

# Meet the Lanes

## Part One: Meet the Lanes

For this lesson you are going to take the role of one of the members of the Lane family of Ogilville, Indiana. The Lanes are a large family living in a rented farmhouse outside of town. Times are tough and your family is low on money. Each of you will choose one of four members of the Lane family. You may choose from Marion, Carrie, Dorothy, or Albert.

Marion Lane, age 62, is father and head of the family. After falling down an elevator shaft at a nearby radio tube manufacturing plant Norbillit-Sparks, you were gravely injured. In addition to injuries to your leg and back you also have a steel plate in your head. You are currently on disability and unable to work most of the time. You work when you can and when your health allows. You work on your farm growing tomatoes. You support the war effort but you are worried about your sons who are away at war. You know the family relies on the income provided by them.

Carrie Lane, age 40, is the mother of the Lane Family. You work at Nobillit-Sparks as well. You spend most of your time working hard at both work and home. You are very worried about your two oldest boys, who are fighting in the war. You are also worried about the finances of the family and realize the importance of the money sent home by Charles and Chester. You support the war but you have misgivings about your sons' involvement.



Carrie Lane standing on the Lane Farm with her daughter, Betty

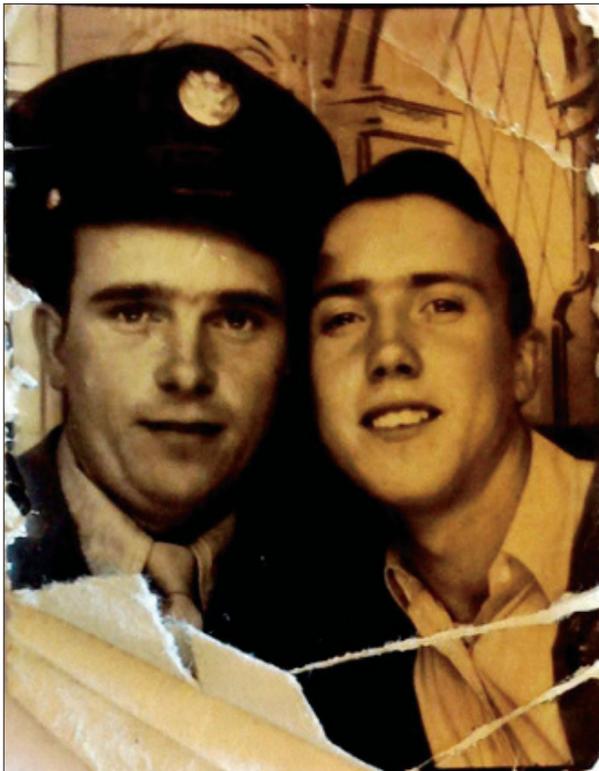
Dorothy Lane, age 16 (that is you on the back of the horse), is the oldest daughter. You have many responsibilities to care for your younger siblings. You attend Columbus High School, in the nearby manufacturing town of Columbus, Indiana. The war is very real to you. Many people you know have been drafted and have left to go fight. Some have died. You are worried about your two brothers who are out fighting the war.

Albert Lane, age 10 (that is you, next to Dorothy on the horse) attends the Kobbe School, a local one-room school house. You know that the war is a big deal and it is dangerous for your brothers. However, you do not really understand why the war is being fought or what it means to be at war.

You currently have two family members who are serving overseas in the war:



The younger Lane children playing on their horse on the farm in Ogilville.



On the left is Chester Lane, age 20. He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1943. In August, he was sent to fight in Europe. Due to Army regulations you are not sure where he is.

On the right is Charles Lane, age 18. Recently he joined the U.S. Navy and is currently serving on a ship in the Pacific. Due to wartime restrictions on communications the family is not entirely sure where he is.

Each member of the group will now choose a different member of the family to represent in the simulation. Notify your teacher of your choice.