

cal care from the Veteran's Administration. The nearest Veteran's Administration Hospital was in Lexington, approximately 100 miles from most of the families interviewed, and one man alone reported a visit of 60 days—more than one third of the total of 169 for the entire group. Three women in the applicant group reported giving birth at home, and two of them reported no prenatal care.

Some reticence at appearing to be "taking advantage of the Program" was noted. One family reported going into debt \$260 for a hospital bill rather than collecting such a large amount from the WE and T Program, and another family was paying over \$150 per year for hospitalization insurance in order not to have to appear as excessively exploiting medical care benefits.

A sizable minority of both the applicants and participants seemed to be in fairly bad health, as is summarized in Table 3.4. At least five children and one head of a household were reported as epileptic. Four applicants and for participants were receiving disability pensions from the Veterans' Administration for injuries sustained while in the Armed Forces. Three active cases of tuberculosis were reported, two by applicants and one by the wife of an applicant. Seven applicants and eight participants reported other forms of disabilities mostly back injuries and lung troubles and several hernias. It was not possible for the interviewers to rate the seriousness of these ailments. However, the over-all picture is one of some fairly infirm individuals; 36 per cent of the applicant and 36 per cent of the participant heads of households were disabled in some substantial manner.

The hypothesis that participants would make more visits to the various health facilities was accepted, although as with education, the increased number of visits per family not as significant as the increased number of families who made visits.

TABLE 3.4.—*Summary of various infirmities reported by applicants and participants*

Infirmary	Applicants	Participants
Epilepsy.....	2 children.....	3 children; 1 head of household.
Tuberculosis.....	2 heads of households; 1 wife.	
Disability arising from injury sustained while in the Armed Forces.....	4 heads of households.....	4 heads of households.
Back and lung troubles; hernias.....	7 heads of households.....	8 heads of households.

Education

Expenditures for education were somewhat similar to those for health, for while the school system was ostensibly free, there were costs associated with attendance. Such costs would include: school supplies and lunches, clothing, and incidental expenses. As was the case with health expenditures, the WE and T Program's method of calculating a participant family's income needs served to eliminate opportunity costs for income foregone. Thus, one had to disregard much of the Schultzean reasoning concerning the costs of education.⁶

Jack Weller emphasized that many mountain families were lax in encouraging their children to attend school for a number of noneconomic reasons, such as fear of, and lack of experience with, education, per se.⁷ Heads of households of families participating in the WE and T Program, and in some cases, their wives, received six hours of instruction per week. Therefore, they would probably have increased contact with educational institutions. In addition, the regulations of the WE and T Program stipulated that all school-age children of participant families had to be enrolled in school. It was assumed in this study that increased school attendance would have a long-run developmental significance.⁸ The hypothesis was that both school enrollment and attendance would increase for the eligible children of the participant families. Attendance records for the calendar year 1966 were examined to test this. If the hypothesis were accepted, it probably would suggest that the heads of the participant families were receiving sufficient income to cover the costs associated with attending school and therefore were complying with the WE and T Program's regulations. Otherwise, it would

⁶ Schultz, *The Economic Value of Education*, p. 27.

⁷ Weller, *op. cit.*, p. 111.

⁸ Harry Schwartz and James S. Brown stated that education was a major integrating link between Eastern Kentucky and the mainstream of American society in "Education as a Cultural Bridge between Eastern Kentucky and the Great Society," *Rural Sociology*, LIV (December 1962), p. 373.