

**Guide to the Oral History of
ROYER, WILLIAM E. (1911-1987)**

Biographical/Historical Notes

William E. Royer was the Director of the Department of Social Services in Montgomery County. He was born in 1911 in McConnellsburg, Pennsylvania, where he grew up. He attended Susquehanna College and earned his Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Pennsylvania. During World War II, he served in the Army Air Force. Royer was the Director of the Montgomery County Department of Social Services from 1948 to 1973. He was also a member of numerous civic and arts associations.

Interview – Interviewed September 30, 1976 by Nancy Scull for MCHS.

Subject

Montgomery County (Md.) – Department of Social Services
Montgomery County (Md.) – Politics and Government
Montgomery County (Md.) – Welfare Board
Public welfare

Subject Names

Table of Contents/Index – See also Table of Contents and Interview Index for additional subjects and topics.

INTERVIEW OUTLINE

- I. The origins of public welfare
 - A. Historical precedents from the Bible to the 19th century
 - B. Origins in Montgomery County
 - C. The first Montgomery County Welfare Board
 - D. The federal Social Security Act of 1935
 - E. Federal assistance programs: OAA, ADC, PANB
 - F. Programs of MCDSS - historical perspective
 1. Food stamps
 2. General public assistance
 3. Medical assistance
 4. Housing
 5. Aid to Families with Dependent Children & adult and child welfare services
 - a. Family services
 - b. Foster care
 - c. Single parent service & adoption services
 - d. Daycare & homemaker services
 - e. Protective services for children & adults
 - G. Minorities
- II. Community interest and involvement
 - A. League of Women Voters, women's clubs, etc.
 - B. Takoma-East Silver Spring Center
 - C. Multi-service centers & regional offices
- III. The role of Montgomery County in the history of public welfare in Maryland and the U.S.
 - A. As model & leader
- IV. The future of social services in Montgomery County