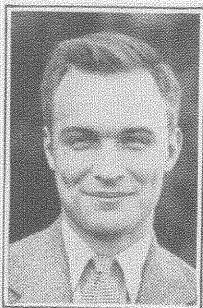


## YEAR BY YEAR HISTORY OF BOYS STATE

LESLIE G. REED  
Governor, 1936

More than 300 boys came to Jackson's Mill on June 6, 1936, for the first Boys State. The camp was more or less in the nature of an experiment but it turned out remarkably well. The highlight of the State was the work of the Legislature. Among the outstanding speakers on the program were Governor H. Guy Kump, Col. W. H. Waldron, Attorney-General H. A. "Rocky" Holt and C. M. "Chuck" Wilson. William G. Stathers of Clarksburg, was department commander of the American Legion and president of Boys State. Leslie G. Reed of Clarksburg won the Governor post by a 5 to 1 majority over Orin Conway of Sistersville.

PAUL CRONIN  
Governor, 1937

A total of 413 boys, the largest number in history, crowded Jackson's Mill for the second Boys State. Paul Cronin of Weirton, was elected governor over Bud Spelsburg, of Clarksburg, by a margin of five votes.

A convention adopted a Boys State constitution and a general election ratified the document. An extensive court system was set up to provide more attraction and instruction for the citizens.

Among the distinguished visitors were Governor Holt, Judge Jo N. Kenna, president of the state supreme court of appeals, Col. W. H. Waldron and Homer Chailleaux. Charles Booth of Huntington was commander of the Legion and president of Boys State.

WILLIAM G. MILLER  
Governor, 1938

Automatic voting machines and a statewide broadcast featured the third Boys State. William Miller of Charleston, was chosen governor and received the oath of office from Judge Raymond Maxwell of the state supreme court. The ceremonies were broadcast over the statewide West Virginia network.

Automatic voting machines were installed for the first time and all citizens used them in both the primary and general elections.

For the first time citizenship in Boys State was limited to those who were juniors or seniors in high school. There were 337 in attendance.

"Men of Tomorrow," the official song of the Mountaineer Boys State, was written by Roy Lee Harmon, poet laureate of West Virginia, with music by Margaret Nicely, was sung for the first time.

RODNEY WILFORD  
Governor, 1939

More than 380 high school youths came to the 1939 Boys State and elected Rodney Wilford of Huntington, governor. The election contest was between the east and the south for the first time in the four-year history of the state.

State police were given more intensive training, the courts were better equipped, voting machines were used again and a home rule amendment was adopted.

A state-wide broadcast over West Virginia Network carried the inaugural ceremonies of Governor Wilford. The oath was administered by Judge Fred L. Fox, president of the state supreme court.

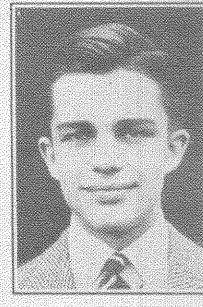
Governor Homer A. Holt flew to the Camp from Charleston to take part in the inaugural ceremonies.

JAMES H. FRESH  
Governor, 1940

The gubernatorial contest at this state was centered in Northern West Virginia, with James Fresh of Clarksburg, and Robert Leaf, of Fairmont the two candidates. Fresh won the election with a majority of 91 votes.

Melvin Burka of Clarksburg, secretary of state, refused to sign the commission of Gordon Shingleton, Fresh's appointee as commissioner of health, upon the grounds that Shingleton was not qualified for the office. The case was carried to the supreme court of appeals which handed down a unanimous decision forcing Burka to sign the commission.

Governor Fresh appointed four men as honorary colonels on his staff. They included T. F. Williams, department commander of the Legion; Raymond J. Kelly, national Legion commander; Joseph R. Curl, Boys State Counselor in charge of the courts; and John Newcome, for four years a county counselor in camp.

JACK LEE  
Governor, 1941

Allen Simmons of Wheeling, became the second chief counselor in the history of Boys State when he succeeded R. Worth Shumaker, of Buckhannon. Mr. Shumaker resigned to accept a post with the American Legion in Indianapolis.

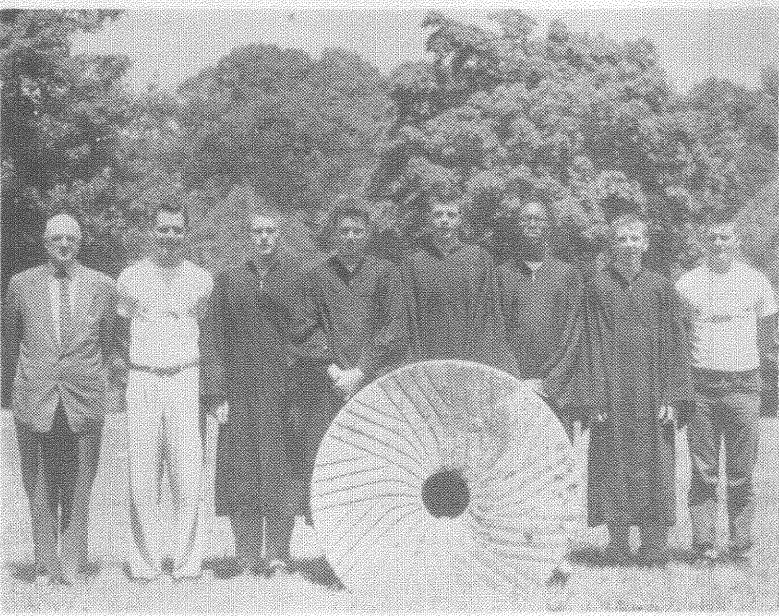
In the primary election Monday, Jack Lee and Bill Teel were chosen to head the Nationalist and Federalist tickets. Lee won the general election Tuesday with a majority of only five votes.

Governor James Fresh of Clarksburg, presided at the assembly until Governor Lee was sworn in by Judge Jo N. Kenna, President of the Supreme Court of Appeals.

A draft age poll was conducted by the Mountaineer to find the opinion of the State on lowering of the draft age limit to 18 years. A seven-vote margin gave those in favor of lowering the age the victory.

The attendance for the 1941 State was 404.

### 1956 Boys State Supreme Court

RICHARD TURNER  
Governor, 1942

Dick Turner of Huntington, member of the Federalist party, was elected Governor of the first wartime Boys State, attended by more than 400 citizens. Turner defeated Ryland Miller of Charleston, by five votes.

Featured speakers included: Governor M. M. Neely, Senator Harley M. Kilgore, R. Worth Shumaker, William G. Stathers, Judge Fred L. Fox, Dean C. R. Orten of West Virginia University.

One unpleasant feature of 1942 Boys State was the unusually rainy weather. Heavy showers fell every day, playing havoc with the various cottages.

Stuart Thayer of Charleston, secretary of Boys State won the Poking Memorial Award—a baby bonnet, for being the outstanding citizen of 1942.

The Board of Directors, in recognition of the exigencies of the war years, cancelled Boys State for the years 1943 and 1945.

Tom Langfitt of Clarksburg, member of the Nationalist Party, was elected Governor of the Eighth Boys State, defeating Richard Miller of Elm Grove, by a close vote of 179-173.

Despite the exigencies of the War and restricted transportation, 363 boys attended Boys State in 1944.

An event which will, no doubt, be remembered years to come was the announcement just before breakfast, Tuesday, June 6, that the long-expected invasion of Western Europe had been launched by the Allies.

Chief Counselor for the 1944 Boys State was Dr. M. R. Dadd, who succeeded Allen Simmons, counselor in 1942.

David Daugherty, of Huntington, headed the Federalist ticket in winning the election for governor from Max Unger, also of Huntington. The final official results were not known until the Supreme Court handed down its decision in the case of contested ballots of Randolph County.

W. R. Fugitt became the fourth counselor of Boys State, succeeding Dr. M. R. Dadd, Charleston, chief counselor in 1944.

This was the first year that 298 citizens were divided evenly between high school juniors and seniors. This was done to provide an opportunity for those who would have attended last year's camp had it been held.

The Federalist party remained in power as Elmer Freeze of Wheeling walked off with the governor's race over James Cooper of Thomas.

A total of 3,400 citizens was reached with this year's 323 youths in attendance.

James E. Hayes of Chester was the only veteran of World War II in attendance this year. There were two in 1946.

Governor Freeze and John Scott of Mt. Hope were selected to attend the Second Boy Forum of National Government in Washington August 1-7.

Department commander of the American Legion was Edmund Lee Jones of Wheeling.

Outstanding action during the week was in the state legislature where the Federalists should have had a majority.

Nationalists, however, took advantage of the absence of three Feds to ram through their man as President of the upper chamber. Therefore the Governor had difficulty in getting legislation okayed.

David Hermansdorffer, the Federalist candidate for Governor was swept into office in the election which carried all Federalists into the State office except the Commissioner of Agriculture and two members of the State Supreme Court.

The Governor's recommendation for adoption of a Universal Military Training program was approved by the Legislature, the act including provisions for UMT graduates to become appointees to West Point and Annapolis and to replace the Officer Reserve Corps units and to provide a Bill of Rights for those men participating in the UMT program.

Past Governors Freeze and Daugherty returned with Counseling, continuing the precedent of having the retiring Governor present for the duration of the State.

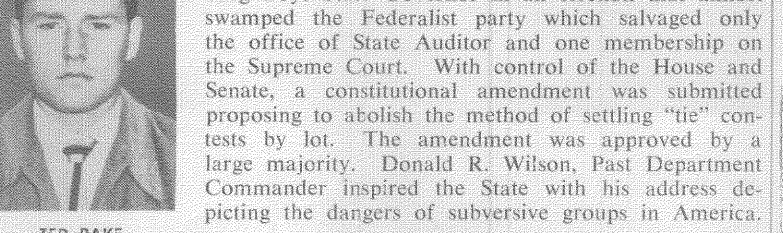
The 12-state offices were divided evenly between the two parties in the 1949 Boys State, with the Nationalist candidate, Henry "Hoppy" Shores, of Charleston, emerging victorious in the gubernatorial campaign. The inauguration ceremonies were highlighted by the presence of West Virginia's governor, Okey Patteson, who addressed the 324 staters and staff members.

An official Boys State flag was adopted by a record 314-7 vote in a special election which followed Governor Shores' request for it in his message to the joint session of the legislature and quick passage in both houses. The approved design uses the figure of Stonewall Jackson as the main feature, surrounded by a blue circle.

Ted Rake, Nationalist, became the first Parkersburg Boys State Governor in an election that almost swamped the Federalist party which salvaged only the office of State Auditor and one membership on the Supreme Court. With control of the House and Senate, a constitutional amendment was submitted proposing to abolish the method of settling "tie" contests by lot. The amendment was approved by a large majority.

Donald R. Wilson, Past Department Commander inspired the State with his address depicting the dangers of subversive groups in America.

A Boys State kept humming by a Legislature and a Governor of different political parties; a campaign reminiscent of early days featuring a parade placards and banners; lusty singing of "Men of Tomorrow," the official Boys State song and the new and popular "sound-off" chant; a new roll-call stunt in assembly; the selection of county representatives for "Outstanding Citizenship" awards; and the Legislature's defeat of the administration bill to establish an Inaugural Ball; these were the ingredients of the 14th Mountaineer Boys State. The Federalists elected the Governor but the Nationalists captured four of the remaining six posts on the Board of Public Works, won a 3-2 majority on the Supreme Court and control of both houses of the Legislature.

TED RAKE  
Governor, 1950JIM ST. CLAIR  
Governor, 1952

The 1951 Boys State election produced a Nationalist governor but left the state administration greatly divided.

Russell A. "Rat" Thom, Jr., of Charleston defeated Glenn "Whitey" Sedam of Nutter Fort but lost the Board of Public Works 4-3 to the Federalists. The legislature was badly divided with a 12-12 tie in the Senate and the Federalists a 26-22 margin in the House. The Governor, however, had a 4-1 majority on the Supreme Court.

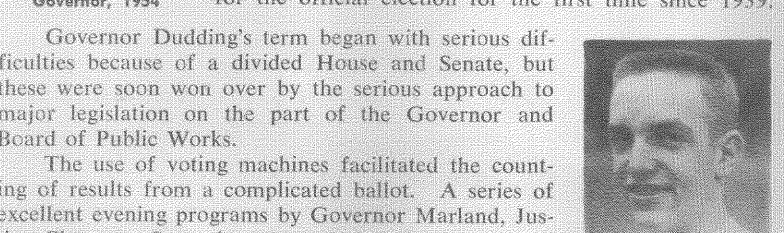
The legislature passed one of its most far-reaching bills this year when it authorized Governor Thom to help establish a Youth Safety Driving Council which would encompass every student in every high school in the state. The legislature set up a North-South-East-West turnpike commission and voted to allow 18-year-olds to vote.

During this year Governor Lucas discovered the difficulties attendant upon organization of a Legislature controlled by the opposition party. Partisanship delayed the passage of the budget bill and caused a call for an extraordinary session for this purpose although the regular legislation providing for the shift of the soft drink tax to the state's liquor monopoly and the continuation of the Youth Safety Councils throughout the state were passed by safe margins.

When the extraordinary session failed to convene, a test case was prepared and presented to the Supreme Court restraining an increase in salary for the Commissioner of Agriculture. Voting machines were used for the official election for the first time since 1939.

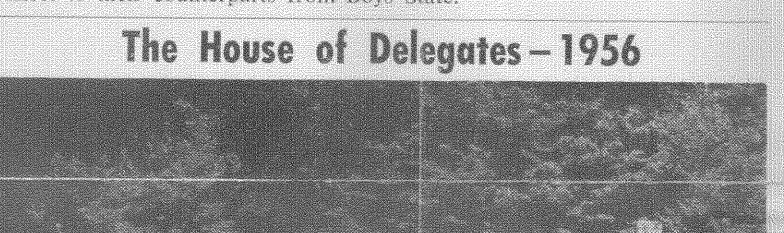
Governor Dudding's term began with serious difficulties because of a divided House and Senate, but these were soon won over by the serious approach to major legislation on the part of the Governor and Board of Public Works.

The use of voting machines facilitated the counting of results from a complicated ballot. A series of excellent evening programs by Governor Marland, Justice Chauncey Browning, Rev. Walter Overstreet, and West Point Cadet Gene Wilson provided instruction, guidance, and entertainment. For the first time in the history of the State, the West Virginia Legislature set aside a joint session for two days, January, 1956, for an address by Governor Dudding and the West Virginia Board of Public Works gave the afternoon to consultation and study of their offices to their counterparts from Boys State.

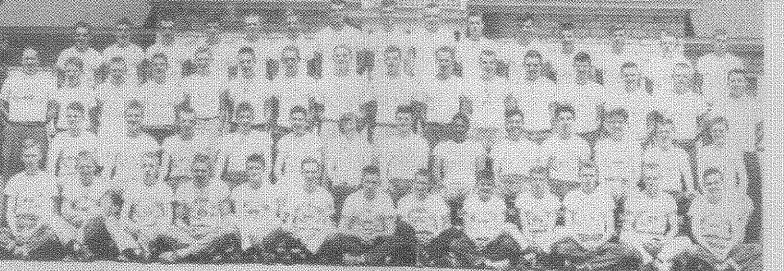
CHARLES F. LUCAS  
Governor, 1954

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BURTON A. DUDDING  
Governor, 1955

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The House of Delegates—1956

The plan used in judging the citizenship activities of Boys State included all of the group activities in which the citizens of each County have the opportunity to participate.

Government activities in City, County, Board of Education, Taxation, Circuit Courts, and Hygiene received points equal to the grades given by the supervisor in each of these branches. These supervisors were experienced men in the various fields of government who based their scores on activity performance of model City Courts, County Courts, Assessors, Boards of Education, and the practice of law. The election points were awarded on the basis of three for a successful State candidate and one point for a defeated State candidate.

Justice Chauncey Browning conducted the inaugural ceremonies for the Governor, the members of the Board of Public Works, and the Supreme Court Justices, by administering the oath of office and giving an address to the young citizens on citizenship responsibilities.

Following his inauguration, Governor Johnny Frye spoke to the citizens upon the subject of their opportunities and their obligation to appreciate the privileges available to them.

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Volume XIX

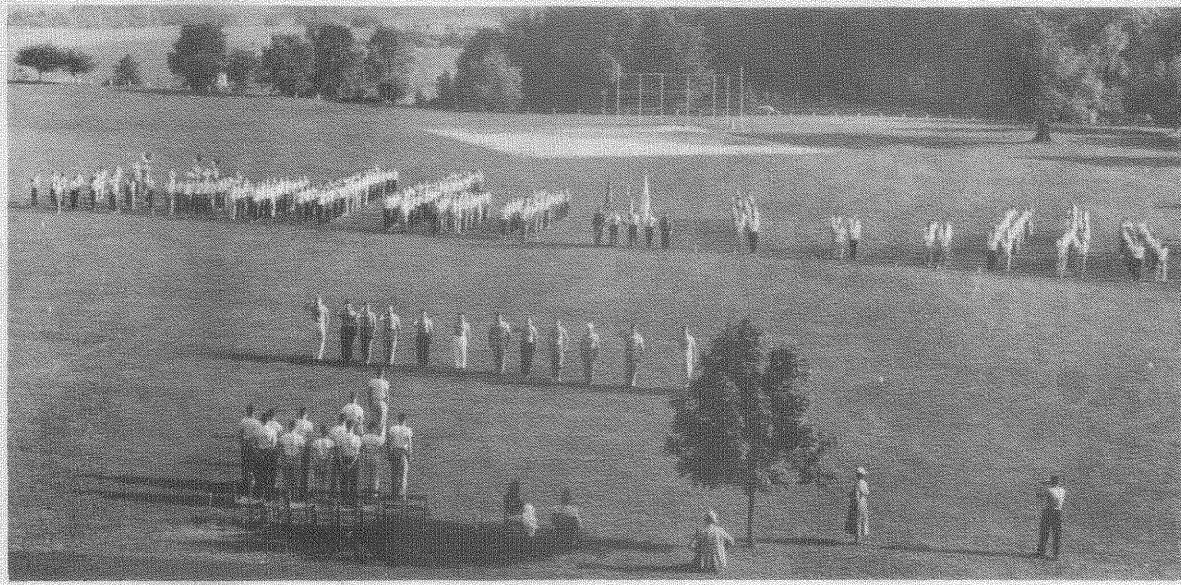
Official Publication of The American Legion Mountaineer Boys State

Jackson's Mill, W. Va., Saturday, June 9, 1956

Number 7

# Nationalists Win Governorship, But Lose Supreme Court, Board Of Public Works

## GOVERNOR'S FORMAL REVIEW



## Assembly Programs Guide Progress

The 1956 Boys State assembly programs attracted excellent talent from the American Legion, from state governmental and court offices, from West Point, and from the field of magic.

The orientation of the citizens in the purposes and activities, the governmental and election procedures, and introduction to the history of Boys State was accomplished through messages of welcome from Commander Chester Phillips, Department of West Virginia, who welcomed the boys to a program arranged by the Directors of Boys State and Past Commander F. Franjoz Bias who explained the steps by which party organization is achieved, and by introduction to the individual counselors who would guide them through the week.

Presiding until his successor was elected, Governor Burton Dudding presented Myron Renick, Jr., of Fayetteville in a speech depicting the nature of Boys Nation conducted in Washington annually for two representatives of each state where the National Government organization is established for a week's study.

The art of magic was presented to the assembly in one of the most unusual programs during the State's nineteenth year history. Benjamin Franklin, IV, Principal of Point Pleasant High School and widely known and traveled in magic and mysticism circles, completely overwhelmed his audience by card tricks, magic hoops, levitation, mind reading, and picture painting with colored sand. Only the arrival of bedtime released Mr. Franklin from the requests of the boys for additional acts.

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## Lewis County Rates Best In All Activities

With the daily interest centering upon participation in election, governmental activities, and recreation, the composite rating for participation in all phases of the program received little stress until the score sheets were returned by the counselors in the seven divisions of participation. Top honors go to Lewis County under the direction of Bus Archer of Williams in his first year's experience, with Dave Warden as his Junior Counselor.

A total of 657 points were amassed by the citizens of Lewis County, second and third place being established by Kanawha with 555 points and Gilmer with 551 points. An analytic chart of achievements by Counties is listed in another space in this issue.

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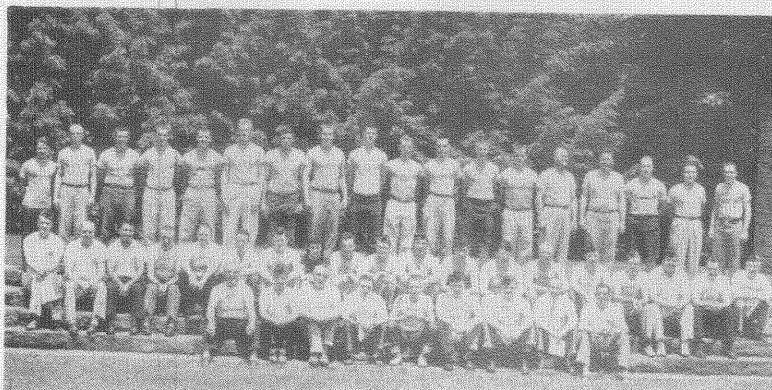
# The Mountaineer

Official Newspaper of Mountaineer Boys State

VOLUME 19 SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1956 NUMBER 7

Published in the interests of the Mountaineer Boys State conducted annually by the American Legion, Department of West Virginia.

## COUNSELORS AND OFFICERS—1956



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Chester Phillips, Elkins ..... President  
Dr. Raymond J. Vassar, Weston ..... Vice President  
Tommy E. Jones, Box 3191, Charleston ..... Secretary  
Charley E. Polley, 1504 Bridge Rd., Charleston ..... Treasurer

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Dr. Larry Musselman, Charleston Memorial Hospital, Asst. Medical Director  
G. E. Heller, 501 Bedford Ave., Bedford, Virginia ..... Hygiene & Citizenship  
E. G. Bias, Box 619, Williamson ..... Law and Courts  
Clement Bassett, Public Service Commission, Charleston ..... Law and Courts  
C. H. McKinn, Wayne ..... Nationalist Party and Senate  
Wm. P. A. Nicely, Parkersburg ..... Federalist Party and House of Delegates  
Richard N. Dunkle, Budget Office, Charleston ..... State Taxation, Finances  
William Hamilton, Board of School Finance, Charleston ..... Eval and Assessments  
Raymond Allman, 206 Court House, Parkersburg ..... House & Senate Records  
Russell Dunbar, City Attorney, Huntington ..... City Government  
Herschel Wade, Salem ..... County Government  
Johnny Cox, Huntington High School, Huntington ..... Athletic Director  
R. A. Thom, 4 Glenwood Ave., Charleston ..... Camp Director  
Alan Steton, Weston High School, Weston ..... Musical Director  
Steele Callison, Oak Hill Drug Co., Oak Hill ..... Proctor and Dean  
Sgt. F. H. Tribbett, Dept. of Public Safety, Martinsburg ..... State Police  
Tyr. F. W. Sine, Dept. of Public Safety, Oak Hill ..... State Police  
Birdsey Hughes, 110 Ohio Ave., Charleston ..... Photographer  
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Miss Gimma Mullins, 1700 Kanawha Blvd., Charleston ..... Office Secretary  
Miss Diana Hongtas, Box 472, Beckley ..... Office Secretary  
Rev. George Culp, 900 Elder St., Parkersburg ..... Dept. Chaplain

### VISITING SPEAKERS AND PROGRAMS

Benjamin Franklin, IV, Pt. Pleasant ..... Magician  
John D. Shock, Jr., Webster Springs ..... West Point Cadet  
Judge Chauncey Browning, Charleston ..... Judge, Supreme Court  
Wm. G. Johnson and members Harrison County Bar Association ..... Supervision of Courts

## Report Of The Chief Counselor



W. R. Fugitt

A glance at the officers and counselors listed in this issue will assure the parents of the Boys States of the high type of individuals chosen to conduct and supervise the governmental and recreational activities of the American Legion "model school of citizenship". With such a group of men to guide them, the States are able to accomplish the objectives of the program in the short time available. Only by rigid assignment of each boy to a specific time and place is it possible to provide him with the variety of experiences he receives. The form which the activities take and the facility with which the groups move to specific assignments are the result of each boy's acceptance of responsibility for success of all programs.

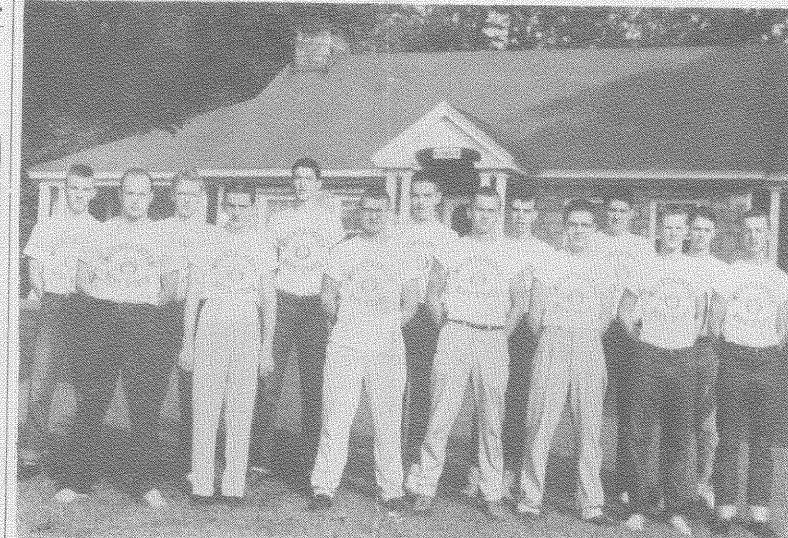
The record of achievement during the 1956 Boys State is an expression of thanks to the civic, professional, religious, and patriotic groups who sponsor them to this annual school of citizenship offered by the American Legion. The Legion itself is grateful to the school principals and sponsoring organizations for selecting those boys who have the capacity and potential to develop into leaders in the community.



1955 BOYS STATE GOVERNOR Dudding welcomed to joint Legislature session by speaker of the House, W. E. Flannery.

## COUNTY—BY—COUNTY '56 REGISTRATION

### BARBOUR



LARNEY R. GUMP, JR.

### COUNSELOR

ALLEN, John, 109 East Ave., Clarksburg  
MOURAY, Raymond L., 171 D. Street, Keyser  
HUNT, Harvey F., R. D. 2, West Alexander, Pa.  
LACH, James H., 101 N. 8th St., Wheeling  
WELSH, Harry E., R. 220 Rock St., Westport  
WORTHMAN, Jack, 101 N. 19th St., Huntington  
WOSKO, James D., Coe St., Kimball

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