



Ohio Companies Participate in World War I: ARMCO and Jeffrey Manufacturing "Go to War" By Paul LaRue

Objective: Illustrate connections between Ohio's industrialization and World War I, including immigration and the role of corporations in the war effort.

Grade Levels: Middle or High School

Content Area: Social Studies

Connections to Ohio Model Curriculum Social Studies: High School American History
Content Statements: 2, 8, 10, 14

Skills: Analyze artifacts (photographs), close reading, cause and effect of historical events

Vocabulary: Industrialization, co-operative store, Rendville, ARMCO, ARMCO Ambulance Corps, Jeffrey Manufacturing, Jeffrey Battery

Teacher Tip: This lesson could be used for teaching industrialization, immigration, and migration in Ohio. This lesson could also be used as a Blizzard Bag assignment.

Field Trip or To Visit: Ohio Governor's Residence: 358 North Parkview Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43209.

- In person tour: Call to schedule at (614) 644-7644 or visit their website at <http://www.governorsresidence.ohio.gov/home.aspx>
- Virtual tour: <http://www.governorsresidence.ohio.gov/garden/gardentour.aspx>

Steps in Strategy:

- 1.) Students complete the Warm-up Activity.
- 2.) Ask students to read and respond to the compelling question (class discussion), located in the Warm-up Activity. Ask students about the meaning of the caption "Jeffrey Battery" (Warm-Up Activity image).
- 3.) Assign readings #1 and #2. These could be assigned readings for home from the day before.



**WORLD WAR I
CENTENNIAL**



THE UNITED STATES
WORLD WAR ONE
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION



- 4.) Discuss readings #1 and #2 as a class. Students complete the short quiz, or use the quiz as a class discussion.
- 5.) Students analyze Photographs #1-#6 and read the photographs' notes. This could be completed while other students are reading.
- 6.) Wrap-up: Students revisit the compelling question (from Warm-up Activity) and re-answer, using data and evidence from the readings and photographs.
- 7.) Extension activities:
 - (1) Have students read letters from the ARMCO Ambulance Corps. This could be done in small groups.
(<http://www.ohiomemory.org/cdm/search/searchterm/Armco/field/all/mode/all/con/n/and>).
 - (2) Students complete a virtual tour of the Ohio Governor's Residence (link within Extension Activities) and relate to learned information (Jeffrey's prior home).

Evaluation: Student Questions and Answers

- 1.) Why did large numbers of immigrants and African Americans move to Ohio between 1870 and 1920?
Answer: Economic opportunities (jobs)
- 2.) List two major Ohio cities with significant immigrant populations in the first quarter of the twentieth century.
Answer: Youngstown, Cleveland
- 3.) What benefits did some large companies provide their employees (other than wages)?
Answer: Co-operative stores, hospitals, sports teams, etc.
- 4.) What was ARMCO's unique contribution to World War I?
Answer: The ARMCO Ambulance Corps
- 5.) What is the connection between World War I Officer Malcolm Jeffrey and the Ohio Governor's residence?
Answer: Malcolm Jeffrey's home is now the Ohio Governor's residence.



**WORLD WAR I
CENTENNIAL**



THE UNITED STATES
**WORLD WAR ONE
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION**



Research topics for a student, or the entire class:

- 1.) Rendville, Ohio: an African American coal mining town in Southeastern Ohio, and birthplace of Lt. Charles C. Jackson, a decorated World War I combat officer
- 2.) Ohio's industrial past: coal, iron, steel, glass, rubber. Match products and their histories to the city or cities they are associated with.
- 3.) Family history: How many generations has your family lived in Ohio? What country or countries is your family from? Why did they come to Ohio? Do you have relatives who served in World War I?
- 4.) What is the meaning of the term *noblesse oblige*? List past and present examples.
- 5.) Ohio Governor's residence. Resource: Virtual tours (Heritage Garden Tour, County Walk Tour) <http://www.governorsresidence.ohio.gov/garden/gardentour.aspx>



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE
Humanities



**WORLD WAR I
CENTENNIAL**



THE UNITED STATES
WORLD WAR ONE
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION



Warm up Activity

Compelling Question: How does industrialization and immigration impact Ohioans in World War I?



Image: Jeffrey's Battery (Battery B) returns to Columbus, Ohio, 1919.

Source: Courtesy of the Ohio Governor's Residence Collection



**WORLD WAR I
CENTENNIAL**



THE UNITED STATES
WORLD WAR ONE
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION



Reading #1

Industrialization transformed Ohio in the years between the Civil War and World War I. Coal and steel created jobs and opportunities for large numbers of Ohioans. Immigrants and African Americans migrated to Ohio for economic opportunities. Coal production in Ohio went from 14,500,000 tons in 1892 to 41,600,000 by 1917. Innovations led to job creation for Ohio machinery manufacturers. Towns such as Rendville and Youngstown were transformed overnight.

Rendville was founded in the Hocking Valley to provide labor for the growing coal industry. The 1900 census lists Rendville's population at nearly 800, with 38% of the population as African American. In Youngstown, the steel industry attracted immigrants, with 59.8% of its population foreign-born in 1920. Coal, steel, and glass provided jobs for more than 46,000 Slavs and 49,000 Poles in Cleveland in 1918.

Large companies not only employed thousands of Ohioans, but provided a strong social fabric for their employees. Companies provided co-operative stores and hospitals for employees, and many had company baseball teams, bands, and choirs. Fathers and sons worked for the same company that their grandfathers and neighbors worked for. From the glass factories in Toledo to the mining towns in the eastern and southeastern parts of the state, industrialization meant jobs.

George Verity managed steel roofing manufacturing factories in Cincinnati in the 1890s. By 1910 Verity had moved the company to Middletown in southwestern Ohio. The



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE
Humanities



**WORLD WAR I
CENTENNIAL**



THE UNITED STATES
**WORLD WAR ONE
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION**



company was called the American Rolling Mill Company, or ARMCO. John Tytus, a Middletown native and Yale University graduate, developed a process to manufacture continuous rolls of steel. ARMCO thus became a major producer of steel products. The outbreak of World War I saw ARMCO employees enlist in the military, as well as work for the war effort from home. In June 1917, ARMCO employees and the company president, George Verity, organized an ambulance unit composed of fifteen ARMCO employees and seven ambulances. The fifteen men selected fellow employee and Cornell University graduate Newman Ebersole as the unit's leader. The ARMCO unit would later become part of the United States Army, or American Expeditionary Forces (A.E.F.). The ARMCO Ambulance Corps would face harsh conditions transporting the wounded for nearly two years in France. Almost 700 ARMCO employees served in the military, including ten who made the ultimate sacrifice. In appreciation, the French army awarded the ARMCO Ambulance Corps both the Croix de Guerre and the Fourragère. The ARMCO Ambulance Corps was one of the most unique contributions to the war effort.

Jeffrey Manufacturing, a coal machinery manufacturer, grew from a small business in 1877 to the world's largest producer of coal cutters and mining locomotives by 1914. In 1914, Jeffrey Manufacturing employed more than 4,500 at a manufacturing facility located in Columbus, Ohio, that covered 48 acres. The company organized Troop "B" in 1916, and when the U.S. entered World War I, Jeffrey Manufacturing organized a battery of artillery: Battery "B," Third Field Artillery, Ohio National Guard. This later became the 136th Field Artillery (USA). Composed largely of employees from Jeffrey Manufacturing, Battery "B" was





known as the "Jeffrey Battery" and served with distinction in France. The Jeffrey brothers, Joseph "Walter" and Malcolm Jeffrey, commanded the "Jeffrey Battery."

Malcolm Jeffrey, the youngest son of Joseph Jeffrey, enlisted in Troop "B," Ohio Cavalry, as a private in 1916, following the call for service from President Woodrow Wilson to fight Pancho Villa. He and other members of Troop "B" served on the Mexican border along the Rio Grande River. Upon the entry of the United States into World War I, Malcolm and his fellow soldiers trained at the Ohio State Fairgrounds, which was then called Camp Karb, named for the then-Columbus mayor. Malcolm was appointed corporal, then sergeant. Malcolm joined the "Jeffrey Battery" as a lieutenant before being promoted to captain in April 1918. "Captain Jack," as his men knew him, led the artillery battery with efficiency and care for his men. Captain Malcolm Jeffrey and his men returned to Columbus in 1919, where Malcolm returned to his work at Jeffrey Manufacturing, and in 1923, commissioned a house to be built on Parkview Avenue in Bexley, Ohio. Today this house is the Ohio Governor's residence. Sadly, Malcolm Jeffrey died in 1930 at the young age of 46. Captain Malcolm Jeffrey was buried with full military honors in Greenlawn Cemetery in Columbus. 58 men from the "Jeffrey Battery" attended his funeral. In 1935, the American Legion named Post #465 on Grant Avenue the Malcolm Jeffrey Post in his honor.



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE
Humanities



**WORLD WAR I
CENTENNIAL**



THE UNITED STATES
**WORLD WAR ONE
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION**



Reading #2

- 1.) Letter: Newman Ebersole to Mr. Verity, October 6, 1918:
<http://www.ohiomemory.org/cdm/ref/collection/p16007coll51/id/3141>
- 2.) Letter: Lee L. Ware to ARMCO, September 22 & October 5, 1918:
<http://www.ohiomemory.org/cdm/ref/collection/p16007coll51/id/2921>

The entire collection is available here on Ohio Memory:

<http://www.ohiomemory.org/cdm/search/searchterm/Armco/field/all/mode/all/conn/and>



**WORLD WAR I
CENTENNIAL**



THE UNITED STATES
WORLD WAR ONE
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

Image #1



Image: ARMCO Ambulance Corps

Source: Courtesy of Middletown Historical Society

Note: Photograph of the ARMCO Ambulance Corps in France in late 1917. The ARMCO Ambulance Corps served in France under French command in Section 646 from September 1917 to March 1919. The Armco Ambulance Corps was decorated by the French Army with both the Croix de Guerre and the Fourragère.

Image #2

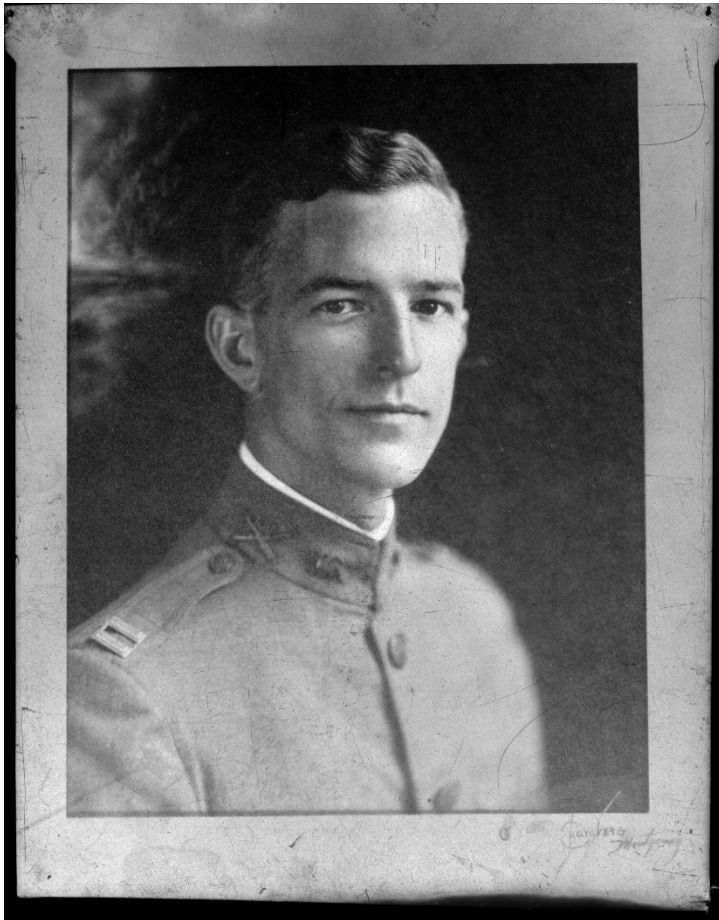


Image: Portrait of Captain Malcolm Jeffrey

Source: Courtesy of the Jeffery Company Archive

Image #3



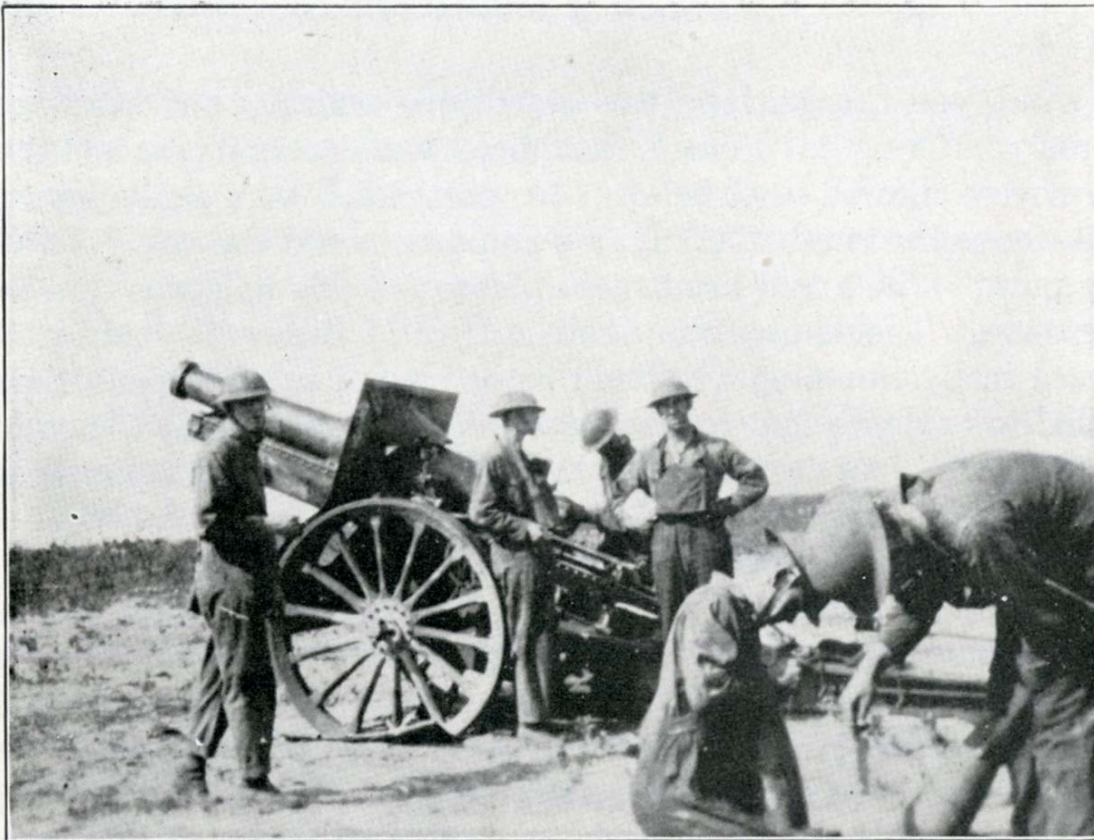
Image: Regimental Colors of the 136th Field Artillery Regiment, 37th Infantry Division.

Source: Courtesy of the Ohio History Connection (H 84526, State Archives Series 4605 AV)

Note: The 136th Field Artillery received battle honors for service in the Marbache Sector, Lorraine, France, October 12-31, 1918, and Troyon Sector, St. Mihiel, France November 3-11, 1918. The Marbache Sector had been heavily gassed by the Germans. The ribbons above the flag indicate these honors.



Image #4



A 155 MM. Howitzer and Crew, Camp de Souge.

Image: 136 Field Artillery training in France

Source: Coffin, Louis and Cameron Haskin Sanders. *A History of the Third Field Artillery, Ohio National Guard*. Cincinnati, Ohio: The Mountel Press, 1928. Page 202.

Note: Captain Malcolm Jeffrey and his artillery battery would have used a French 155mm Howitzer as seen in this photograph. Captain Jeffrey and his battery were in constant combat for the final month of World War I.

Image #5



Image: Dedication of the Malcolm Jeffrey American Legion Post #465 (1935)

Source: Courtesy of the Ohio Governor's Residence Collection

Note: The two boys on the left side of the photograph are Captain Jeffrey's two sons. Today, the Malcolm Jeffrey American Legion Post #465 is one of more than 500 active American Legion Posts in Ohio.



Image #6



Image: Malcolm Jeffrey Home (ca. 1925)

Source: Courtesy of the Ohio Governor's Residence Collection

Note: The Malcolm Jeffrey Home was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. Built in 1925, the Malcolm Jeffrey Home became the second Ohio Governor's Residence in 1957. Governor C. William O'Neill was the first Governor to live in the Malcolm Jeffrey Home in 1957.



**WORLD WAR I
CENTENNIAL**



THE UNITED STATES
WORLD WAR ONE
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION



Extension Activity #1: Read more ARMCO Ambulance Corps letters

Ohio Memory has nearly 150 letters between the members of the ARMCO Ambulance Corps, their families, ARMCO employees, and ARMCO President George Verity, dating 1917-1919. These correspondences provide a fascinating look at the life of these soldiers while serving in France.

The letters are available here on Ohio Memory:

<http://www.ohiomemory.org/cdm/search/searchterm/Armco!Manuscripts%3B%20Letters/fileId/all!format/mode/all!all/conn/and!and/order/nosort>



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE
Humanities



**WORLD WAR I
CENTENNIAL**



THE UNITED STATES
**WORLD WAR ONE
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION**



Extension Activity #2: Tour the Ohio Governor's Residence

Virtual tour: <http://www.governorsresidence.ohio.gov/garden/gardentour.aspx>



Note: Remind students of the connection in Reading #1: In 1923 Malcolm Jeffrey commissioned a house to be built on Parkview Avenue in Bexley, Ohio. Today the house is the Ohio Governor's residence.



**WORLD WAR I
CENTENNIAL**



THE UNITED STATES
WORLD WAR ONE
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION



Sources

Books

ARMCO: The First Twenty Years, a History of Growth and Development of the American Roller Mill Corporation 1901 - 1922, by the Armco Steel Corporation

Ohio: The History of a People, by Andrew Cayton

History of the Coal-mining Industry in Ohio, by Douglas Crowell

Our First Family's Home, Ohio University Press. (2008), edited by Mary Alice Mairose

Newsletters

Jeffrey Roots & Shoots: The Jeffrey Family Newsletter, (2014). 7(3).

Forms

National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination Form

Websites

"A short history of the Jeffrey Mining Corporate Center" - State Library of Ohio

Archival Material and Manuscripts

An Ambulance Corps Overseas in World War I, by George C. Crout

Captain Malcolm Jeffrey's material, courtesy of the Ohio Governor's Residence Collection.

Special Thanks to Curators Mary Alice Mairose and Kim Feinknopf-Dorrian, and the Jeffrey Family.



**WORLD WAR I
CENTENNIAL**



THE UNITED STATES
WORLD WAR ONE
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION



Acknowledgements

The Family of Malcolm Jeffrey
Kim Feinknopf-Dorrian: Jeffrey Company Archive, Company & Family Historian
National Endowment for the Humanities
NEH World War I Advisory Board
The Ohio Governor's Residence
Sergeant First Class Joshua Mann Historian, Ohio Army National Guard and member of the
Ohio World War I Centennial Commission
Mary Alice Mairose: Curator, Ohio Governor's Residence
Steve Ebersole: State Historian, American Legion Department of Ohio
Cliff Eckle: Ohio History Connection, History Curator
Dan Reigle: genealogist
Hope Taft
Amy Rohmiller: Ohio History Connection, Coordinator, WWI Commemoration
Kristen Newby: Ohio History Connection, Project Coordinator
Lily Birkhimer: Ohio History Connection, Digital Projects Coordinator
Sarah Lane: Educator

Additional Resources

United States World War One Centennial Commission: <http://www.worldwar1centennial.org/>

The Ohio World War I Centennial Committee

- a. *Searching for Homer Lawson* lesson plan: <http://www.ohiohistoryhost.org/ohiomemory/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Searching-for-Homer-Lawson-Lesson-Plan.pdf>
- b. *African American Soldiers Labor for Victory* lesson plan: <http://www.ohiohistoryhost.org/ohiomemory/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/African-Am-Labor-for-Victory-Lesson-Plan.pdf>
- c. *Captain Robert S. Marx: Decorated World War I Soldier and Founder of the Disabled American Veterans* lesson plan: http://www.ohiohistoryhost.org/ohiomemory/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/CaptainMarx_NEHLessonPlan.pdf



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE
Humanities



**WORLD WAR I
CENTENNIAL**



THE UNITED STATES
WORLD WAR ONE
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION



Ohio Governor's Residence and Heritage Garden

- a. <http://www.governorsresidence.ohio.gov/home.aspx>
- b. Ohio University Press. (2008). *Our First Family's Home*, Ch. 2- "The History of the Residence,"
http://www.ohioswallow.com/extras/9780821417904_chapter_two.pdf
 - o Malcolm Jeffrey and family are mentioned, contains context for how the home became the Governor's residence, and the role the home has played in Ohio history.

The French Government: World War I

<http://www.memoiredeshommes.sga.defense.gouv.fr/en/article.php?larub=78&titre=first-world-war>

 This lesson plan was written by Paul LaRue, a retired thirty-year high school social studies teacher. Paul has received numerous state and national teaching awards. Paul serves as a member of the Ohio World War I Centennial Committee.

Little Stories of the Great War: Ohioans in World War I has been made possible in part by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities: Exploring the human endeavor.

Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this resource do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities. (www.neh.gov)



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE Humanities



WORLD WAR I CENTENNIAL



THE UNITED STATES WORLD WAR ONE CENTENNIAL COMMISSION