

Training in aviation is provided for these young men at the West Virginia 4-H Airport, Jackson's Mill.



This West Virginia 4-H girl develops greater appreciation of the beautiful as a part of the camp's program.

West Virginia Makes Certain of Tomorrow's Leaders

System of Training Begins with Boys and Girls and Extends to Men and Women Through Summer Camp at Jackson's Mill

By Walter P. Schnopp

CONSTRUCTIVE leadership for the future in West Virginia is not being left to chance with the hope that able and wholesome leaders will develop, but is being assured through a system of training that begins with boys and girls and extends to adult men and women.

In a measure, the same system, or variations of it, is being used throughout the United States, but in no state may be found a development under the guidance of the state's highest educational institution—the state university—that goes as far toward training leaders for all walks of life as does West Virginia's State 4-H Camp, administered by the Agricultural Extension Service of West Virginia University.

This camp, the pioneer development of its kind in the world, and by far the most extensive of any similar development anywhere, has been in the process of development for 17 years, having been started on a five-acre tract, on which was located the boyhood home of one of America's great leaders—Thomas Jonathan ("Stonewall") Jackson, from whom the location gets its present name—Jackson's Mill.

Serves Many Groups

Today, the camp grounds include 523 acres and buildings and other equipment with a value of almost \$250,000. Included in the camp's physical equipment are 11 county buildings used as dormitories, a large assembly hall, dining hall with a seating capacity of 500 patterned after George Washington's home at Mount Vernon, an exhibits building and museum, a director's home, large swimming pool, library, complete water and sewerage system, administrative offices, work shops, airport, athletic field, game preserve, and livestock unit with pavilion and barns.

Sewing for the girls.



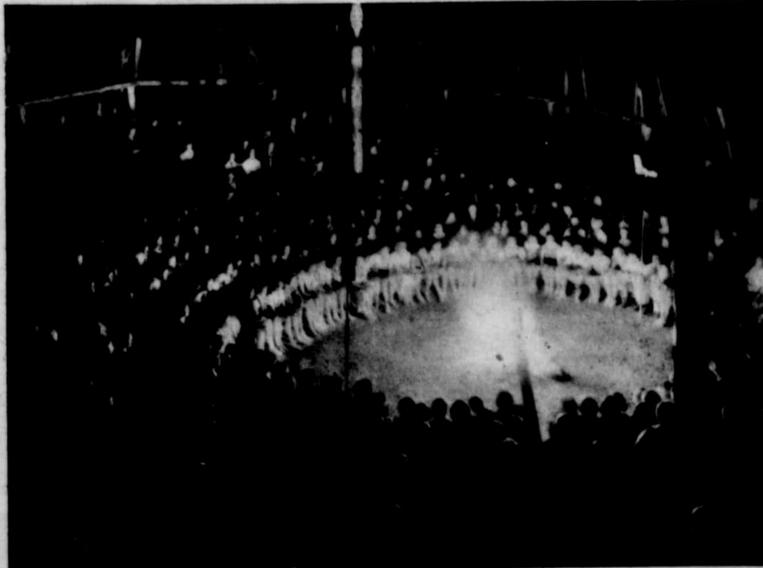
From this boyhood home of General "Stonewall" Jackson, now a training school for perpetuating the ideals, courage, and determination for which he stood, radiates inspiration into every corner of the state.

Each year from the latter part of April to the end of September, 20 or more special training camps or conferences are held at Jackson's Mill.

Among those who receive special lead-

phasizes the development of heads, hands, hearts, and health to the end of achieving a well-rounded, wholesome life. Here at the 4-H Camp they have an opportunity to exercise their ability to think, plan, and reason about vital life problems in such a way that they will become adept in using their minds in thinking clearly and logically.

Thinking must be coupled with action, so training in many skills is pro-



When evening comes, the perfect day ends around the camp fire.

ership training through these conferences are livestock marketing leaders, home economics teachers, ministers, representative boys chosen for the "Boys' State," 4-H club leaders, older 4-H boys, older 4-H girls, adolescent 4-H girls, Future Farmers, young people active in church organizations, farm women, farmers, music leaders, photographers, and others.

Some of the best examples of how these leadership training conferences serve to build foundations for life enrichment in West Virginia may be seen in those held in connection with the 4-H program. More than 20,000 4-H club members in West Virginia are organized in about 1,200 local 4-H clubs. Almost every club is directly influenced by training given at Jackson's Mill, either through its leader or some member who attends one of the training schools.

Four-Fold Development

Both the young people and the adults who come to Jackson's Mill are the natural leaders in their home communities, who return to their homes from the camp better qualified to guide the thinking of their groups and to serve as competent leaders.

Training for these 4-H groups en-

vided in the camp, especially for girls and boys. Proper companionship encourages wholesome standards of action and cooperative endeavor which must have for its foundation right standards of conduct. That mind, hand, and heart may function at their best demands positive health, which finds encouragement through the camp program.

A typical camp program lasts for a week or more. Each day the campers are up by 7 o'clock and ready for a morning dip in the pool. A nourishing breakfast at 8 puts everybody on their toes for two hours of diligent class work ranging from handicrafts, nature lore, music, farm and home problems, to vocational guidance.

At 11 o'clock a general assembly is held and an outstanding leader gives an inspiring challenge. And by noon what appetites the campers have! And they're sure of a tip-top dinner, carefully planned to meet their needs and one that will satisfy.

Other Activities

For the afternoon, there are organization activities, competitive games, sports, and contests, tribal meetings, swimming, life saving, and other out-

door activities. By 5:30 everyone is ready for another hearty meal, followed by a period of relaxation and quiet when the campers gather for the evening vespers service.

By 8 o'clock all assemble around the camp fire in the Council Circle to view worthy deeds of the day, listen to inspiring tales of valor, sing songs, give yells and challenges, perform stunts, and finally, as they stand with uplifted hands and faces to the Great Chief of their lives, close with the Omaha Indian tribal prayer—"Wa-kon-da dhu dhu, Wa-pa-dhin a-ton-he," which translated is: "Father, a needy one stand before Thee. I that speak am he." Then quietly they wend their way to their lodges and to bed.

Planned to Meet Needs

Equally challenging programs are arranged to meet the particular needs of other groups. Ministers, in their conference, discuss methods of making their work and the program of the church more helpful in community life. They get a broader and more fundamental understanding of the relation between physical, human, and spiritual resources, between home, society, and the church.

The farm women deal with problems of the home, child care, food preservation, wise management, house furnishings and decoration, clothing, family relationships, use of money, good reading, community problems, and dozens of other matters of special interest to them, and incidentally get some recreation learning to play and have fun.

Farmers discuss their problems of organization, marketing, cooperative action, goals for community betterment, and renew their youth in the spirit of play.

Then there's the airport. A licensed pilot conducts training courses for those interested in aviation and fits them to become skilled pilots.

Handicraft for the boys.

