



# Lancaster as a Home Front

The Impact of the World Wars



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# Questions to Consider

- How did Lancaster County contribute to the war effort?
- How did Lancaster County experience the world wars?
- How did different religious groups experience this period?
- How might the Lancaster experience differ from that of other parts of the country?

# World War I posters



# World War I posters

What do these posters tell us about the war effort? What were the needs of the army at this time?

What were other goals of the people making these posters? What did they hope to accomplish?

Look at the organizations sponsoring these posters. Do any of them surprise you? Why or why not?

# The Noncombatant Experience

## Application for farm furlough (1918)

While many men left their jobs behind to fight overseas, some were needed to stay behind and operate various jobs, including farming.

Many members of historic peace churches, who were religiously and morally opposed to fighting, used farm furloughs as a way out of the war effort, while others resisted to a greater degree, facing imprisonment.

a noteworthy  
side-note

Pacifists in  
Chains by  
Duane  
Stoltzfus is a  
great resource  
to learn more  
about this topic

# The Noncombatant Experience

## Application for farm furlough (1918)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby make application for the fur-

How do you think most Americans felt about these pacifists refusing to fight?

Why would they have been imprisoned? How should the government have handled this?

Statement of facts, to be made by the person making the application.

Why would some comply with the process and apply for furloughs?

2. Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Present Station \_\_\_\_\_

3. Location of farm on which soldier is desired for work \_\_\_\_\_



# Camp Dix Medical Card (1919)

41

U. S. A. BASE HOSPITAL Hospital.....  
CAMP DIX, N. J. Place  
Apr 24, 19 Date

You are informed that: Kegel, Christian Name Thomas Surname

Pvt 1cl Rank Co A. Organization D 9th MGB. 1257601... was

1. Admitted to *Wd 41*  
2. ~~Transferred to~~  
3. ~~Discharged from~~

Cross out statement not desired

BASE HOSPITAL Name of Institution  
CAMP DIX, N. J. Place  
4/25/19 Date

with *wound of right arm*  
State briefly nature of wound, injury or disease

His condition is: Excellent, very good, good, fair, poor.  
Cross out words not desired

Remarks: *Shep. Behring*  
*C. Coover Capt. M.C.*  
Signature of Adjutant or Registrar



# Camp Dix Medical Card (1919)

Thomas Kegel (1895-1958), James Kegel (1891-1927), Victor Kegel (1898-1923) were three brothers who served together in the 109th Machine Gun Battalion during World War I. Their parents were Charles and Mary Rogers Kegel, and they had eleven children. Their family home was on 59 Locust Street in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. They were all drafted in 1917, and were trained in Camp Hancock in Augusta, Georgia. After their extensive training, they were sent to fight in the trenches in France. On separate occasions, each brother was wounded during the war, but they all survived and came home to Lancaster after the war in 1919.



# Camp Dix Medical Card (1919)

How do you think his family felt when they heard he was at Camp Dix?

1. Admitted to *Wd 41*

2. Transferred to

3. Discharged from  
Consider the timeline of World War I. How do you think Kegel felt being transferred to Camp Dix at this time?

Cross out statement not desired

with *wound of right arm*

State briefly nature of wound, injury or disease

His condition is: ~~Excellent, very good, good, fair, poor.~~

Cross out words not desired

Remarks:



# Welcome Home Parade (1919)



# Welcome Home Parade (1919)

This photo was taken in Lancaster City during a “Welcome Home” parade in 1919.

What does this tell you about how Americans perceived the end of the war?


How did most Americans feel about the soldiers returning home?

# Letter from Home (1943)

## From the Pvt. George L. Caley Collection



Columbia, Pa.  
Aug. 21, 1943



Dear George,  
Guess what? The boys dormitory at M&J.C. is to be used to house 150 females who have no lodging place in Lane. They have been brought in to Lane to work in the munitions dept. at Arm-Strongs and are to be lodged in the boys dorm. at your college. How is Dick going to like that, I wonder? The paper states that they are to have certain campus and gym facilities also. They said that there is plenty of room elsewhere in the buildings to lodge the few males who stay there. College opens Sept. 15.

KEEP SMILIN' KEEP SMILIN' KEEP SMILIN'

Joe and Ralph have gone to the movies to see Abbott & Costello in "Hit the Ice." That gives me a free evening to write letters. I've already done one to a boy in Texas and one to a boy in N. Africa somewhere. After yours, I have four more to do. Wonder if I'll hold out that long.

Did you know Pat Beard? He was on the Ice truck for some years. Well he is in the thick of the fighting (or was, the fighting is now over) in Sicily. What a time our boys are having over there. Those who like to talk (what a chance for you), will sure have something to talk of when they get home.

Wonder if I'll know any of them well enough to have them tell me all about the places and people they see. I love to hear all about such things. Tony Bernards, Blossom's brother-in-law, sent me some from Texas. That boy Dick would no any cards from anywhere he is.

Via postcard news is our way of seeing the U.S.A. Blossom has one brother-in-law in Texas, one in S. Carolina, one in Fla., one in N. Africa and one who just went in last month, and I don't yet know where he is.

We had one awful chill, is warmer this evening. Getting ready for rain to is coming home from camp. I've got a big hunk of ha him. Well I must also get them nearly all done to

Write when you can for

Sincerely - Bidd  
Mrs. J. Lockard.



# Letter from Home

*From - Mrs. J. Lockard  
275 S. 8<sup>th</sup> St.  
Columbia,  
Pa.*

“Did you know Pat Bard? He was on the Ice truck for some years. Well he is in the thick of the fighting (or was, the fighting is now over) in Sicily. What a time our boys are having over there. Those who like to talk (what a chance for you), will sure have something to talk of when they get home.”

# Letter from Home

*From - Mrs. J. Lockard  
275 S. 8<sup>th</sup> St.  
Columbia,  
Pa.*

What does this letter tell us about the Home Front experience?



How were the people of Lancaster impacted by the demands of war?



## Eleanor Flora at Work (1943)

“Rosie the Riveters” like Eleanor Flora helped in the war effort in Armstrong’s Floor Plant during World War II. Taken in 1943, when 19 years old, the photo was used as an employment advertisement for the company. Eleanor enlisted in the Navy as a W.A.V.E. – Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service.





# Eleanor Flora at Work (1943)

How does Eleanor Flora's story reflect the wartime experience for women?

How does this challenge preexisting gender roles?

How does this time set the stage for change to come?

# Playground War Bonds Stand (1944)



Buy War Bonds  
and  
Stamps



# Playground War Bonds Stand

This was taken on July 25, 1944 at Edward Hand playground in Lancaster City, and shows young children selling War Bonds and Stamps through a stand similar to a lemonade stand.

What does this tell you about how the war was perceived?

How much did the war and war effort become a part of daily life?

Could you imagine seeing something like this today? Why or why not?



# Lt. Gen. Daniel B. Strickler



Lt. Gen. Daniel B. Strickler enlisted in the National Guard out of high school, fighting in the 1916 Mexican-birder conflict, and served in World War I. He became a captain at age 21. After attending Cornell University, he established a law practice in Lancaster. He won election to state legislature in the early 1930s and served as Lancaster's police commissioner in 1932.

# Lt. Gen. Daniel B. Strickler



When the United States entered World War II, Gen. Strickler, then a colonel in the Army Reserve, went on active duty and accepted a reduction in rank. He fought with the 28<sup>th</sup> division through France and Belgium. He later fought in the Korean War and continued serving in Rome and Tokyo through the 1950s. He retired from the Army in 1957 as a three-star general.

# Lt. Gen. Daniel B. Strickler



How does Lt. Gen. Strickler's story fit into the greater story of the 20<sup>th</sup> century?

How does he exemplify ideals of patriotism and service at this time?