Marshall's Barber Since 1939
Is Proud Spectator at VMI 'Day'

LEXINGTON, VA., May 15—A
man who has given both General
Marshall and General MacArthur
many a good trimming, was a
proud spectator today at VMI's
celebration of Marshall Day.
Joseph Abbate, who operates
barber shops at both the Penta
cron and at Fort Meyer, slipped
down from Arlington to watch the
ten he admires most receive new
honors.

He pored with the general for
several minutes, and then, in an
swer to reporters' questions, shed
some light on the personal quali-
ties of the two great military lead-
ers.

Also Trimmed MacArthur

Abbates personally has cut Mar-
shall's hair since the VMI alumnus
became chief of staff in 1939.
Earlier, he sieved the MacAr-
thur locks when he was chief of

Marshall, he reports, likes his
hair "short in the sideburns and
not too long on top."

And MacArthur was "a bit fussy
about the sideburns, but very nice
and one of the nearest soldiers in
the Army."

Abbates figures he's cut Mar-
shall's hair every time it's been
not in the past 12 years, except
once when Marshall was overseas
for two months.

Marshall, said Abbate, never
takes any time on his hair and
he adds, admiringly: "His hair
comes better dry than most peo-
ple's wet."

Abbate wouldn't take sides di-
rectly in the great debate that has
Marshall on one side and Mac-
Arthur on the other.

But he made his feelings pretty
plain: "President Truman was mis-
taken," Abbate said. "He said
General Marshall is the greatest
soldier of our time. I say he's
the greatest of all time."