



Drs. H. L.
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 A. J. S.
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 R. W.
 J. A. S.
 J. C. M.
 M. W.
 E. L. J.
 Y. L. J.
 T. L. J.
 R. D.
 R. N.
 W. C.
 D. J.

HISTORY
COMPANY 5450
S-78-Pa.
Westport, Pa.

- Army Personnel**
- - Walter L. Parker
Commanding
 - Franklin L. Pierce
Mess Officer
 - Francis D. Dean
Camp Surgeon
 - William F. Heckert
Educational Adviser

ON MAY 14, 1936, a group of boys ranging between the ages of 17 and 25, stood on the Old Court House steps in Birmingham, Alabama, contemplating their chances of being enrolled in the CCC. Nearly 400 left by special train for Fort McClellan to begin enlistment. The youths spent 12 days in the camp for their conditioning period. On May 21, 1936, Captain Parker received orders for the group to move to Pennsylvania, and on May 27, the members boarded a train which carried them to Renovo, Pennsylvania.

On the journey the company detrained at Washington, D. C. After the long, but nevertheless interesting trip, the enrollees finally arrived at their destination at Renovo. They were immediately transported and unloaded at "Camp Cook's Run". A great deal of work faced them. The entire country was new and strange to the members, and the stranger animals, sights, trees, and landscape foreign to their homeland proved delightful.

The following few weeks were uneventful, until the Fourth of July, when the Cook's Run enrollees paid a visit to another camp of Southern boys, located only a few miles distant. In the evenings the enrollees, assisted and directed by the Leaders and Assistant Leaders, worked on a camp beautification program. Several weeks after the original group occupied the camp, nine enrollees from Florida were assigned to the group.

At the end of the first enlistment period many changes took place. Dr. Tonik, the company contract physician, was replaced by Dr. Francis D. Dean, 1st Lt., Medical Reserve, from Washington, D. C. Two

very popular leaders, Grover and Brackin, left the ranks of the company to enter college. Sixty-five enrollees not having re-enlisted for another period, left for their homes on September 30, 1936. A slight re-organization was necessary in Company 5450, due to the vacancies caused by so many enrollees leaving. C. W. Norton was made Senior Leader, and A. Bailey made Supply Steward.

On October 9, 1936, seventy-six enrollees were received as replacements from the State of Florida. On October 24, four additional enrollees were received from Georgia. The following day Hubert K. Borden, 1st Lt., Coast Artillery Reserve, was replaced by Franklin I. Pierce, 2nd Lt., Engineer Reserve.

Company 5450 has taken the name "The Cotton Pickers", with the colors red and white, which are also the colors of the University of Alabama. Using the company colors the enrollees have taken a bale of red cotton and placed a white flag on it as the camp emblem.

