

INTERVIEW OF "THE POPPY LADY"

[Page 6]

I was housemother at Winnie Davis Memorial Hall when our country declared the World War. [The First World War] I gave each of the boys I had taught some little remembrance to take with him. Back at Apalachee, I had the brightest boy in school. He beat (sic) at spelling in his lessons and in every game the boys played. He had that rarely found ability that enabled him to excel in studies and athletics, too. He would run to me, and say: "Miss Michael I won that game." I would say to him in reply, "Yes, Louie you have won your spurs." He was among the last to come by to say good-bye. I told him, "Louie, I want to give you something as a little remembrance to take with you." He had joined the Cavalry so, I told him, "I am going to give you a pair of spurs." He said, "Oh, Miss Michael I was hoping you would say that, I have everything but spurs." ...

[Page 7]

When the war was over, he brought those spurs to me. I took them, patted him on the shoulder, saying to him, "Louie you won your spurs." She showed them to me. With the spurs was a whistle: "This was the whistle blown in France to announce ending of the war."...

[Edited for clarity]

Interview of Moina Belle Michael

Interviewer: Mr. Hornsby Location: Athens, Georgia Date: February 8 – 9, 1939

American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936-193

40. Library of Congress. Prints and Photographs Division.