of Agriculture, Virginia and West Virginia, 1945, Vol. I, part 15, pp. 212, 232 and 300; Personal interview with Vernon Ambrester, Vocational Agriculture Teacher, Hedgesville High School, February, 1953.
- 2 Annual Narrative Report of the County Agent, Berkeley County, West Virginia Agricultural Extension Service, 1941. Hereafter cited as Annual Narrative Report.
- 3 Ibid., 1941 and 1942.
- 4 Martinsburg News, December 31, 1942.
- 5 Annual Narrative Report, 1942.
- 6 Ibid.; and Martinsburg News, February 27, 1942.
- 7 James L. Dillon, Hedgesville farmer.
- 8 Martinsburg News, January 6, 1942; and personal interview with W. N. McClung, County Agent, June, 1947.
- 9 The Martinsburg Journal, January 30 and February 4, 1942.
- 10 Interview with W. N. McClung.
- 11 Ibid.
- 12 Annual Narrative Report, 1942; Martinsburg News, April 24 and July 10, 1942.
- 13 Annual Narrative Report, 1942.
- 14 Ibid., 1943; and Martinsburg News, October 23, 1942.
- 15 Annual Narrative Report, 1944.
- 16 Ibid.
- 17 Martinsburg News, August 25, 1944.
- 18 Annual Narrative Report, 1944.
- 19 Martinsburg News, May 4, 1945.
- 20 Annual Narrative Report, 1945.
- 21 Ibid.

- 22 Martinsburg News, June 23, 1944.
- 23 Annual Narrative Report, 1945.
- 24 Interviews with W. N. McClung and C. W. Wood, farmer.
- 25 Interview with W. N. McClung.
- 26 Ibid.
- 27 Ibid. and The Martinsburg Journal, December 16, 1941
- 28 Interviews with W. N. McClung and Vernon Armbruster.
- 29 Ibid.
- 30 Ibid. and The Martinsburg Journal, January 9, 1942.
- 31 The Martinsburg News carried an article on victory gardening in every wartime issue.
- 32 The Martinsburg Journal, January 30, 1942.
- 33 Martinsburg News, February 13, 20, March 6 and 13, 1942.
- 34 Ibid., March 26, April 16, 1943.
- 35 Personal interview with Edgar L. Henshaw, Ration Board member, June, 1947.
- 36 Interview with W. N. McClung.
- 37 Annual Narrative Report, 1943.
- 38 The Martinsburg Journal, December 22, 1941 and January 6, 1942.
- 39 Personal interview with J. G. Tonry, B & O Yardmaster, Martinsburg, June, 1947.
- 40 Martinsburg News, September 4, 1942.
- 41 Ibid.
- 42 Ibid., January 5, 1945.
- 43 Interview with J. G. Tonry.
- 44 Ibid.
- 45 Ibid.
- 46 Martinsburg News, January 5, 1942.
- 47 Interview with J. G. Tonry.

- 48 Ibid.
- 49 Robert C. Brand, Limestone Production in West Virginia, printed copy of a speech presented to Industrial Minerals Division, American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, September, 1951. Obtained through the courtesy of R. C. Brand.
- 50 Ibid. and personal interview with Robert C. Brand, of the Brand Engineering Company, Martinsburg, February, 1953.
- 51 Interview with R. C. Brand.
- 52 Employment Survey, Martinsburg and Berkeley County, by the Martinsburg Chamber of Commerce, 1941-1945. Hereafter cited as Employment Survey.
- 53 Interview with R. C. Brand.
- 54 Telephone interview with R. C. Williams, former Manager, Berkeley Woolen Company, February, 1953.
- 55 The Martinsburg Journal, February 19, 1953.
- 56 Personal interview with Garland L. Dunn, Vice-President, Dunn Woolen Company, February, 1953; The Martinsburg Journal, December 31, 1941, January 3, 1942, and June 4, 1943.
- 57 Ibid.
- 58 Ibid.
- 59 Employment Survey, 1941-1945.
- 60 The Martinsburg Journal, January 3, 1942.
- 61 Interview with R. C. Williams.
- 62 Ibid.
- 63 Interview with John R. Poland, President, Perfection Gorment Company, February, 1953.
- 64 Ibid.
- 65 Ibid. and Employment Survey, 1941-1945.
- 66 Telephone interview with Bennett Taylor, Personnel Manager, Interwoven Stocking Company, February, 1953.
- 67 Ibid.
- 68 Employment Survey, 1941-1945.

69 Interview with Bennett Taylor.

70 Personal interview with C. Lee Hammersla, Manager, Martinsburg Branch, National Fruit Products Company, February, 1953.

71 Ibid.

72 Telephone interview with Walter Moyer, General Manager, C. H. Musselman and Company, February, 1953.

73 Ibid.

74 Ibid.

75 Interview with George S. Young, after his return from the service.

CHAPTER IV

NEWTON D. BAKER HOSPITAL

The most far-reaching war activity to take place in Berkeley County, with the exception of the draft, was the location of one of the nation's army hospitals within its bounds. Authorized in January, 1943, the site chosen was 186 acres of farm land southeast of Martinsburg along Route Eleven.¹ The hospital was named in honor of Newton D. Baker, Secretary of War during World War I, whose home and early law practice had been in Martinsburg.²

Building contracts were let in February, 1943, active construction began March 8, and on the 25th of March Colonel Ernest L. Cook arrived to assume command. Erecting a temporary structure on what was later to become the parade ground, he set up his headquarters, supply houses, and offices for the staff which he assembled within the next few months.³

Under the supervision of Major D. D. Rait, Area Engineer, the hospital began to take shape. Utilities were transported through a network of tunnels, soon covered by the building structures. By August, though the hospital lacked interior finishing, quarters were opened for general duty personnel and plans were under way for the organization of the various clinics and departments to be set up later.

Officers from the Surgeon General's office and Service Command Headquarters conducted an official inspection tour on January 18, 1944, and approved the hospital, and on the 28th of that month Newton D. Baker began to function actively as the first convoy of 169

patients arrived from Halloran General Hospital in New York.⁴

The dedication ceremonies were held June 9, 1944. Colonel Gilbert Van B. Wilkes of the Corps of Engineers presented the hospital to the Fifth Service Command and it was accepted by the commanding officer, Colonel Cook. Among the guests of honor were Mrs. Newton D. Baker and her daughter, Mrs. John McGeen. The 323rd Army Service Forces Band gave an hour concert before the ceremony. Afterward, the great crowd of visitors remained for several hours touring the hospital.⁵

More than one hundred buildings had been completed at the time of the official opening, and construction continued thereafter with the addition of a gymnasium and post theater. A network of corridors integrated the hospital. These were inclined wherever necessary to avoid the use of steps, so that a patient, even in a wheel chair, might make his way to any part of the institution without going out of doors. The swimming pool was completed in the summer of 1945, and a landscaping program begun the first year provided surroundings of trees, shrubbery and grass for the buildings.⁶

During its first six months Newton D. Baker was a general hospital in every sense of the word. It served as a debarkation point to which the wounded were brought directly from hospital ships in Newport News.⁷

The work of the hospital was carried out through its various services, a specially trained staff member at the head of each. A clearer idea of the working of the hospital may be gained from a summary of these services.

NURSING SERVICE. A detachment of Army Nurse Corps members was stationed at the hospital. There was, however, a universal scarcity of Army nurses. To alleviate this the United States Cadet Nurse Corps was established for the training of potential Army nurses, and Newton D. Baker was one of the five general hospitals in the Fifth Service Command delegated as an instruction center for the Cadets. They were sent here for their final six months of training after two and one-half years in the schools of nursing in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Washington, D. C., and West Virginia. Here they received daily classes in Army procedure and methods, clinical instruction in the wards, and military drill, the purpose being to enrich clinical practice by actual experience with war casualties. Of the first group of fifty-three Cadet Nurses who completed their training at Newton D. Baker, two were married, two went into the Navy Nurse Corps, two into veterans' work, ten into civilian nursing, sixteen into post-graduate work, and twenty-one joined the Army Nurse Corps. Many other Cadets followed.⁸

Resident volunteer nurses aides, nurses aides from the surrounding communities, and other volunteer assistants also helped make up the regular nursing deficiency. Extra hours and duties were taken on by the aides from time to time.

RECONDITIONING SERVICE. This program was introduced by the Army into its hospitals in 1944 in an effort to "Bridge the gap between acute illness and fully recovered strength."⁹ Its purpose was to readjust the patient mentally and physically for his return either to civilian life or to active duty. Both the educational and

the physical reconditioning sections planned programs in conjunction with the treatments being carried on in other departments of the hospital.

Educational Reconditioning Section. Through this office the United States Armed Forces Institute was publicized. For a two-dollar enrollment fee the Institute sent textbooks and lessons to be mailed back as completed and were then graded and returned with comments. These correspondence courses, offered in nearly every subject imaginable, could be taken for credit toward a high school diploma or a college degree. Some patients and duty personnel finished their high school work through the courses; others took them to prepare for future vocations. One patient, for example, who planned to open a hotel in Miami, took business management, as did another who hoped to establish a bakery. Building construction was also popular. If help was desired the Reconditioning Office arranged for a tutor.¹⁰

A theater program was begun in September, 1944. About thirty members of the dramatics class, sponsored by the Red Cross under the Reconditioning Program, took weekly field trips to Washington and Baltimore whenever matinee tickets were available. As tickets usually were available, these men saw most of the major plays. After each they were taken backstage to talk with the actors and learn first-hand about stage settings, lighting and sound effects, and professional performances.¹¹

Among the patients at Newton D. Baker was Private Christian Warthoe, a noted sculptor, born in Denmark and a veteran of World War I. In an article in the post newspaper, Private Warthoe was quoted as saying that sculpture could help a patient "forget himself

when he gets his fingers into the clay--keeping his mind and his hands occupied creatively.¹² Soon Warthoe was assigned by the Reconditioning Service to instruct a class in sculpture. He believed that once a student's interest was fired he would want to work, mentally and physically, to express himself; and it was no doubt with deep satisfaction that he noted at the end of one day a man returning to the classroom for his crutches which he had forgotten.¹³ Many who had never thought of modeling before were not finding hours of enjoyment.

Beginning in May, 1945, the Reconditioning Service provided a series of lectures by industrial experts who came to the hospital and discussed postwar employment opportunities with the patients. These talks covered the automotive and automotive repair business, the steel industry, synthetic fibers, professional baseball, and various other topics.¹⁴

A course in airplane mechanics was offered under the direction of Mr. Edward G. Parkinson, manager of the Martinsburg Airport and head of the area Civil Air Patrol. Classes were given in combustion engines, aircraft power plants, general repair and conditioning of planes, and later advanced classes offered theory of flight. Observation trips were made frequently to the airport.¹⁵

Physical Reconditioning Section. The Physical Reconditioning officers were aided by six enlisted men, all college graduates in physical education. From eight to four-thirty o'clock daily separate groups of advanced patients, other ambulatory and open ward neuropsychiatric patients, an average of 275 each day, met in the post gymnasium for classes which included corrective exercises, games and calisthenics.¹⁶

Typical gym class garb for many army hospitals was a conglomeration of fatigues, pajamas, and the two-piece maroon corduroy outfits popularly known as "zoot-suits." It was felt by the Reconditioning Service that uniformly outfitted classes would not only make for a smarter appearance but would help each man fit more readily into the gym program. To overcome wartime shortages and still provide uniforms, the staff combined imagination with the materials at hand. Obtaining class "X" suntan trousers, those no longer suitable for regulation wear, they cut the legs off above the knees, bound the edges, and thus furnished each man with a pair of gym shorts. Rather than waste the leg ends, they attached loops to one end of each and stitched the other end shut. The bag thus formed would hold a complete gym outfit. On it was stencilled the number of the suit it contained and it was hung in the supply room on a hook tagged with that number. This system, substituted for the usual cage system, saved much valuable space in the gymnasium. It was found that moc-casins could be bought for less than the regular price of gym shoes, and were ordered by the gross in all sizes. In addition, a white T-shirt, wool socks and supporter were issued to each patient. The outfits were turned in each weekend, collected by the post laundry and were washed and ready for use again on Monday. The appearance of these now uniformly outfitted gym classes of more than 300 patients was partly responsible for the remark of Major General James L. Collins, Commanding General of the Fifth Service Command, to Reconditioning Chief Major Peter W. Sweetser that "the Newton D. Baker physical reconditioning program is tops in the service command and one of the best in the country."¹⁷

There were other factors, too, behind this statement. The post athletic officer, First Lieutenant Morton Thompson, was assigned to his duties as chief of the Physical Reconditioning Section in the Fall of 1944. Before entering the service he had received a Master of Arts Degree in physical education at New York University, after starring in basketball, track, swimming, ice hockey and tennis.¹⁸ Once at Newton D. Baker he set about organizing an intensive sports program.

A softball league had been formed during the summer, and the season ended with a banquet at which an honor plaque, made and lettered by the patients, was presented to the league champions. The winter sports program was now organized to include civilian and duty personnel as well as patients. Two eight-team bowling leagues were organized, as was a hospital basketball tournament. Honor plaques were awarded to all league champions, with the players' names inscribed on each.¹⁹

Basketball seemed by far the most popular sport. During the winter of 1944 a Newton D. Baker squad was organized and games were scheduled with outlying teams, Ashford General Hospital, Wakeman General, West Virginia University and others. Colonel Cook encouraged this more intensified program, wishing to make his post the leader in the area. Transportation was made available to players, both military and civilian, who might now travel to and from games "on orders" by rail or government transportation. Work in the departments kept most from leaving except over weekends.²⁰

A WAC team, called the Bakerettes, was formed, playing such surrounding teams as the Camp Detrick WACs and the girls' team at the Fairchild Aircraft Plant in Hagerstown, Maryland.

The hospital team by the end of the season had a record of twenty-three wins and four losses. After winning the championship of District Number Five in the Fifth Service Command competition, it finished second in the service command finals by losing to Wakeman General Hospital 30 to 23.²¹

The post gymnasium was utilized day and night, with evening supervision by the special service athletic staff. Competition was keen among the convalescent patients in the weekly physical fitness tests, the various events including sit-ups, stroking with the rowing machine, pedaling on the stationary bicycles, and gripping the hand grip machine.

Other pieces of reconditioning equipment were added from time to time. With a device called the wrist circumductor a patient, his forearm strapped to a block, could strengthen an injured wrist by revolving a wheel just within reach of his fingertips.²² Some reconditioning classes were taught by civilians; others by Army men and women. Many of the tools and machines used in the classes were made possible by civilians. Many tired minds and weakened muscles were strengthened and coordinated as patients became interested in radio repair, shop work and welding, typing, design, photography, press work and typesetting, and the various kinds of art which could be done even in bed.²³

Badminton was introduced into the reconditioning program in answer to the need for an activity for convalescents who could not take part in major sports because of leg injuries or the loss of an arm. The gymnasium was also equipped for weight lifting, volley ball, shuffleboard, handball and boxing. With the coming of spring,

the softball and volleyball leagues were expanded to include more patients as well as the WACs, nurses, civilians and later the prisoners of war who arrived at the post. The tennis courts and athletic field were completed, and arrangements made for using the facilities provided at the municipal golf course.²⁴ On August 9, 1945, the post swimming pool was officially opened with swimming exhibitions, both serious and comic, and a beauty contest at which Miss Newton D. Baker was selected from among the WAC and nurse contestants. Regularly scheduled swimming classes were held from that time on.²⁵

In October of the same year, Newton D. Baker Hospital was host to a training conference of fifty medical officers who, having completed their internship, were being trained to become chiefs of reconditioning in regional, general and convalescent hospitals throughout the country. Meeting in classes, they worked out detailed reconditioning schedules then toured the hospital to see the complex program in action. Movies taken on the post and open forum discussions rounded out the training. One principal reason Newton D. Baker was chosen for this conference was that its program had functioned smoothly and was continuing to do so in spite of the loss of numerous personnel and the increasing number of separations now that the war had ended.²⁶

MEDICAL SERVICE. Although obviously important in any hospital, the medical center at Newton D. Baker was apportioned a fewer number of beds than any other such service. There were two reasons for this. First, the great strides that have been made in the development of modern medicine together with sulfa, penicillin and other drugs, have prevented the spread of epidemics which were prevalent

in other wars. Major General James L. Collins, commanding general of the Fifth Service Command, said at one time, "We have yet to lose a soldier from cholera or typhoid fever" and that the military death rate from disease had decreased to one twenty-fifth of that of 1918.²⁷ Many cases did arise, however, of malaria, gastroin-testinal, cardiovascular and other traumatic conditions and these were treated competently.

To further account for the relatively small medical service was the fact that Newton D. Baker in August, 1944, was changed from a general hospital to a specialized center in neurosurgery, plastic and eye surgery, neurology, and open and closed ward neuropsychiatry. The hospital was thus no longer a deportation center only; it also received these particular types of cases from other hospitals.²⁸

NEUROPSYCHIATRIC SERVICE. At first a section of the Medical Service, this department came into its own upon being designated as one of the Newton D. Baker specialties, and much pioneer work was done in it here. Group therapy was one of the forms of treatment introduced. A psychiatric patient was treated not as an outcast but as one who had contracted a curable disease, and this attitude in itself aided in the rapid recovery of a great many patients.

Neurology Section. This was an integral part of the neuropsychiatric service and its staff worked in close conjunction with the specialists of the neurosurgery section to be discussed later. Late in 1944 an electro encephalogram unit, set up and operated by specially trained personnel, provided electric brain treatments for those in need of them; while an aphasia clinic served patients whose powers of speech had been impaired or lost entirely.²⁹

Occupational therapy, the work of which has been reviewed above, played a vital part in the reorienting of neuropsychiatric patients. The great majority of cases were found to respond quickly to a program of physical exercise, work with hobbies, reading, dancing and other forms of recreation with constant emphasis on normalcy.

DENTAL SERVICE. In addition to routine cleaning, filling and general repair work for some three thousand patients, the dental clinic also did plastic surgery. One of the great achievements of the hospital was the work done by the dental service in maxillo-facial surgery--the replacing of missing jaws. Other parts of the body were also replaced through prostheses and skin grafts.³⁰

X-RAY SERVICE. This was organized and in constant use from the arrival of the first patients to the hospital. Other services, particularly the surgical, depended heavily upon it.

PHARMACY. Another section which was made independent of the medical service upon reorganization, the pharmacy was completely stocked at all times and served the entire hospital. It was manned day and night by a staff ready to fill prescriptions directly as they were sent down from the Army doctors.

DISPENSARY SERVICE. This center was maintained to serve the general duty personnel of the hospital as well as veterans and prisoners of war.

SURGICAL SERVICE. When Newton D. Baker was made a specialized hospital with the emphasis placed upon surgery, only a small amount of reorganization was necessary due to the fact that the operating rooms and equipment had originally been set up in anticipation of a heavy demand on the surgical service.

General Surgery Section. Because of the preponderance of work in other sections this remained small in comparison. Its extreme importance, however, is obvious.

Orthopedic Section. Although not one of the hospital's designated specialties, orthopedic work was greatly in demand. The traction wards were usually full, so many of them being cases of hand surgery that the hospital became a recognized center for this type of work. Another large group of orthopedic patients were those who were having work done in connection with plastic or neurosurgery.³¹

In a fully equipped orthopedic shop maintained near the warehouses to the rear of the hospital, eight enlisted men, working under the direction of the chief of the orthopedic service, manufactured the braces, belts, collars, special orthopedic shoes, and other mechanical aids which were prescribed for these patients. Work was done on an individual rather than a production line basis, with each man taking the measurements of his patient, making the appliance and then adjusting it to him personally.³²

Plastic Surgery Section. During the war years plastic surgery developed from "largely a matter of cosmetics concern"³³ to a highly skilled and technical science which, in rebuilding and restoring missing or damaged parts of a wounded man, not only reactivated him as a person but did a great deal toward restoring his pre-war personality.

Neurosurgery Section. Neurosurgery, the largest single section of the hospital, was the outstanding specialty of Newton D. Baker. To a soldier one of the most appalling injuries is severance of the spinal cord. In World War I this meant almost certain death, or at

best, hopeless paralyzation. But of the sixty-nine at Newton D. Baker in the spring of 1945 who had sustained this injury, forty-three were walking. Credit for this major medical triumph goes primarily to the sulfa drugs and penicillin for reducing infection of the bladder and kidneys, the main single cause of death in such cases. Even more remarkable was the work done in restoring these men to nearly normal lives. Though medical science has not yet found a way to splice the spinal cord, it can train the paralyzed organs, by a slow, tedious process, to function automatically. Then, with the aid of crutches and steel braces, the patient undertakes the most difficult task of all--learning to walk. Two things are important here: the patient must be convinced of the fact, however incredible, that it will be possible to walk; and he must, through special exercises, strengthen the arm and shoulder muscles which enable him to swing his legs. The final step in the process is training the patient for work which he can do with his head and hands. The following case, reprinted from Time Magazine in a June, 1945 issue of the post newspaper, is typical of many which were brought into the spinal ward.

One of the first to walk in Ward 108 was Pfc. Harry Sanders, 24,...hurt at Saint Lo last summer when a bomb exploded five feet behind him. Almost completely paralyzed from the waist down, blue-eyed Private Sanders went home to Marysville, Pennsylvania, on furlough last month, hopped proudly around the house on his braces; laid plans to return to civilian life as a radio mechanic.³⁴

Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Section. This department was constantly in use though its patients had come to the hospital primarily for other types of treatment. The Eye Section grew in importance when specialists were sent in to provide the surgery needed in repairing eye sockets, while another group of highly skilled technicians specialized in making plastic prosthetic eyes.³⁵

The Central Service, which housed all surgical supplies, and the Physical Therapy as well as the Anesthesia and Operating-room Sections were also maintained through the Surgical Service. In addition, the Surgical Service sponsored many conferences and professional meetings of both Army and civilian medical specialists which were held at the hospital.³⁶ The work done in surgery at Newton D. Baker was a vital contribution to the medical profession and to humanity.

SPECIAL SERVICES. The avowed purpose of the Special Services Department was to give everyone on the post "something to do, something to see, someplace to go" every waking minute.³⁷ First Lieutenant Morton Thompson did excellent work in organizing team activities and bringing in events from outlying towns. It became the job of Second Lieutenant William Rintoul to direct the arranging of all other forms of entertainment--dances, bringing in celebrities, and planning the film schedule at the post theater.³⁸

The task of these men was made easier through the unfailing cooperation of the Red Cross and that of various other groups and individuals in the surrounding communities. For example, during the winter of 1944, Billy Blake, Chairman of the Washington, D. C. Boxing Commission, brought eighteen men, members of the Apollo Athletic Club of Washington, for nine boxing bouts in the post gymnasium. This was the second fight program for patients; others followed, including one featuring lady wrestlers, and all were broadcast to bedridden patients over the public address system.³⁹

The new recreation center, complete with four bowling alleys and five pool tables, was formally dedicated on Friday, March 16, 1945,

with speeches by Deputy Surgeon General Major General G. F. Lull, and Colonel Cook. An exhibition of bowling was presented during the evening by the world's doubles champion, Buddy Bomer; then followed a series of bowling matches climaxed by one in which General Lull defeated Colonel Cook by two points.⁴⁰

In April of that year a capacity crowd of men from Newton D. Baker and other army posts nearby saw a practice baseball game between the Philadelphia Athletics and Toronto at the Hagerstown, Maryland, Ball Park as guests of the Martinsburg Lions Club and the Hagerstown Junior Board of Trade.⁴¹ The recreation director at Fairchild Aircraft in Hagerstown had brought his Maryland Girls' Basketball Champions, divided into two teams, for an exhibition game in the gymnasium the winter before.⁴² The World Series of 1945 was broadcast in the hospital on a direct line from radio station WJEJ in Hagerstown. This service was given by Mrs. Clara W. Wachter of Hagerstown, to whom after the final game Colonel Cook presented a scroll signed by nearly a thousand patients in appreciation of her thoughtfulness.⁴³

A series of sightseeing trips to Washington, each covering a different route in the city, was offered in the summer of 1945. This proved so popular that it was repeated.⁴⁴ Also during that summer, patients were invited, by arrangement of Lieutenant Thompson with Mr. Clark Griffith, owner of Griffith Stadium, to attend home games of the Washington Senators. Throughout the season twenty-five to fifty patients a week, accompanied by Red Cross recreation workers, traveled to Washington to see the games.⁴⁵

Because its location is not on the beaten track of the professional entertainers, visits from the stars were not ordinary occurrences

in Newton D. Baker as at hospitals in the metropolitan areas. To patients and staff alike, those were red letter days when Tallulah Bankhead dropped in while playing in Washington and when Walter Pidgeon and Signe Hasso made similar calls.⁴⁶ On one occasion the Roy Eldridge Band stopped en route from Washington to Hagerstown and entertained in the recreation hall for two and a half hours.⁴⁷ One of the biggest events was the program arranged by the Special Services Office in cooperation with the Coca-Cola Bottling Works, sponsors of the Shep Fields radio show, the "Victory Parade of Spotlight Bands." It was held Thursday night, November 9, 1944, and twenty-five minutes of the program was broadcast from the hospital over the Blue Network. A record crowd danced and listened in the post gymnasium. This was the first time during the war that a radio station or big name band rendered a musical salute to the men of a reconditioning battalion.⁴⁸

Because performances such as these were relatively few and far between, those connected with the hospital pooled their talents and brought out a musical all-soldier review put together by the patients with the help of the Red Cross, the WAC contingent and others and rehearsed between work hours. The new show was called "About Face." For it the men wrote their own songs and skits dealing satirically with physical examinations, soldier routine, private lives of army cooks, barracks life, the privacy of a private, and even a satire on the hardships of civilian existence. After the opening performance it went on tour of the communities in the vicinity of Martinsburg and was well received. The net proceeds from the show went to the war fund.⁴⁹

HOSPITAL PROCEDURE. By the end of the first year most of the rough spots in hospital organization had been ironed out, departments streamlined and a system worked out to facilitate reaching the hospital's goal of "the greatest amount of help in the least amount of time."⁵⁰ At its peak, early in 1945, the hospital contained about 3500 patients and thirty to thirty-five operations were being performed a day. While some patients were being separated, others were being flown in or were arriving daily on hospital trains. On one day two trains of three hundred patients each were received.⁵¹

As each group of wounded soldiers arrived they were screened and dispatched through the Central Dispensary to the surgical, medical and neuropsychiatric services. Consultations were held with these services and their various branches (outlined above) and, if necessary, immediate medical treatment was given by army doctors. Immediately following these consultations the patient was given clean clothes and freshly prepared food, and the staff of telephone operators stood by to place calls anywhere in the United States so that he might notify his family of his arrival. Portable ward telephones were available to bed patients. Each new patient received a pamphlet entitled "Hi Soldier!", which introduced him to the various hospital services. At the post exchange, barber shop and Red Cross room he now found the small but important luxury items which for most of the wounded had been unattainable for so long.⁵²

The following morning the new patient met with other new ambulatory patients in the post library to hear a welcome address and an orientation talk by the commanding officer or the personal affairs director. Then with his overseas records assembled he was given a

series of interviews during which a representative of each of the hospital departments, grouped together in assembly-line fashion, gathered the information needed for work with that patient. In the processing line were the Army Air Forces or Army Ground Forces Liaison Officer, chaplains of all faiths, representatives from the military personnel section, the finance department, the detachment of patients to which he now belonged, the personal affairs officer, the legal adviser, the public relations officer and the reconditioning service. The hospital by now knew the history of each patient and the patient had at the same time learned the number of service ribbons and decorations coming to him, as well as the amount due him in back pay, the time of services in the post chapel, his legal status, and various other items. A program of physical and educational therapy was set up for him by the reconditioning service in keeping with his physical handicaps, and a press release with a few remarks about his arrival was prepared by the public relations office for his home town newspaper. Because of this system of rapid processing it was possible to completely identify a patient and give him an idea of his immediate hospital future within twenty-four hours, and to send him home on furlough with his back pay in his pocket four days to a week after his admittance. For bed patients unable to go home a full program of recreation, education and entertainment was available, and for these men also a special guest house was maintained on the post, furnishing comfortable quarters to which relatives and friends might come on visits.⁵³

WOMEN'S ARMY CORPS. The WAC contingent stationed at the hospital was known as the 20th WAC Hospital Company. It comprised about one hundred women. The 106th, a second company of about a

hundred more WACs was activated at Newton D. Baker on July 13, 1945. Among the latter group were those who, having finished basic training at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, were sent here for a six-weeks course in medical, surgical or clerical training. Each WAC, upon completion of the course, received a T-5 rating.⁵⁴

Because their training was thorough, there were WACs qualified to work in nearly every section of the hospital. In the occupational therapy wards they helped the patients who were learning handicrafts. In the laboratory they did all types of analytical work, rotating jobs so that each might gain a good general background. An indication of their interest in their work was shown by the fact that some planned to go to medical school after the war. WACs operated the hydro-therapy, thermo-therapy and electro-therapy machines in the Physio-Therapy Department. In the Eye Section two of the more artistic women helped mold and paint artificial eyes. Eight others were on call day and night in the Transportation Section, ready to drive anything from bus to ambulance. In Central Services they sterilized instruments and stocked carts with medicines and supplies. Some helped in the Publications Section, the post office, the diet kitchens, the Finance Section and the Record Department, while others worked in the operating rooms, dental clinic, X-Ray Section and at the information desk.⁵⁵

For off-duty hours their quarters contained a day room with a snack bar, a reading room, and an outfitted writing room, while nearby was their own archery range and volleyball court. Special Service functions also frequently included basketball games and other competitions bringing together women soldiers from Newton D. Baker, Camp Detrick and other nearby army posts.⁵⁶

PRISONERS OF WAR. During the latter months of the war, through cooperation of the hospital officials with the West Virginia Horticulture Society, 175 to 200 German prisoners of war were sent to Newton D. Baker from Ashford General Hospital at White Sulphur Springs. Housed in former Civilian Conservation Corps barracks secured from near Elkins and set up on the hospital grounds, these men were available to local orchardists at the prevailing wage rate to help the 1945 apple crop.⁵⁷ The prisoners were included in the Special Services program and were even offered a series of lectures in German on the subject of American Government and Democracy by Patient Private Alfred Heinke. Private Heinke reported that they seemed interested and asked intelligent questions.⁵⁸

That Newton D. Baker became a leading economic factor in Berkeley County and the surrounding area, is indicated by an employment survey made by the Martinsburg Chamber of Commerce and showing that by 1945 a total of 1350 civilians were on the hospital payroll, Thus it ranked at that time with the county's largest industry, the Interwoven Stocking Company, which had 1365 employees. Employment at the hospital reached a peak of 1400 in 1946?, then dropped to 250 that same year as the influx of patients diminished. In 1947 when the army withdrew and the hospital was made a veterans' administration center, the number of workers levelled off to around 750 and the center apparently will continue to be one of the principal sources of employment in the county.⁵⁹

An indication of the competent manner in which the hospital rendered its vital services may be seen in the following quotation from the citation which accompanied the Meritorious Service Unit

Plaque, awarded the Headquarters Section, 3594th Service Command Unit, Newton D. Baker General Hospital, by command of Major General Collins of the Fifth Service Command:

This unit has achieved and maintained a high standard of discipline, morale and performance of duty, as evidenced by superior military courtesy; appearance of personnel installations and equipment; and a minimum of trials by courts martial and punishments under AW 104, venereal disease and absence without leave.

The loyal cooperation displayed and high standards of performance maintained by the members of this command, in meeting the emergencies created by large numbers of returning wounded soldiers, reflect the highest credit on their unit and the military service. ⁶⁰

SUMMARY

In concluding this study of Berkeley County in World War II, note should be made of several major trends of both economic and social significance which developed during the war years and were peculiar to this county.

In an economic sense the war brought about a profound change in Berkeley County. The cost of living which had increased 16 per cent throughout the country in 1942 and was expected to go up 50 per cent in the next year⁶¹ was felt here as elsewhere. With it, however, purchasing power also increased--due in this area to employment at the Fairchild Aircraft Plant in Hagerstown, Maryland, overtime at the railroads and quarries, work at Newton D. Baker Hospital, and a generally higher wage scale in other industries. Independent businessmen from merchants to landlords made good money. The year 1943 saw in the county a small boom which expanded into an all-time high by 1946.

The prosperity of the industrial workers surpassed that of many salaried professional people, the so-called white-collar group, with

the result that some in this classification left their posts to go into industry.

The effect of World War II upon farming, the principal occupation of the county, was paradoxical. Shortages of manpower and materials made it seem at times almost impossible for some farmers to remain in production. Yet at the end of the war farming emerged a major, mechanized industry with rural electrification, new tractors, corn pickers, milking machines and farm homes in good repair. Three major facts had brought this about: First, the general prosperity within the United States and shortages abroad had provided better markets than had existed since the 1920's. Second, mechanization of farms; while fewer unskilled "hired hands" were available for farm work, fewer were needed. Most heavy work could now be done by machines. The third fact was the introduction of scientific methods, including proper diet for farm animals, new sprays, the use of insecticides in the barn and increased attention to fertilizers.

Thus, while the war brought anxiety, sorrow and irreplaceable losses to many families, it also brought a degree of progress to a relatively static community. In the form of good wages more money than ever before flowed into a county where according to long standing tradition it was fashionable to be poor. New homes were made possible by this increased wealth and, as they became available, such modern appliances as television, dishwashers and home freezers in greater numbers than could have been expected normally.

Socially, the location of Newton D. Baker Hospital within the county had the effect of strengthening a spirit of community cooperation. That the people felt a responsibility toward the hospital

patients is seen in the two USO centers and various smaller projects by groups and individuals to provide a measure of comfort and entertainment for the wounded veterans. Much of the Red Cross activity centered around hospital needs. The cooperative effort manifested in these activities prepared the way for future community undertakings, notably the Berkeley County War Memorial Park of which the people of the county could be justly proud.

FOOTNOTES

CHAPTER IV

- 1 Telephone interview with Mr. Frank Clepham, whose farm was included in this land, November 11, 1952.
- 2 H. L. Alexander, A Short History of the Late Honorable Newton D. Baker.
- 3 Personal interview with Colonel E. L. Cook, Commanding Officer, Newton D. Baker General Hospital, June, 1946.
- 4 Baker's Batter, June 8, 1946; The West Virginia Review, May, 1944, p. 11.
- 5 Ibid.; other speakers at the dedication were Major General Norman T. Kirk, Surgeon General of the Army, Major General James L. Collins, and former Governor John J. Cornwell.
- 6 Ibid.
- 7 Interview with Colonel Cook, June, 1946.
- 8 Baker's Batter, April 14, 1945, August 25, 1945.
- 9 Ibid., June 8, 1946.
- 10 Ibid., March, 1945.
- 11 Ibid., September 30, 1944, October 15, 1944.
- 12 Ibid., June 21, 1944.
- 13 Ibid., October 15, 1944.
- 14 Ibid., May 12, June 9, August 4, 1945.
- 15 Ibid., August 25, 1945.
- 16 Ibid., April 21, 1945.
- 17 Ibid.
- 18 Ibid., November 15, 1944.
- 19 Ibid., November 15, February, 1945.
- 20 Ibid., October 15, 1944.
- 21 Ibid., March, 1945.

- 22 Ibid., June 23, 1945.
- 23 Ibid., July 14, 1945.
- 24 Ibid., May 12, 1945.
- 25 Ibid., August 11, 1945.
- 26 Ibid., October 13, 1945.
- 27 Ibid., June 21, 1944.
- 28 Ibid., June 8, 1946.
- 29 Ibid.
- 30 Ibid.
- 31 Ibid.
- 32 Ibid., September 15, 1945.
- 33 Ibid., June 8, 1946.
- 34 Ibid., June 16, 1945, June 8, 1946.
- 35 Ibid., August 11, 1945, June 8, 1946.
- 36 Ibid., June 8, 1946.
- 37 Ibid., April 28, 1945.
- 38 Ibid.
- 39 Ibid., September 30, November 15, 1944, April 28, 1945.
- 40 Ibid., March, 1945.
- 41 Ibid., April 14, 1945.
- 42 Ibid., October 15, 1944.
- 43 Ibid., October 6, October 20, 1945.
- 44 Ibid., July 28, 1945.
- 45 Ibid., May 12, 1945.
- 46 Ibid., March, 1945.
- 47 Ibid., October 15, 1945.
- 48 Ibid., November 15, 1944.

- 49 Ibid., March, 1945, April 14, 1945.
- 50 Ibid., July 7, 1945.
- 51 Interview with Colonel Cook.
- 52 Baker's Batter, July 7, 1945.
- 53 Ibid.
- 54 Ibid., May 26, July 7, 14, 1945.
- 55 Ibid., May 26, July 14, 1945.
- 56 Ibid., February, 1945.
- 57 Personal interview with C. W. Wood, member of Horticulture Society committee on securing prisoners.
- 58 Baker's Batter, September 8, 1945.
- 59 Employment Survey, Martinsburg and Berkeley County, November 1, 1945 to April 1, 1947, Martinsburg Chamber of Commerce.
- 60 Baker's Batter, September 8, 1945.
- 61 General Maximum Price Regulation, OCD Files, War History Commission Records, West Virginia University Library, Morgantown.

APPENDIX I

MILITARY

ARMY
HONOR LIST OF WORLD WAR II CASUALTIES*
BERKELEY COUNTY

<u>Name</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Manner of Death**</u>
Alessio, Frank	Sgt.	KIA
Anderson, Leonard M.	Air Cadet	DNB
***Atkinson, Peter W.	Lieut.	DNB
Atkinson, Robert E.	Capt.	KIA
***Basey, George R.	Cpl.	DNB
Barrett, Ralph	Pfc.	KIA
Beard, Philip L.	Pvt.	KIA
Bovey, Bruce D.	Flight Ofc.	DNB
Boyd, Paul E.	Pvt.	KIA
Brichner, Albert T.	Sgt.	DNB
Busey, Frederick M.	Pvt.	KIA
Butts, Bernard W.	Pfc.	KIA
Butts, Emory T.	Pvt.	DOW
Chapman, Ralph W.	Pvt.	KIA
***Clark, Alex W.	T. Sgt.	KIA
Cox, Walter A., Jr.	Pfc.	DOI
Davis, Newton B., Jr.	1-Lieut.	KIA
DeGrange, George W.	Fl. Ofc.	DNB
Dedrick, Raymond C.	S. Sgt.	KIA
***Devers, Harry M.	Maj.	DNB
Dunham, Herman Jr.	Pvt.	KIA
Duvall, Charles N.	Pvt.	KIA
Foster, James A.	Pfc.	DOW
Fowler, Paul D.	Pvt.	KIA
***Franks, Charles W.	Pvt.	KIA
Garrett, Paul C.	Maj.	KIA
Gatrell, John D.	2-Lieut.	KIA
Gish, Leonard W.	S. Sgt.	KIA
Gregory, Willis D., Jr.	Sgt.	KIA
Grey, Roger A.	Pvt.	KIA
***Griffith, James	Tec. 5	KIA
Grove, Robert L.	Pfc.	DNB
***Groves, Donald H.	Cpl.	KIA
Guthrie, Robert W. D.	1-Lieut.	DOW
Harrison, Ernest L.	Pvt.	KIA
Henderson, William B.	Pfc.	KIA
Herrell, Grover V.	Pvt.	KIA
Hickman, William K.	Pvt.	KIA
Hilliard, Freddie E.	Pfc.	KIA
Hinton, Guy G.	Pfc.	KIA
Horner, Forest E.	Pfc.	FOD
***Hovermale, Price O.	S. Sgt.	KIA
Joyce, James T.	Pfc.	KIA

<u>Name</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Manner of Death</u>
Kearns, William L.	Pfc.	KIA
Keedy, Bernard	Pvt.	KIA
Kees, Harlan E.	S. Sgt.	KIA
Kelly, Don P.	Pfc.	KIA
LeMaster, Ross C.	Pvt.	KIA
Lewis, Bernard P.	Pvt.	KIA
Lorraine, Edward N.	S. Sgt.	KIA
Luttrell, Bruce W.	Pvt.	DNB
May, Ellsworth B.	Pfc.	DOW
McCauley, Paul C.	Pfc.	KIA
McDaniel, Vernon C.	Pvt.	KIA
McKee, Douglas P.	1-Lieut.	KIA
Miller, Albert L.	Pvt.	KIA
Miller, Glen A.	S. Sgt.	KIA
Mills, Robert A.	Tec. 5	KIA
Morgan, Melvin O.	Pvt.	KIA
Myers, Robert L.	S. Sgt.	DNB
Norris, John Jr.	Pvt.	DNB
***Oates, Roy J.	Pfc.	KIA
Pine, George C.	T. Sgt.	DNB
Racey, Blaine N.	Pfc.	KIA
Richardson, Joseph W.	Cpl.	DOW
Rickel, Thomas J.	S. Sgt.	DOW
Riley, Samuel M.	S. Sgt.	KIA
Rogers, Delmont T.	Pvt.	KIA
Rogers, Hobart E.	Sgt.	KIA
Smith, Clarence W.	Tec. 5	KIA
Smith, Woodrow W.	Sgt.	DOW
Snapp, Charles B.	Capt.	DNB
Spiker, Delmont M.	Sgt.	KIA
Stanley, Harold L.	Cpl.	DNB
Stanley, Julian N.	Sgt.	KIA
Stewart, John A.	1-Lieut.	KIA
***Tabb, George E.	Pvt.	KIA
Thomas, Howard E.	Pfc.	KIA
Thompson, Robert Jr.	S. Sgt.	DNB
Tinsman, Elwood L.	Pfc.	DOW
Wasson, Taylor E.	Pfc.	KIA
Weaver, Robert M.	Pvt.	KIA
Weidman, Donald L.	Pvt.	KIA
Wiest, Carl W.	Pfc.	KIA
Wright, James M.	S. Sgt.	KIA
Young, Allen D.	Tec. 5	KIA
Young, Charles S.	Pfc.	KIA

* Honor List of World War II Dead and Missing, State of West Virginia, Department of War, June, 1946.

** DOW Died of Wounds
 DOI Died of Injuries
 DNB Died Non-battle
 FOD Finding of Death
 KIA Killed in Action

*** Native sons not on official list. Martinsburg Journal files.

NAVY AND MARINES
HONOR LIST OF WORLD WAR II CASUALTIES*
BERKELEY COUNTY

<u>Name</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Branch of Service</u>	<u>Manner of Death</u>
Athey, George Thomas, Jr.	Fireman 2c	Navy	KIA
Gaver, Henry Clayton	Ens.	Navy	KIA
Janes, Guy W.	Pfc.	Marine	KIA
Knox, Thomas Moore	MM 1c	Navy	
**Martin, Charles H.	Pvt.	Marine	KIA
Mason, Lyle Junior	Coxn.	Navy	KIA
Miles, William Francis	QM 2c	Navy	DNB
Mills, Clifford	Seaman 1c	Navy	DNB
Minnich, Walter L.	Pvt.	Marine	KIA
Morgan, James Holland	Pvt.	Marine	
Morrow, Joseph Gardner	Ens.	Navy	
Myers, William Thomas	Coxn.	Navy	FOD
**Rossi, Carlo	A.S.	Navy	DNB
**Smith, Harold T.	Mo. M.M.	Navy	DOI
White, Kenneth L.	Pfc.	Marine	DOW

* Honor List of World War II Dead and Missing, State of West Virginia, Department of War, June, 1946.

** Native Sons not on official list. Martinsburg Journal files.

LIST OF WOMEN IN SERVICE*
BERKELEY COUNTY

<u>Name</u>	<u>Branch of Service</u>
Aikens, Tiny J.	Navy
Alexander, Eleanor F.	Army
Anderson, Lillia H.	
Beard, Lillian B.	Army
Blasingame, Freda V.	Army
Boltz, Florence H.	Army
Bowers, Jessie	Army
Bowers, Wanda L.	Army
Brenner, Helen C.	Navy
Brichner, Margaret C.	Army
Brown, Ella K.	Navy
Browne, Hazel	Army
Busey, Fanny E.	Army
Campbell, Mary S.	Navy
Campion, Katherine G.	Army Nurse Corps
Carlton, Thelma L.	Army
Chaffee, Ruth D.	Army
Chapman, Velma J.	Army
Clendining, Anne L.	Army
Clendening, Mary L.	Army
Crowell, Alice M.	Navy Nurse Corps
Ditlow, Ruth	Army
Donato, Rosalia M.	ANC
Dupre, Catherine V.	Army
Durburow, Jean	Army
Eavey, Marguerite C.	Navy
Edwards, Ruth G.	Army
Elliot, Mildred L.	Army
Faulkwell, Elsie D.	Marine
French, Wilda L.	Army
Fullmer, Marilayne L.	
Funkhouser, Edith B.	Army
Gasper, Alvia Vicio	Navy
Gingras, Doris B.	ANC
Gray, Freda P.	Army
Grove, Freda H.	Navy
Grove, Peggy	NMC
Grove, Perry E.	NMC
Gum, Evelyn	NMC
Hayes, Wilda L.	Army
Haynes, Betty G.	Army
Hedges, Helen L.	Army
Hendry, Helen W.	

* West Virginia Selective Service Headquarters, Charleston, supplemented by Discharge Records, Berkeley County Clerk's Office, and Martinsburg News files.

LIST OF WOMEN IN SERVICE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Branch of Service</u>
Henshaw, Louise	Navy
Herbert, Margaret F.	ANC
Hoffmaster, Lavetta G.	Army
Hook, Elizabeth	Army
Horner, Lennie A. M.	Navy
Hull, Ruth H.	
Keedy, Lillian C.	Navy
Keplinger, Estella L.	Navy
Kettering, Betty Jane	Navy
Kitchen, Wilma N.	Army
Lake, Thelma L.	ANC
Leonard, Rosemary	
McAllister, Eleanor C.	
McCarthy, Marjorie B.	Army
McFerren, Gladys R.	Marine
Martell, Norma S.	Army
Martin, Wanda H.	Marine
Miller, Alberta F.	Army
Miller, Anne M.	Navy
Miller, Elizabeth	
Morrow, Louise Tabler	Navy
Morrow, Sylvia F. S.	Army
Noll, Beverly E.	Army
Noll, Helen	NNC
Oliverio, Catherine Ann	NNC
Osbourne, Eleanor	NNC
Pfarr, Frances B.	Army
Pitman, Virginia B.	Army
Plath, Dorothy	Army
Reaves, Louise H.	Navy
Richards, Edna	NNC
Ricketts, Mary B.	
Ryan, Ruby Virginia	Navy
Schuman, Joyce M.	Navy
Showers, Mary Jane	Navy
Snell, Kathleen S.	
Somers, Lennie A. M.	Navy
Stephens, Helen	Army
Stevens, Bettie L.	ANC
Stewart, Peggy G.	
Stewart, Mabel O.	Army
Stilwell, Mary L.	Army
Stottemyer, Mary F.	Navy
Tambascia, Helen D.	Navy
Tonry, Ruth R.	Navy
Triggs, Rebecca J.	Army
Turner, Frances	ANC

LIST OF WOMEN IN SERVICE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Branch of Service</u>
Vermilvea, Sara M.	Navy
Welty, Agnes L.	
Welty, Catherine	NNC
Whitacre, Virginia	Army
Yenalatus, Violet M.	Army
Yost, Lillian L.	ANC
Zaherie, Ruth N.	
Zombro, Norma F.	Navy
Zombro, Rachel K.	Navy

PURPLE HEART*

Adams, George	Davis, Abner H.
Aikens, George D.	Dean, Benjamin
Allen, Stockton N.	DeHaven, Virgil A.
Armstrong, Donald	Ditlow, John O.
Ashby, Howard	Duffling, John
Atkins, John F.	Dunham, Robert
Barrow, Robert	Duvall, Clarence F.
Banks, Robert L.	Edwards, Earnest L.
Beall, Phillip D.	Edwards, Roy L.
Boggs, Homer S.	Everhart, Harry D.
Bowers, Cecil	Faircloth, John E.
Boyd, David F.	Faulkwell, James W.
Burkhart, Clyde V.	Files, Wallace L.
Butts, James W.	Franks, Clyde F.
Butts, Norman W.	Frye, George D.
Butts, William D.	Fulk, Charles R.
Byrd, Samuel S.	Furley, Roy
Carter, Donald M.	Gage, Emanuel
Castleman, Harold L.	Gadbois, Henry D.
Catlett, Curtis	Gainfort, Paul
Cicccone, Carmen P.	Galloska, George Jr.
Cloud, Howard L.	Gent, George
Cogle, Clarence	Govdnight, Roy
Cole, George E.	Gore, Stewart
Crim, Bruce M.	Green, Robert

PURPLE HEART

Greenfield, Martin J.

Greenfield, George

Gregory, John C.

Grove, George

Hardy, Holmes L.

Harrison, William F. Jr.

Hartley, Milton

Hayden, George

Hayes, Paul, Jr.

Hayslett, Guy M.

Hayward, John B.

Hess, Charles D.

Hill, Charles

Hite, Cecil L.

Householder, Edgar

Hovermail, Thomas O.

Hudspith, Ray W.

Hull, Carl

Ingram, Gerald E.

Jones, Carl F.

Jones, Howard B.

Jones, Karl W.

Johnson, Carlton S.

Kawiecki, Richard

Kearns, Clarence E.

Kees, James H.

Kenny, James E.

Keplinger, Raymond, Jr.

Kerns, Edward H.

Kief, Gilbert C.

Kleptach, John

Knicely, Percy C.

Laing, Henry

Landis, Jacob W.

Lawrence, James

Lee, Charles H.

LeMaster, Claude L.

Levi, Allen

Lewis, Charles W.

Lewis, James A.

Lewis, James M.

Luttrell, Harry

Mandiville, George W.

Mann, Howard

Markle, Reno

Markley, Russel E.

Mason, Samuel

Matthews, Harry E.

May, Alfred

Mayer, Henry, Jr.

McDonald, Harry G.

McKee, Homer W.

PURPLE HEART

Melburn, Bruce	Robertson, Julius P.
Miller, Arthur H.	Rockwell, Charles A.
Miller, Richard C.	Rockwell, Joseph T.
Mongan, Bruce	Rowland, Raymond M.
Moore, Robert F.	Shick, Maurice L.
Morgan, Benjamin J.	Sencindiver, Alfred L.
Murphy, George C.	Sencindiver, John W.
Murphy, Kenneth	Sencindiver, Robert A.
Myers, Harry L.	Sensel, Roy M.
Nichols, William L.	Shade, Gilbert L.
Nicewarner, Henry C.	Sheely, James A.
O' Dell, Arthur H.	Sheppard, Harris L.
Orndorff, Burman T.	Chipe, Jack L.
Pace, Jesse O.	Shipley, Garnett W.
Parkinson, Clifford G.	Shirley, John
Piccolomini, Samuel	Shirley, Lawrence
Pittsnogle, David H.	Shoemaker, Charles O.
Pittsnogle, Paul W.	Shuman, Willis A.
Plume, Lester H.	Sigler, Curtis E.
Proper, Myron A.	Sigler, Nevin O.
Reineke, Willis A.	Smeltzer, Bruce C.
Richards, John N.	Smeltzer, Jack H.
Rickel, Paul W.	Smith, Donald
Rife, Byron B.	Smith, Harry A.
Ritter, Crum M.	Smith, Mack L.
Roberts, Carl M.	Snyder, Sherman B.

PURPLE HEART

Stefano, Lewis W.
Stewart, Douglas F.
Stewart, Oliver
Stilwell, Charles M.
Stolipher, Edison W.
Sturm, Jack L.
Stutzman, Delbert D.
Terry, Luke E.
Teter, Ernest R.
Timmons, William L.
Tinsman, Douglas H.

Turner, Harry L.
Tyson, Paul A.
Voorhess, Donald E.
Watson, Walter B.
Welty, Raymond E.
White, Curtis
White, Walter H.
Wise, Richard L.
Wolford, Meade K.
Young, George S.

BRONZE STAR MEDAL*

Ashby, Howard M.
 Barron, Franc C.
 Beall, Philip D.
 Bennett, Paul
 Byrd, Woodrow S.
 Crim, George B.
 Custer, William W.
 Davis, Charles W.
 Davis, Robert D.
 Dunn, Edward T., Jr.
 Eckerd, Marlin S.
 Faulkwell, Charles C.
 Fogle, Everett S.
 Gaither, William D.
 Goodnight, Roy L.
 Greene, Robert F.
 Guesford, David H.
 Hansrote, Albert N.
 Hardy, Holmes L.
 Hayden, George E.
 Hess, Charles D.
 Hess, Frederick B.
 Hodges, Allen T., Jr.
 Hollis, Boyd R.
 Householder, Edward S.
 Jones, Howard B.
 Kessecker, Leo S.
 Keller, Donald H.
 Keplinger, Raymond L., Jr.
 Knicely, Percy C.
 Levi, Allen M.
 Matthews, Harry E.

McCuster, Victor R.
 McGwinn, James E.
 Morgan, Benjamin J.
 Nichols, William L.
 Noll, Max C.
 Piccolomini, Samuel D.
 Pine, William S.
 Plume, Lester H.
 Rainey, Charles S.
 Rauch, John W., Jr.
 Rhodes, Robert S.
 Rickel, Paul W.
 Runkles, Lloyd H.
 Severs, Earl W.
 Shirley, John W.
 Shockay, Hubert W.
 Smeltzer, Jack H.
 Stapler, James H.
 Stewart, Robert W., Jr.
 Stokes, Norman G.
 Stolipher, Edison W.
 Timberlake, Robert S.
 Tyson, Paul A.
 Wedding, Carroll W.
 Westernhaver, George T.
 White, Walter H.
 Wolford, Meade K.
 Williamson, Samuel E.
 Wise, Richard L.
 Wise, Roy F.
 Wyndham, John H.

SILVER STAR MEDALS*

Gallaska, George Jr.
 Gano, Lyston H.
 Grim, Frederick H.
 Hess, Charles D.
 Hovermale, Thomas O.

Keplinger, Raymond L., Jr.
 Kilmer, John H.
 Myers, Rodger Leon
 Rauch, John W., Jr.

* Discharge Records, Berkeley County Clerk's Office

AIR MEDALS*

Albright, Kenneth R.
Ashworth, Samuel H.
Bush, Wallace A.
Chambers, Jack H.
Cline, Charles S.
Ciohan, Arch E., Jr.
Collis, Paul P.
DeHaven, Talbert A.
Dern, Ernest W.
Dever's, Harry
Flick, Clarence W.
Gallagher, Joseph M.
Hollis, Trammell H.
Jackson, Edward B.
Jones, Gilbert R.
LaCount, Joseph F.
Lewis, James M.
Livers, George M.
Long, Clarence W.
McKee, Douglas P.
Moss, Carroll E.
Myers, Roger Leon
Noll, Fred A.
Pitzer, George D.
Psalidas, Andrew
Roach, Claude Thomas
Taylor, Rawleigh W.
Terry, Luke E.
Wintermoyer, Chester

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS*

Cline, Charles S.
DeHaven, Talbert A.
Devers, Harry
Hull, Carl W.
Livers, George M.
McKee, Douglas P.
Terry, Luke E.

NAVY CROSS

Frank C. Thomas, Jr.

* Discharge Records, Berkeley County Clerk's Office, supplemented
by Martinsburg News files.

LIST OF DOCTORS IN SERVICE*
BERKELEY COUNTY

<u>Name</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Branch of Service</u>
Armentrout, A. W.	Lt. Col.	Army
Clapham, Roger E.	Lt. Commdr.	Navy
Haltom, William L.	Col.	Army
Kilmer, John H.	Maj.	Army
Wallace, William A.	Maj.	Army
Zepp, E. Andrew	Lieut.	Army
Porterfield, Marvin H.	Capt.	Navy
Thurston, Harold B.	Lieut.	Navy

* Martinsburg News files.

SELECTIVE SERVICE STATISTICAL REPORT*

March 15, 1947

Classification	Total	White	Negro
1-C (all ages) inducted and enlisted	156	150	6
1-C Officers released from active duty	101	101	0
1-C Enlisted regular service since September 1, 1945 .	122	115	7
1-C Enlisted reserve army and navy	140	129	11
1-C Discharged	2,446	2,328	118
1-C Deceased	73	71	2
1-G	8	8	0
4-F Discharge	30	30	0
3-A Fathers under 30 years old	201	199	2
4-A 30 years or older.	3,396	3,148	148
4-D Ministers	18	17	1
4-F Under 30 years old	620	583	37
2-C Farmers on deferment, under 30 years.	33	33	0
2-A Merchant marines and industrial deferments under 30	4	4	0
Deceased, all ages, not in service	54	49	5
Cancelled, all ages, not in service	29	25	4
1-A Over 18 years old	46	43	3
1-A Under 18 years old.	12	12	0
Unclassified, 18 years old, under 19 years.	136	127	9
Totals, less fourth registration	7,525	7,172	353

Non-registrants from Berkeley County

Non-registrants still in service. . .	265
" " discharged.	79
" " deceased, on duty . .	10
officers, released from active duty	18
Total . . .	372

* History, Local Board, Selective Service, Martinsburg, Berkeley County, West Virginia, by E. M. Sites, Clerk.

SELECTIVE SERVICE BOARD PERSONNEL

October, 1940, to July, 1941

B. D. Myers, Chairman
Paul H. Martin, Secretary
James L. Dillon
Albert Schneider, Clerk
Miss Lela Gain, Stenographer to November 12, 1940

July, 1941, to November, 1942

G. C. McKown, Chairman
E. W. Rhodes, Secretary
W. N. McBride
Paul H. Martin, Clerk
Miss Edna L. Luttrell, Assistant Clerk from November 12, 1940

November, 1942, to March, 1947

G. C. McKown, Chairman
E. W. Rhodes, Secretary
W. N. McBride
Edgar M. Sites, Clerk
Miss Edna L. Luttrell, Assistant Clerk

Government Appeal Agent
Lacy I. Rice

Examining Physicians

Dr. George O. Martin, Chairman
Dr. A. W. Armentrout
Dr. Ernest H. Bitner
Dr. Roger E. Clapham
Dr. A. Bruce Eagle
Dr. J. K. Guthrie
Dr. William L. Haltom
Dr. N. B. Hendrix
Dr. G. P. Morrison
Dr. Max O. Oates
Dr. T. K. Oates
Dr. Marvin H. Porterfield
Dr. C. G. Power
Dr. R. B. Talbott
Dr. William A. Wallace
Dr. H. R. DuPuy
Dr. John Hodges

Examining Dentists

Dr. W. H. Flanagan
Dr. J. G. Kearfott, Jr.
Dr. W. E. Minghini
Dr. H. Scott Gardiner

SELECTIVE SERVICE PERSONNEL, CONT'D.

Advisory Board for Registrants

Judge D. H. Rodgers, Chairman
Atty. Herbert E. Hannis
Atty. Charles R. Beall
Atty. R. H. Boyd
Atty. Hugh S. Byrer
Atty. Whiting C. Faulkner
Atty. Charles G. Gain
Atty. E. L. Luttrell
Atty. Clarence E. Martin, Jr.
Atty. Lacy I. Rice
Atty. R. Jacob Schleuss
Atty. Carroll T. Sencindiver
Atty. Gray Silver, Jr.
Atty. A. Hamilton Shipper
Atty. Harry A. Downs

Clerical Workers

Miss Dorothy Shirley, Part Time
Mrs. Lucille Short, Part Time
Mrs. Catherine Watson, Part Time
Miss Hallie S. Cushwa, Stenographer
Mr. Henry F. Riker, Office Clerk
Mr. Edwin R. Kilmer, Office Clerk
Miss Dora Ann Spinetti, Stenographer

APPENDIX II
CIVILIAN DEFENSE

CIVILIAN DEFENSE PERSONNEL*
BERKELEY COUNTY
1942-1945

Administrative

Chairman	Edgar H. Berry to January 12, 1942 C. Joseph Grebill from January 21, 1942
Coordinator	Edgar H. Berry to January 12, 1942 J. Howard Myers from January 21, 1942

Auxiliary Police Committee

Edgar M. Riordan, Chm.	Commander Berkeley Post No. 14, American Legion
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Utility Committee

Marvin Hawk, Chm.	Manager, Potomac-Edison Co.
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Air Raid Warning Service

G. William Ropp, Co- chm. to June, 1942	Superintendent, Berkeley County Schools
A. R. Emmert, Co- chm. to June, 1942	Business leader
C. J. Martin, Chm. after June, 1942	

Zone Wardens, Martinsburg

Chester J. Martin	First Ward
George W. O'Brien	Second Ward
Martin L. Depenbrock	Third Ward
D. Floyd Evans	Fourth Ward
Carlton L. Stucky	Fifth Ward
Carl L. Wellinger	Sixth Ward
Noble D. Ridings	Seventh Ward

Zone Wardens, County**

Edwin W. Miller	Arden District
A. G. Sanders	Falling Waters District
Carl W. Wiest	Gerrardstown District
C. J. Cunningham	Hedgesville District
Paul W. Ridgeway	Mill Creek District
T. J. McCarthy	Opequeon District

* From the files of the Martinsburg News.

** The Martinsburg Journal, December 17, 1941

Finance Committee

Trammell Hollis, Chm. Business leader

Thrift and Conservation Board

Marlin S. Eckard Postmaster

Communications Service

C. J. Crabill, Chm.	Manager, Martinsburg Gas Co.
Harry L. Reeves	Manager, C. & R Telephone Co.

Medical Service

Dr. N. B. Hendrix, Chm.	Pres., E. Pahhandle Med. Assn.
Dr. H. R. DuPuy	Berkeley Co. Health Officer
Dr. Max Oates	Red Cross Medical Adviser and Pres., City Hospital Staff
Dr. William L. Haltom	Pres., Kings Daughters Hospital Staff

Nursing Service

Mrs. Owen Welsh, Chm.	Sup't. of Nurses, City Hospital
Miss Margaret Shoup	
Miss Mable Fuller	Sup't of Nurses, K. D. Hospital

Provision for emergency service by members of the State Nurses Association, County Health Department nurses and local nurses aides.

Messenger Service

Mrs. Frank C. Thomas, Girl Scout Council
Co-chm.
Burkhart Krause, Co-Manager, Western Union Telegraph C.
chm.

Road Repair Crews, Demolition Clearance Corps,
Decontamination Corps, Bomb and Rescue Squads

P. G. Petri, Chm.	B & O Railroad
Charles Wever	City Engineer, Martinsburg
Tull Whitacre	State Road Commission Office
David Thompson	City Street Sup't., Martinsburg

Publicity Director

King Larkin
Donald Rentch

Newspaper man

Personnel Officer

John D. Martin

Commander

Harry C. Hammann

Agriculture

W. N. McClung, Chm.
James L. Dillon

County Agent
USDA Defense Board Chm.

CD Training Classes

Paul W. Swope, Chm.

Ration Board

J. Roy Nadenbousch, Chm. Business Leader
Edwin Miller Principal, Martinsburg High School
Edgar L. Henshaw

Salvage Committee

Lou Cohen, Chm.

War Finance Committee

R. Lewis Bentz, Gen-
eral Chm.

Bernard D. Myers

Chm. Banking Division

J. Howard Myers

Chm. Industrial Payroll Division

Wilbur H. Thomas

Chm. Community Division

Mrs. M. G. Maisel, Sr.

Chm. Women's Division

Buxton Martin

Publicity Chairman

USO Executive Committee

G. Granville Smith, Chm.
 Mrs. H. P. Thorn
 J. R. Nadenbousch
 Mrs. R. G. Coffman
 Col. Everett L. Cook
 Maj. T. M. Arnett

RED CROSS PERSONNEL*

Chapter Officers

Chairman
 Vice-Chairman
 Secretary
 Treasurer

Mrs. Russell J. Bergen
 Mrs. Howard K. Brown
 Miss Mollie Kuykendall
 Herbert A. Avey

Services and Corps Chairman

Home Nursing
 Disaster
 Home Service
 Nutrition and Canteen
 First Aid and Accident
 Junior Red Cross
 Arts and Crafts
 Blood Donors
 Camp and Council

Grey Ladies
 Life Saving
 Motor Corps
 Nurses Aides
 Production

Publicity

Recruiting Nurses
 Staff Assistance

Mrs. Felix Schneiderhan
 J. Roy Nadenbousch
 George Whitmore
 Mrs. Edgar M. Sites
 Julian C. Kidwiler
 Mrs. John Redue
 Mrs. Laud Byers
 Mrs. H. L. Reaves
 John Ruprecht and Mrs.
 H. S. Whitacre
 Mrs. James A. Trump
 Miss Jean Durborow
 Mrs. Sidney Lowery
 Mrs. Paul A. Bennett
 Mrs. H. S. Gardner, succeeded
 by Mrs. Edwin Miller
 Mrs. M. A. Snodgrass, suc-
 ceeded by Miss Ruth Darby
 Miss Eleanor Miller
 Mrs. Hoover L. Lloyd

* Martinsburg News Files.

Red Cross War Fund Chairman

Spring, 1942	R. L. Bentz
Spring, 1943	Meryman Gilbert
Fall, 1943	Garland Dunn
Spring, 1944	John L. Lightner
Fall, 1944	Clarence E. Martin, Jr., Co-chm.
Spring, 1945	John L. Madenbousch, Co-Chm.

STATE SURVEY OF AVAILABLE SCHOOL FACILITIES FOR WAR
EMERGENCY*Berkeley County Report
March 28, 1942

No. of schools which would be used for housing evacuees or troops	8
No. of persons per day for whom food could be prepared with present facilities	945
Cots and beds available in the schools and estimated no. available from other agencies	139
No. of cots which space will accommodate	1450
No. of showers	26
Toilets--Men	20
Women	31
First Aid in schools	4
Telephones in schools	8

* OGD General Correspondence No. 2, War History Commission
Records, West Virginia University Library, Morgantown.

WAR LOAN DRIVES
Statistics for Berkeley County

<u>War Loan</u>		<u>County Quota</u>	<u>Total Sales</u>
First	November 30-December 31, 1942	---	\$ 110,987
Second	April 12-May 1, 1943	\$ 781,000	847,976
Third	September 9-October 2, 1943	1,439,900	950,584
Fourth	January 18-February 15, 1944	686,200	906,158
Fifth	June 12-July 8, 1944	820,000	1,023,215
Sixth	November 20-December 16, 1944	674,000	1,125,237
Seventh	May 14-June 30, 1945	<u>996,000</u>	<u>1,724,242</u>
		\$5,508,000	\$6,688,399

APPENDIX III
MAP OF BERKELEY COUNTY

BIBLIOGRAPHY

BIBLIOGRAPHY

All sources listed are Primary except the first two under V Miscellaneous.

I Personal Interviews:

The following people were personally interviewed:

Armbruster, Paul Vernon, Vocational-Agriculture Teacher,
Hedgesville High School.

Beall, Charles R., Boy Scout Commissioner, Martinsburg.

Bergen, Mrs. Russell J., Chairman, Berkeley County Chapter,
Red Cross, Martinsburg.

Bentz, R. Lewis, Chairman of Civilian Defense War Finance
Committee, Martinsburg.

Brand, Robert C., President of Brand Engineering Company,
Martinsburg.

Byrer, Harry H., B & O Counsel, Martinsburg.

Byrer, John G., Editor of Martinsburg News.

Byrer, John G. (Mrs.), Niece of Commodore T. E. VanMetre,
Martinsburg.

Clapham, Franklin, Farmer, former owner of Newton D. Baker
Hospital site.

Clarke, Nelson, Executive Secretary, Martinsburg Chamber of
Commerce.

Cook, Colonel Ernest L., Commanding Officer of Newton D.
Baker Hospital.

Crowell, Jack, Manager of Rent Control Office, Martinsburg.

Dunn, Garland L., Vice-President of Dunn Woolen Company,
Martinsburg.

Hammersla, C. Lee, Manager of Martinsburg Branch, National
Fruit Products Company.

Henshaw, Edgar L., Ration Board Member, Martinsburg.

McClung, W. N., County Agent, Martinsburg.

McKown, Gilbert C., Editor of The Martinsburg Journal.

Moyer, Walter, General Manager of C. H. Musselman and Company,
Inwood.

Poland, John R., President of Perfection Garment Company, Martinsburg.

Porter, Mrs. Harry, Girl Scout Commissioner, Martinsburg.

Reaves, Mrs. Harry L., Chairman of Red Cross Blood Doning Service, Martinsburg.

Reynolds, T. Guy, First Lieutenant, Civil Air Patrol, Martinsburg.

Ropp, G. William, County Superintendent of Schools, Martinsburg.

Sites, Edgar M., Commanding Officer, State Guard, Company D; Clerk, Selective Service Board, Martinsburg.

Smith, C. Granville, Civilian Defense Recreation Chairman, Martinsburg.

Taylor, Bennett, Personnel Manager, Interwoven Stocking Company, Martinsburg.

Tonry, J. G., B & O Yardmaster, Martinsburg.

Williams, R. C., Manager of Berkeley Woolen Company, Martinsburg.

Wood, Cecil W., Orchardist, member of West Virginia Horticulture Society and State Guard Company D, Hedgesville.

Young, George S., Veteran of World War II, Hedgesville.

II Newspapers

Baker's Batter, 1944-1946. War History Commission Records, West Virginia University Library, Morgantown; Martinsburg News, 1941-1945.

The Martinsburg Journal, June 20, 1940; December, 1941, to February, 1942; and February 19, 1953.

III Magazines

Mountaineer Defense, 1942-1944. War History Commission Records, West Virginia University Library, Morgantown.

The West Virginia Review, May, 1944.

West Virginia Educational Bulletin, September, 1942.

IV Official Records, Reports and Publications

Annual Narrative Report of the County Agent, Berkeley County, West Virginia Agricultural Extension Service, Morgantown, 1941-1945.

Discharge Records, Berkeley County Clerk's Office, Martinsburg.

Official Records of the West Virginia Selective Service Headquarters, Charleston.

Official Records of the West Virginia Office, U. S. Treasury Department, Savings Bond Division, Charleston.

U. S. Census of Agriculture, Virginia and West Virginia, 1945; Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C.

West Virginia Blue Book, Jarrett Printing Company, Charleston.

World War II Honor List of Dead and Missing, State of West Virginia by Counties, War Department, Charleston.

V Miscellaneous

- 1 Alexander, Herbert L., A Short History of the Late Honorable Newton D. Baker, Martinsburg Chamber of Commerce pamphlet, 1943.
- 2 Brand, Robert C., Limestone Production in West Virginia, Printed copy of a speech presented to American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, Morgantown, September, 1951.
- 3 Employment Survey, Martinsburg and Berkeley County, 1941-1947, Martinsburg Chamber of Commerce.
- 4 Historical Annual, National Guard of the State of West Virginia, Army and Navy Publishing Company, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 1938.
- 5 Sites, Edgar M., History, Local Board, Selective Service, Martinsburg, Berkeley County, West Virginia, March, 1947. Ms.
- 6 War History Commission Records, West Virginia University Library, Morgantown.

ABSTRACT

In this study of Berkeley County in World War II an attempt is made to summarize the county's contribution to the war effort and the principal effects of the war upon the county.

From its 30,143 population the foremost contribution was that of the 3518 men and 99 women who entered the federal service to give of their energies and lives--a contribution approached only by that of the families from which these men and women came.

The strategic location of the county with reference to the nation's capital, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, the Potomac River and U. S. Route Eleven, designated by the War Department as the second line of defense of the eastern seaboard, brought a real sense of the nearness of war to those remaining on the home front. Civilian defense was organized and maintained with enthusiasm, its efforts centering at first around air raid protection, and in later months in the bond and stamp campaigns with which to help finance the war. The Berkeley County Chapter of the Red Cross expanded its program and worked unceasingly; its projects were many and varied. The school system revised its curricula to meet the needs of those students interested in aeronautics and others preparing to answer the urgent calls for office workers in Washington. A defense training school set up in Martinsburg trained many hundreds of students for specialized jobs in the aircraft plants of Baltimore and Hagerstown, Maryland. The three community canning centers instituted by the board of education proved invaluable assets to the communities of Hedgesville, Martinsburg and Bunker Hill. To further protect the home front, State Guard Company D was activated and received training throughout the war period in preparation for an emergency arising from invasion or civil disturbance.

Although not essentially industrial, Berkeley County produced limestone from its quarries for use in the manufacture of steel and contributed various textiles and fruit products to the armed forces. Another of its largest employers, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, played a vital part in the war effort. Farming, long the chief occupation of the county, was perhaps the most drastically affected by the war. In spite of the hardships in the form of labor and material shortages which it inflicted, the war lifted farming out of the depths of the depression which had held it since 1930 and made it an industry in its own right.

Finally, this study deals with the founding and operation by the army of Newton D. Baker Hospital, which was, next to the draft, the most far-reaching war activity to take place in Berkeley County.

BIOGRAPHY

Patricia W. Alger was born Patricia Ann Wood in Martinsburg, Berkeley County, on November 4, 1924. She attended Hedgesville Elementary and High Schools, graduating from the latter in 1941. From 1941 to 1943 she was a student at Shepherd College, Shepherdstown, from which she transferred to Hood College, Frederick, Maryland. She was graduated from this institution in 1945 with an A. B. degree in history. During the school year 1945-1946, she was employed by the Jefferson County Board of Education as a teacher of social studies and English in Harpers Ferry High School. She resigned this position to attend the summer sessions at West Virginia University and remained in Morgantown until June, 1948, continuing her graduate studies, with the exception of the summer and fall terms of 1947. She accepted a position as history and social studies teacher in Hedgesville High School in 1948, and since the close of that school year has not been publicly employed.

Her marriage to Sylvester M. Alger, Jr., of Hedgesville, occurred May 25, 1946. The family now includes three children: Robert Dana, born November 4, 1947; William Foster, October 20, 1949; and Elisabeth Ann, May 5, 1951.

AT: RYAN OF EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Thos M. White

Thomas E. Eunis.

Benjamin Keen

F. P. Summers

(Ch. 12-17)

May 16, 1958
(10-10)