



**National History Day®** 

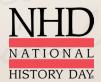
# Silent Heroes®:

**Untold Stories from the Korean War** 



**RESEARCHING THE KOREAN WAR HOME FRONT** 





### **About the Program**

Since 2011, National History Day® (NHD) has led a variety of programs to engage teachers and students in the study of Silent Heroes®. Silent Heroes are the untold stories of history. While the majority of historical scholarship focuses on the leaders, NHD recognizes the value of studying the history of ordinary people.

In *Untold Stories from the Korean War*, NHD students and teachers study the stories of Korean War Veterans—their lives before the war, their communities, their military service in the Korean War era, and their experience as Veterans in their communities. This process helps students understand the role of the military and the conflict through the eyes of a Veteran. This is a powerful opportunity to personalize history and help students see the past through the eyes of those who lived it.

The program engages students and teachers in historical inquiry, using secondary sources to establish historical context and content. Students and teachers seek primary sources to help document their Silent Hero's life experiences. This can include manuscript census pages, birth certificates, school records, military files, newspapers, photographs, oral histories, materials from local libraries, historical societies, or families, and obituaries. When possible, students and teachers connect with family members, and with their consent, interview them to learn details about their loved ones that are often only recorded in the memories of those who knew them.

Throughout the process students and teachers learn how to identify sources, determine the validity of sources, supply evidence to support their claims, and properly track and cite their sources. Their research is synthesized and the students and teachers visit the cemeteries where their Silent Heroes are interred to offer eulogies to honor their lives. Sometimes family members will accompany the students. Their work is synthesized and cross-listed on NHD's Silent Heroes website (NHDSilentHeroes.org) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Legacy Memorial (vlm.cem.va.gov).

This program is a powerful tool to help connect students with their home communities. As citizens of that community, they learn the importance of recognizing and honoring those from that community who served and sacrificed for the good of others.

# **Table of Contents**

Introduction	3
Research Materials	4
Living in Your Silent Hero's Community During the War	5
Organize Your Information	7
Lesson Plan: Researching Communities Through Local Newspapers	8

# **Need help? Have questions?**

Please reach out to your research mentor! We're happy to help you through this process.

### Introduction

What did your Silent Hero's town look like when they went to war? Exploring the lives of those who served in the Korean War also includes looking at life at home. Incorporating this aspect into your Silent Hero's story provides better context to the war years and creates a richer story. Using those materials may also provide additional clues for research. This phase will bring you to your local public library, news facility, historical society, or state or territorial archives.

Consider the larger picture of the war in your state or territory and the smaller picture in your city, town, or community. Each story will vary because the war affected different communities in different ways. Some of you will learn more about agriculture, others about manufacturing. Some Silent Heroes lived in major cities, others in small towns.

In this phase, it is crucial to get to the library! See what resources your community has relating to this time. School libraries are a great start, but also plan a visit to your local library or historical society. If a class trip to the library is not an option, teachers can make a personal trip to the library and bring back some sources for the students to use in class. Additionally, do not overlook the digital resources at your library. Finally, seek help from a librarian! Many are excited to collaborate with schools and can rapidly identify and provide sources. While most of these records will not directly relate to your Silent Hero, we want to place their family and community into context.

If your Silent Hero grew up in an area other than your community, here is where you need to get creative. While it is often impossible to travel to that place, try to connect with a library or historical society in that area to see if anyone in that community might be able to help. If you are looking for a connection in another state, NHD has a network of coordinators. Email Lynne@nhd.org and we are happy to try to connect you with a state or regional coordinator who might be able to help.

### **Research Materials**

As you research, keep an eye out for the following types of resources. Remember, you will not find all of them, but these can give you some ideas of what people were thinking, discussing, or experiencing during the Korean War.

#### **Advertisements**

Just as they are today, advertisements were used to sell an idea or product. Advertisements appeared on the radio, in newspapers, in magazines, and on posters. Examining the advertisements of those years provides a glimpse into the lives on the home front and war recruiting.

### **Buttons (Political and Military)**

Buttons displaying political individuals, groups, military branches, or units may have been collected and worn by family members on the home front, showing support for or opposition to the war (less likely to find).

### **Company Records and Newsletters or Magazines**

If the places where your Silent Hero worked before the war are still in business, you can contact them and ask to access their archives. Sometimes companies printed newsletters or magazines featuring company news and news from employees fighting the war. You might even locate a photograph of your Silent Hero in these publications.

#### Magazines

Magazines were another form of news and propaganda during the war. Magazines were published on the home front (Colliers and Life) and in the field (Yank Magazine and Stars and Stripes).

#### Music

Music was one way to keep people happy and take their minds off the war. What music was popular in this community? Where did local people gather to listen to live music? What styles of music were popular?

#### **Posters**

Posters were used as a form of propaganda and information. They included reminders for families to conserve and not waste, for buying war bonds, and for recruiting efforts during the war. They were also meant to mobilize a nation. Posters were an ideal agent for making war aims the personal mission of every citizen. Whether created by the government or by corporations, these posters conveyed social, economic, and political ideas through imagery.

### Living in Your Silent Hero's Community During the War

Your Silent Hero's hometown may have undergone many architectural changes since the early 1950s. It will require some imagination to get a sense of what it was like to live in this place during the war. It is every historian's job to gather evidence that will help people understand a historical event and the setting in which it took place. This not only includes roads, cars, and buildings; it also refers to socio-economic aspects that have either changed through the years, such as jobs, racial segregation, or social events. Throughout your research, you might find the following sources:

#### **Census Data**

What clues about the community can we find in the census data we found in the last module? Where do people in the town work? Did they earn average, above average, or below average wages? How does the composition of families give us clues about life in this community?

#### **Historical Societies**

Many communities have historical societies, often staffed by volunteers. If your Silent Hero is in your home community, consider making a connection to see if they might preserve any files or help direct you to places to learn more about the community in the 1950s. If the community you are researching is far from your own, reach out to see if a member might be willing or able to speak with you and/or your students virtually.

#### Maps

Maps are useful tools to get an idea of the scale of a community at a certain time. Compare the maps from the past with current maps to see how your Silent Hero's community has changed.

Consider searching your community in the Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Collection. In the 1800s, insurance companies began using maps created by companies to show how towns were constructed (and the building materials that were used). The largest of these companies was the Sanborn Map Company. This company created maps of over 12,000 towns, many of which have been digitized and are searchable in the Library of Congress (loc.gov/collections/sanborn-maps/about-this-collection/). See if you can find your Silent Hero's town.

#### **Newspaper Articles**

Newspaper articles provide interesting information about the locale, community, economy, troops departing and returning, battle information, sports, and advertisements. These sources add context to your Silent Hero and their family's lives during the war years. Use your subscription to Newspapers.com on Ancestry Classroom to get a start. Also, talk to your local librarian about newspapers from your local community. See the lesson at the end of this guide on how to use Newspapers.com.

#### **Photographs**

Photographs are rich in clues about the hairstyles and fashion during the war years. They may also provide clues as to the neighborhood in which your Silent Hero's family lived, the kind of car they drove, or where they might have worked.

#### **Postcards**

Postcards commonly feature places of interest (buildings, monuments, factories, main streets) that might have drastically changed or even disappeared.

#### **Yearbooks and Schools Newspapers**

A yearbook is a type of a book published annually to record, highlight, and commemorate the past year of a school. The term also refers to a book of statistics or facts published annually. Many colleges, high schools, middle schools, and elementary schools have published yearbooks and newspapers. While your Silent Hero's school or family may have copies of yearbooks, ancestry typically does, too! At the top of the Ancestry Classroom page, click on the "U.S., School Yearbooks" option and search from there.

### **Organize Your Information**

As you find information, add it to your Silent Hero folder (linked in Google Classroom). In the second subfolder, Homefront, we have placed an organizer file.

Just like before, there are two parts to this graphic organizer.

In the first part, you organize the information that you learn. Add in the answers to the questions, the source of your information, and, where possible, links to the images or files. Add any files you find to your folders (photograph of the town's main street or newspaper articles). If you cannot fill in a row, that is ok. If you find the information later, come back and add it. If you find additional information that is not contained in one of the prompts, add rows at the end of your organizer to add that information. You also have a section where you can add questions that you have. That helps us because if we know what you are looking for, we might be able to help guide you to the answers. While we will never be able to answer all questions, you start by asking them.

#### Silent Hero Research Organizer - Korean War Homefront

The sacrifices of the Korean War were felt far from the battlefields. Each Silent Hero came from a family and a hometown. The goal of this task is to help you learn more about the homefront and the experiences of the Silent Hero's family and friends back home. When possible, we strongly recommend that you visit your local library or historical society. They might have unique resources or collections that can tell you more about the experience of the Korean War homefront. If your Silent Hero was not local to your area, see what resources you can find to help tell the stories of the communities and families in the early 1950s.

Prompt	Response	Source of information	Link to Image/File
What was your Silent Hero's hometown? How would you describe the location?			
Was the community involved in wartime manufacturing during the Korean War? What war materials were produced there or near there?			

In the second part of the graphic organizer, you input and track your sources. We have provided some of the most common sources you will find. For each source, tell us if you have found it (yes or no), and then update the citation on the right. Follow the format of these citations. If you have something you don't know how to cite, please ask!

#### Document Review List:

Here is a list of common documents that might help you answer the questions above. No one will have every one of these sources, but they might lead you down pathways to learn more. When you do this research, save a copy (either print or save as an image or PDF) of the file and add it to your research subfolder.

On this chart, use the sample citations to create citations for anything that you have found. Feel free to add rows as needed.

Ta	Table rce Sample citation for this type of source:	
	Records from local libraries / local historical societies	ABC Company Records. Montgomery County Historical Society (Record number).
	family photographs or records	Smith Family Records. 1885-1945. Courtesy of Janie Smith.

This guide was funded by a grant from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. The opinions, findings and conclusions stated herein are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

### **Lesson Plan: Researching Communities Through Local Newspapers**

### **Objectives**

At the conclusion of this lesson, students will:

- Use <u>Newspapers.com</u> to explore the events and time period of Raymond L. Bailey's Korean War service and life in his hometown of Fayette, Alabama during the Korean War;
- Work in groups to analyze articles or advertisements about topics such as military service, community events, local economy, and entertainment;
- Share their findings with the class; and
- Develop skills using <u>Newspapers.com</u> needed to conduct historical research on their own Silent Hero.

### **Documents Used**

### **Primary Sources**

Student-researched newspaper articles

### **Secondary Source**

Video, *Basic Search on Newspapers.com* [1:14] Newspapers.com https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aEyVATCSpic

### **Teacher-Created Materials**

- Group Research Assignments A through D
- Teacher Answer Key

### **Lesson Preparation**

- Ensure students have computers or tablets with access to the internet and Newspapers.com.
- ▶ Make copies of the Group Research Assignments for students (or distribute electronically).
- Print and review a copy of the Teacher Answer Key.

### **Procedure**

### Introduction to Newspapers.com (15 minutes)

- ▶ Give a brief overview of the Korean War and its impact on the U.S. homefront, especially in small towns like Fayette, Alabama.
- Introduce Raymond L. Bailey, a young African American man who served in the Korean War between 1950 and 1953. Remind students that the Baileys are the family they looked at in the census lesson in the previous module.
- Show the video tutorial *Basic Search on Newspapers.com* [1:13] to the students. This video will cover searching by name, location, dates, and narrowing results.
- Model how to use <u>Newspapers.com</u> to search for newspapers with useful information about Raymond L. Bailey and the homefront in Fayette, Alabama:
  - Search by name (Raymond L. Bailey), location (Fayette, Alabama), and date range (1950–1953).
  - Use key terms related to their assigned topics and/or arrow through the pages and skim articles, photos, and ads for relevant items.
  - Demonstrate how students can use the "clip" or "print/download" tools in the toolbar when they find something helpful.
  - Share example: Emphasize that students need to verify personal information they find and confirm it matches with their silent hero. In the case of Raymond Bailey, the first articles that appear are for another Raymond Bailey from Fayette, Alabama, who was Missing in Action. Show students the article below and ask them how they can tell it is the wrong Raymond Bailey? (Answer: the family members' names do not match those of Raymond L. Bailey from the 1950 census and this Raymond Bailey was a White man, whereas the Raymond Bailey they are researching is a Black man.

**LESSON TIP**: To better focus and expedite the research process, you may wish to have the class focus on obtaining articles, advertisements, and photographs from the same newspaper. Articles about Raymond L. Bailey's military induction appear in the August 13, 1953 and the September 10, 1953 editions of the *Fayette County Times*, which should be in their list of search results. However, any edition of the *Fayette County Times* newspaper from 1950 to 1953 will have helpful articles and advertisements regarding the homefront conditions in Raymond L. Bailey's hometown.

#### **Group Research Assignment (25 minutes)**

- Organize students into groups of two to four students each (repeat assignments as needed for larger classes). Direct each group to find an article or advertisement on a specific aspect of Raymond L. Bailey's hometown, Fayette, Alabama, during the Korean War. Each group should focus on one aspect of the town including:
  - ▶ Group A: military service
  - ▶ Group B: the Fayette community
  - Group C: the local economy
  - ▶ Group D: education, sports, and entertainment
- ▶ Distribute copies of the Group Research Assignments A through D to the student groups.
- Circulate and assist student groups with their research as needed.

### Whole Group Sharing and Class Discussion (20 minutes)

- Ask each group to designate a reporter to share the article or advertisement they found. Ask each reporter to provide:
  - A brief summary of their item; and
  - What information the article or advertisement contained that helped them build a better understanding of Raymond L. Bailey, his hometown (Fayette, Alabama), and/or life on the homefront during the Korean War.
- As a class, discuss:
  - ► How were the different aspects (military, community events, economy, school, sports, entertainment) were interconnected during the war?
  - How life in a small town like Fayette, Alabama reflected broader trends in the U.S. during the Korean War?
  - ► How do these primary sources paint a more complete picture of Raymond L. Bailey's life and Korean War service?
- Wrap up by emphasizing how today's activity gives students foundational research skills for exploring historical records, which they will apply as they conduct homefront research concerning their own Silent Heroes.

**RESEARCH TIP:** When you find an article in Newspapers.com, there is a multi-digit number in the URL:

newspapers.com/image/572114000/?match=1

Jot down that number (572114000). You will need it for your citation. It is also helpful, because if I want to go back to that page in the newspaper, I simply go to *newspapers.com/image/572114000/* and I will return to that page of the *Fayette County Times* from July 5, 1951.

# Raymond E. Bailey Newspaper Article

"Raymond E. Bailey Reported Missing In Korean Action" *Fayette County Times* [Fayette, Alabama], August 17, 1950 Newspapers.com (572095791)



# **Group Research Assignment A: Military Service**

Select an article that focuses on Raymond L. Bailey.
Article Title:
Newspaper:
Date:
Why we selected this article:
What information did you find about Raymond L. Bailey's service in the Korean War?
Were there any articles detailing troops leaving or returning to Fayette?
What battle news related to the Korean War was covered and what did it reveal about the degree to which Fayette, Alabama was affected by the Korean War?

# **Group Research Assignment B: Community**

Select an article that locuses on local news, or local social, polltical, or economic events during the war.
Article Title:
Newspaper:
Date:
Why we selected this article:
What were the major events going on in Fayette, Alabama in this time period?
What clues do these events provide about the racial, social, and political climate of the local area during this time period?

# **Group Research Assignment C: Local Economy**

Select a piece that focuses on the local economy. Consider advertisements, job listings (help wanted), or information about war-related businesses.

Article Title:
Newspaper:
Date:
Why we selected this article:
What types of jobs, services, or products were advertised during this time?
What local industries, if any, contributed to the war effort? How did they contribute?
What clues does this give us about the economic climate of the local area during this time period?

# **Group Research Assignment D: Education, Sports, and Entertainment**

Select a piece that focuses on education, sports, or entertainment (e.g., local sports teams, entertainment during wartime).

Article Title:
Newspaper:
Date:
Why we selected this article:
What local sports or entertainment events were happening in the community? How did people unwind during this period?
What can you tell about the school system in Fayette, Alabama at this time?
What clues does this give us about the community during this time period?

### **Teacher Answer Key**

### **Group A: Military Service**

### What information did you find about Raymond L. Bailey's service in the Korean War?

Students can find information and articles about Raymond L. Bailey's service induction in the August 13 and September 10, 1953 editions of the *Fayette County Times*. There was a small group entering the service at that time. Students may note Bailey's service came near the end of the Korean Conflict.

#### Were there any articles detailing troops leaving or returning to Fayette?

Students may encounter page long lists of local men in the armed forces from Fayette, Alabama (like the article below), including those killed in action and those missing. There is no mention of women in the service.

Left: "8 Local Men To Be Inducted Aug. 19; 6 on Sept. 11." *Fayette County Times* [Fayette, Alabama], August 13, 1953. Newspapers.com (572112109).

Right: "County Men In Our Armed Forces." *Fayette County Times* [Fayette, Alabama], July 5, 1951. Newspapers.com (572113941).

# 8 Local Men To Be Inducted Aug. 19; 6 On Sept. 11

The following Fayette county men have received their induction orders for August 19. They are to report at 10 a, m. on Wednesday morning. Joel D. Hankins, Loyd Harrold Russell, J. T. Beaty, Danny Hue Cunningham, Claude Kenneth McDonald, Van Wayne Waldrop, Joe Earl Meherg and John Arthur Martin.

Six other county men who have received their induction orders for September 11th are as follows: Edward Dall Bowen, John Cecil White, Everette Thomas Hocutt, William Lee Gray, Raymond Lee Bailey and John D. Watkins.

These men are to report at 10 a. m. on September 11th.



#### **Group A: Military Service**

What battle news related to the Korean War was covered and what did it reveal about the degree to which Fayette, Alabama was affected by the Korean War?

There are articles about local soldiers and prisoners of war and families visiting military bases to see their sons. It appears there is significant local support/interest in the war.

"Fayette County Boy Returns Sunday From 27 Months in Prison Camp." Fayette County Times [Fayette, Alabama], September 10, 1953. Newspapers.com (572112801).

### **Fayette County Boy Returns Sunday** From 27 Months In Prison Camp

South, first Korean war prisoher to return to Payette coun- sick to march and would fall ty. He is the 24 year old son behind," he went on to say. of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. South "If they fell down, the Reds of Fayette Routé Four.

the surprise of their life Sun-not let us go back and pick day at 2:30 p. m. when Jimmy them up. We never saw them tode up in front of the house again but they were supposed in a taxi. He came to the to be taken to hospitals." states in 16 days on a ship af- In an interview with Cpl ter serving 27 months in Chang- South the Times reporter askflew to Birmingham and came of the prison camp and what

laugh or cry when I was re- months the food wasn't fit for leased," the corporal exclaimed. human consumption," he de-"I was kind of happy to get clared. "We slept on the home in time for the football floor on mats, made of sorggames."

When asked how he was cap- when we made bunks... tured, Gpl. South said, "the Cpl. South told how the pris-Chinese broke through and cut oners carried in wood around our escape route and caught the camp and did various deus in a road block on May 17, tails every day. '51." "They marched us lp When asked if he was forced and down the front lines and to study Communism, he said, grouped us in larger groups (Continued on Page Four)

Getting home was the only and showed us their troops in thought in the mind of Jimmy order to boost their morale."

"Some of the guys were too would hit them with rifles, The South family received sticks and rocks. They would

Song Korean prison camp. He ed him about the conditions by bus to Fayette. the prisoners did to pass away
"I didn't know whether to time. "Up until the last few hum cane until this summer

#### **Group B: Community**

What were the major local news events going on at the time?

What clues do these events provide about the racial, social, and political climate of the local area during this time period?

Students will encounter pages in the *Fayette County Times* about social events and other news from the local area. Many articles mention a country club, social groups, and fundraisers that indicate there is a two-tiered society in Fayette, Alabama, consisting of a White upper class whose life stands in stark contrast to the African American laboring class to which Raymond L. Bailey belongs. This is also apparent in articles that discuss the number of deaths for the year in Alabama and break it down by race, but no other factors. Students may discover articles and ads encouraging local citizen involvement in scrap drives to aid the war effort due to steel and iron shortages. Additionally, there are articles and maps that make reference to communists in the U.S. as part of the Cold War hysteria to root out the suspected enemies in our midst. Article examples appear below.



Left: "Fayette County Cotton Maid." *Fayette County Times* [Fayette, Alabama], September 10, 1953. Newspapers.com (572112906).

Right: "Thirty Co. Deaths During Last Quarter." Fayette County Times [Fayette, Alabama], May 17, 1951. Newspapers.com (572112874).

# Thirty Co. Deaths During Last Quarter

The 6,863 Alabama deaths from all causes reported during the last three months of 1950 included 30 occurring in Fayette Conuty. The annoucement was made by the State Department of Health.

The State total consisted of 3,968 deaths of white people and 2,895 deaths of Negroes.

### **Group B: Community**

Left: "Local Groups Asked to Aid in Defense Needs." *Fayette County Times* [Fayette, Alabama], July 5, 1951. Newspapers.com (572113897).

Right: "Official FBI Figures on Reds in U.S.." *Fayette County Times* [Fayette, Alabama], August 17, 1950. Newspapers.com (572095807).

### LOCAL GROUPS ASKED TO AID IN DEFENSE NEEDS

Farmers, industrial leaders and owners of automobile 'graveyards" of Fayette County were asked by the Federal Government this week to cooperate in relieving the present nationwide shortage of scrap supplies at steel mills so that the national program of rearmament could be carried out.

A concerted effort in ferreting out scrap steel and iron from plants, wareshouses and other industrial centers, from farms and from automobile "graveyards" and getting it moved into market channels to save the nation from a grave shortage at this time was requested in an appeal received here from Merrill C. Lofton, southeastern regional director of the U. S. Department of Commerce in Atlanta.



OFFICIAL F.B.I. FIGURES ON REDS IN U.S. . . . The above map of the United States reveals the official Federal Bureau of Investigation figures on the number of Communist party members by states as revealed in a recent issue of a national magazine. These statistics show that the heaviest concentrations of Reds occur in the larger cities and the smallest in rural areas. (Note figures for such states as New York, Illinois and California compared with the figures for such rural states as Vermont and Mississippi.) This is the first time figures for the entire United States have been released to the public.

#### **Group C: Local Economy**

### What types of jobs, services, or products were advertised during this time?

Students will likely encounter articles about the heavy presence of the steel, lumber, and agricultural industries in Alabama. They might make connections between the lumber industry (in which Raymond Bailey's father Lester worked according to the 1950 census), and Alabama's national prominence as the third largest paper producer in the nation.

Left: "Alabama Third Lumber Industry." Fayette County Times [Fayette, Alabama], September 13, 1951. Newspapers.com (572115629).

Top right: "Paper Making is Important Field." Fayette County Times [Fayette, Alabama], September 13, 1951. Newspapers.com (572115559).

Bottom right: "State Welfare Benefits Increased." Fayette County Times [Fayette, Alabama], April 26, 1951. Newspapers.com (572112421).

### Alabama Third Lumber Industry

Actually growing a neverending stream of money which flows into Alabama from all sections of the nation, this state today ranks third among the 48 states in the production of lumber. Dept. of Com-merce figures just released show the prominent position of Alabama in this indstry.

Annually, Alabama farmers are paid close to \$30,000,000 for their raw timber. Alabama sawmills, numbering more than 3,000, cut and dressed and sold this lumber for a total price exceeding 100,000,000. Since small farmers and land owners account for nearly 70% of the tree-growing land in the state, this means that the great flow of wealth from the lumber industry was widely diffused throughout the state, and that thousands of farmers gained a profit in this field.

Not only does this growing and cutting of trees contribute to a flourishing lumber industry, but also to one of the fastest-growing new industries in the statethe making of furniture Last year the South produced 70% of the hardwoods of the nation, and Alabama ranked high in cutting and finishing of these woods. With 94 furniture plants operating in this state, the value of finished furniture parts in 1949 exceeded \$12,-000,000.

### Paper Making Is Important Field

trial world watching the operation of the new Coosa River Paper Mill, Alabama climbs higher on the industrial ladder in the field of paper making and the processing of raw paper into finished products.

The Coosa River Mill, along with the Gulf States Paper Corporation at Tuscaloosa and the International Paper Company plant at Mobile, are among the largest suppliers of paper in the nation. Annual \$35,000,000, payrolls exceed while the value of purchases of coal, pulpwood, chemicals, steel, and other Alabama products amounts to many more millions.

The importance of this industly can be best shown in the case of the new Coosa River plant. Three Alabama communities\_ Sylacauga, Talladega, and Childersburg-have new civic developments running into millions of dollars rounding the new plant.

With the eyes of the indus-, as the direct result of the new industrial plant. New streets and roads have been built, water and sewerage system exnew schools tended. hospitals built, housing velopments by the dozen are springing up, and churches, libraries, playgrounds, and parks are appearing in numbers.

> The new plant will provide permanent employment to close to 1,000 employees, while another 1,500 people will be kept busy supplying pulpwood to the plant. The annual payroll of the plant will approximate \$2,500,000, and its productnewsprint-wil be the major source of supply for more than 100 newspapers.

This plant will approximately 250,000 cords of pulpwood and 160,000 tons of coal yearly. Most of the raw materials will be purchased in Alabama, and much of it will come from the territory sur-

### State Welfare **Benefits Increased**

ments went to 110,579 persons, February.

Dorrough said that total totaled \$2,533,409. The average check was \$22.91.

He said the increase in caseload was due to a rise in the investigation.

is processed

Fayette County Times - 1 year subscription and one want advertisement.

Montgomery, Ala.—State Wel- aid to handicapped and aid to fare Commissioner Bill Dor- dependent children categories. rough has reported that Ala- The aged, however continued to bama's March welfare pay- to be the largest number receiving aid—payments being an increase of 297 over made to 81,379 cases at an average of \$20.55 each.

During March, 2,927 applica-March assistance expenditures tions for aid were received by county departments, and at the end of the month, 3,352 applications remained in process of

#### **Group C: Local Economy**

What local industries, if any, contributed to the war effort? How did they contribute?

What clues does this give us about the economic climate of the local area during this time period?

Students may find articles about Alabama's growth in the steel industry over the past ten years during World War II and the Korean War as the state's industries shifted to wartime production to build warships and other war-related materials.

They may also note articles on the overall Alabama economy, such as the growth of welfare recipients, which indicates a struggling economy for some and may be a reason many people living in Raymond Bailey's neighborhood did not have jobs when the 1950 census was taken.

#### Steel Industry Keeps Pace With The Rapid Progress Of Alabama

Soil Conser

News

From the rich veins of Jefferson County's Red Mountain comes the vital ore that has enabled Alabama's iron and steel industries to set a fast pace for other states to (By H. J. Young &

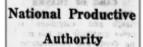
Approximacly 40% of the foundry iron consumed in the entire United States is now furnished from the Birmingham district. At least 17 blast nam district. At least 17 blast turnace are located in this itstrict which spew out millions it tons of ateel annually. This teel—processed into auto-sobiles, batteships ,fenceposts, citchen utensils, atructural teel, water tanks, and thous-nds of other products—con-fluites beyond measure to the afety, security, and welfare afety. afety, security, and welfare f the nation.

In 1912, Alabama produced 9% of the nation's output of eel. Now it produces more thin 40%, which is factual vidence of the state's in-

While Alabama's population as increased only three per-int in the last ten years, come from the iron and teel industry has increased 49%, and consumer expendicome from the iron and teel industry has increased 10%, and consumer expendi-ures for Alabama-mined and rocessed steel has increased 15%. Alabama now ranks at 'a top of all Southern states I the manufacture of struc-al and ornamental steel, and metal manufacture of strucs metal manufacturing plants ow operating in the state mploy more than 44,000 orkers.

In the field of primary tall manufacturing, Alabama as shown a gain of 247% nce 1940. Fabricated metal nce 1940. Fabricated metal ianufacturing has grown 25%. ith of these figure are con-dierably higher than the 'Yages for both the South d the nation as a whole.

In primary metals manu-acturing, sales jumped from 161,000,000 to \$559,000,000 in he last decade. Fabricated retal manufacturing increased rom \$16,000,000 to \$57,000,000 2, machinery series. om anachinery production, an imost new industry for the suth, Alabama showed a gain 68% in ten years, while the tion as a whole gained only lif that much.



EDITOR'S NOTE: To stop the march of communism, the United States is having to build ships, tanks, planes, guns and other material for defense. To assure a sufficient quantity of raw materials for defense and non-defense purposes and to expand our present productive capacity, the National Production Authority of United States Department of Commerce was established. The work of NPA will affect, and is affecting, both businessmer and consumers of Fayette County. Just what are the purposes and objectives NPA? As a service to its readers, the Fayette County Times is carrying this feature, which explains NPA's functions in concise and comprehensive form.

Q. How are the Nationa Production Authority orders regulations, and other directives

They develope are usually with the assitance representatives of the indus tries themselves. Advisory com mittees, for example, of steel, copper, rubber and other industries are appointed by NPA and members of the com mittees sit with NPA officials in discussing conditions in the industries affected and in working out procedures which will be both practicable and effective.

Q. How many of these con mittees have been established by NPA to date? A More than 100, repre

ing many industries divisions of industries.

Left: "Steel Industry Keeps Pace With The Rapid Progress of Alabama." Fayette County Times [Fayette, Alabama], September 13, 1951. Newspapers.com (572115682).

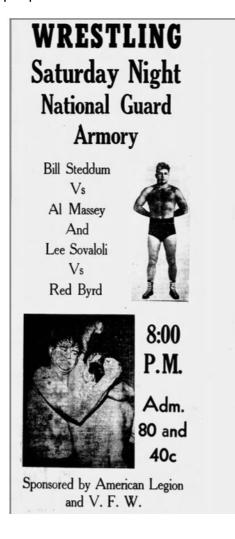
Right: "National Productive Authority." Fayette County Times [Fayette, Alabama], July 5, 1951. Newspapers. com (572114000).



#### **Group D: Education, Sports, and Entertainment**

What local sports or entertainment events were happening in the community? How did people unwind during this period?

There are articles included about school sporting events, as well as advertisements for movie theaters, the circus, and frequent wrestling matches. Below is an advertisement for wrestling matches hosted at the American Legion hall, which shows men in wrestling singlets ready for a fight. Anther article describes a grand opening event for a new home economics center where homemaking demonstrations will be given to the audience, who are identified as women in a variety of life stages. These two sources play into the gender stereotypes of the era and illustrate societal barriers that kept women in nursing or administrative tasks out of combat during the Korean War. Also, consider the opportunities that were (and were not) available to people of color in these communities.



### Berry Home Ec. Dept. To Open Each Wednesday

The Berry Home Economics department is open all day every Wednesday for the public's use in the way of sewing, trying new recipes, refinishing, remodeling or uphoistering furniture and using books and magazines.

Mrs. Willard Cannon, Home Economics teacher, will be present to assist with these or any other problems. On these Wednesday after-

On these Wednesday afternoons there will be demonstrations on kitchen planning, freezing, flower arrangements, use of new and old sewing machine attachments and care of machines. These demonstrations will be given by experienced persons in these fields.

There will also be exhibits and displays of unusual fabrics and materials from Metropolitan Museum of art, New York, of Alabama made fabrics and from Batterisk Co. Hobbies and crafts of various people will be displayed. There will be free films covering many of the demonstrations and exexhibits.

These services are available for anyone interested; mothers, housewives, students former students and new brides. Dates of each activity will be announced. Left: "Wrestling Saturday Night National Guard Armory." *Fayette County Times* [Fayette, Alabama], May 31, 1951. Newspapers.com (572113099).

Right: "Berry Home Ec Dept. Open Each Wednesday." *Fayette County Times* [Fayette, Alabama], July 12, 1951. Newspapers.com (572114060).

#### **Group D: Education, Sports, and Entertainment**

### What can you tell about the school system in Fayette, Alabama at this time?

There are a significant number of articles about the schools in Fayette, Alabama, their sports and other activities, as well as the teachers. Given that there appeared to be low levels of education for the African American neighborhood in which the Bailey family lived according to the 1950 census, students may be curious about the quality of education available to people living in that area. There were several articles and some advertisements about improving education and the importance of education. One article discussed teacher training and the fact that many teachers didn't have adequate training. Students may note that the word "Improve" is spelled incorrectly in the article headline, further reinforcing the premise of poor education in the area. The lack of quality education could be a factor in why people weren't employed and it could have contributed to high interest for enlisting in the military as an economic gateway.

"Alabama Teachers Impove [sic] Training." *Fayette County Times* [Fayette, Alabama], April 26, 1951. Newspapers.com (572114221).

### Alabama Teachers Impove Training

Alabama teachers have greatly improved their professional training during the past five years, according to Dr. J. H. Hadley, Tuscaloosa, president of the Alabama Education Association.

In 1940, Dr. Hadley explained less than 10,000 teachers had three years or more of college training. In 1950 more than 17,500 had such training—an increase of 76 per cent.

This improved training is reflected in the drop in the number of teachers certified upon a temporary basis.

In 1945 there were nearly 7,000 teachers certified temporarily. By March of this year this number had been reduced approximately to 3,000, 1,000 of such reduction being noted during the past year.

The biggest improvement in teacher training has taken place since 1948, the year following the release of income tax receipts for education. These receipts were earmarked for teachers' salaries and have been the most important reason for the gratifying increase in salaries during the past four year.

This lesson plan was funded by a grant from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. The opinions, findings and conclusions stated herein are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.



National History Day® (NHD) is honored to help students and teachers across the nation to honor and tell the stories of American men and women who served their nation and lost their lives either in service to the United States of America or after living as Veterans. We seek to teach the historical research process through these biographical profiles. The stories contained on NHDSilentHeroes.org are gathered from NHD programs from 2012 to the present. To learn more about the program and discuss bringing it to your classroom, contact programs@nhd.org.











### **FOLLOW NHD ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



facebook.com/nationalhistoryday



linkedin.com/company/nationalhistoryday/



@nhdcontest



@NationalHistoryDay



@NationalHistory



Subscribe to our newsletter: nhd.org/subscribe

**National History Day** 4511 Knox Road, Suite 205 College Park, MD 20740 301-314-9739