



INFORMATION SERVICE

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Third in the American Guide series of state volumes to come off the press, "Vermont: A Guide to the Green Mountain State", is now available to the general public, according to word just received by James W. Egan, State Director of the Federal Writers' Project, WPA.

Like all books published in the American Guide series, Vermont is a result of the cooperative effort of writers seeking rehabilitation under the Works Progress Administration. The volume consists of nearly 400 pages and outlines 27 tours in the rugged little New England state. Scores of attractive illustrations are not the least feature of the work. It was sponsored by the Vermont State Planning Board.

An unusual contribution is the chapter on Contemporary Vermont, written by Mrs. Dorothy Canfield Fisher, outstanding literary figure of the Green Mountain State. Although not a member of the Federal Writers' Project, Mrs. Fisher took an active interest in the preparation of the Vermont volume through all its stages. It retails at \$2.50 per volume and copies may be obtained from the publishers, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, Massachusetts.

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Seattle, Washington, October 22, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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Uncle Sam's fighting men, stationed at the Army barracks at Vancouver, Wash., will have special cause for celebration next Fourth of July, for the day before is expected to see completion of WPA repairing and general improvement work scheduled to start November 4, with the aid of \$37,631 in WPA funds and labor, it was announced today at the office of Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

A WPA crew will be busy for eight months replacing foundations, roofs, chimneys, porches, gutters and downspouts, painting, calcimining, plastering and performing incidental work in all parts of the fort, says Abel's office.

Sufficient funds, including an additional \$16,724.10, provided through the Commanding Officer as sponsor representing the Army, assures completion of the project, it was learned. Besides providing needed employment for certified WPA workers in this part of the state, it is pointed out that the project will meet a long felt problem of thorough reconditioning at the living quarters of enlisted men at the barracks.

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Seattle, Washington, October 26, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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Seattle, Washington

City officials of the town of Monroe, were today advised that the Town Hall and the Library were due for remodeling to the extent of \$2,400, it was learned from the office of Don G. Abel, State Administrator of the Works Progress Administration, through whose approval the city fathers were granted \$1,822 of federal funds for this work. The city of Monroe is supplying an additional \$578.

The project is slated to begin on November 11 and will supply work for 15 men, taken from WPA rolls, for about two months. The improvements will bring the public library and city hall up to date by modernizing, painting and making such alterations as may seem necessary.

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Seattle, Washington, October 26, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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Seattle, Washington

Reading to the blind, shut-ins and patients in the local hospitals will get under way in Cowlitz County October 28, it was disclosed by Don G. Abel, Works Progress State Administrator, today.

The Readers' Project has been very successful in the larger cities and although this is the first time it is to operate in one of the smaller communities, the announcement of the work has met with enthusiasm by those who will be served.

Under the allotment three women, chosen for their educational background, diction, personality and general sympathetic manner, will carry on this samaritan work. The program will be correlated with the Social Security plan and the persons to be served are to be selected by the Public Welfare Agencies. The librarian in each city where the project operates will select the reading material and plan the work. A Federal Fund of \$4,968 has been allotted for salaries of the readers for the eight month's period.

Similar projects under WPA supervision will be in operation throughout the state and the office of Administrator Abel has received hundreds of letters expressing appreciation of the work.

A careful check of similar projects disclosed that the Bible was the most frequently requested book.

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Seattle, Washington, October 26, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Promise of additional markets for the berry and cherry growers of Washington is seen in experiments being carried on at the University of Washington. The manufacture of wine is the basis of these investigations. Addition impetus was given to this study of bacteriology of yeasts when a third WPA allotment of federal funds recently made it possible to again take up the experiments which were begun in 1935, Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator announced.

Three groups have contributed to the continuation of these experiments. The university through the department of Bacteriology supplies space for the laboratory and equipment. The salaries of three certified chemists, taken from unemployment rolls is cared for by WPA funds. The necessary berries and fruit are donated by co-operating fruit growers associations and interested industries. Doctor B. S. Henry, assistant Professor of Bacteriology at the University, supervises the project in addition to his regular class duties.

"The entire industrial and fruit and berry raising picture of western Washington should change for the better," said Dr. Henry, "Markets for the bulk of fruit and berry crops, the second grade products, have always been scarce and in many cases non-existent. Insufficient returns for this part of the crop has always been a problem confronting the growers. It was to correct this unbalanced condition these experiments were undertaken.

Two additional markets may appear as the result of experiments now being carried on at the University of Washington with the aid of WPA chemists. These are the winery markets and the outlet provided by the manufacture of pectin from local products. After experimenting with approximately 175 strains of yeast extractions, some significant facts have been noted. Twelve of these strains showed a wine yeast alcoholic content of better than 19 per cent. The wine could be brought up to 20 per cent alcoholic content without fortification of pure grain alcohol, something that to date has been impossible.

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Farmers having five or more acres of cherries could receive an income in the neighborhood of \$5,000 a year, according to estimates worked out by WPA officials. Washington raised loganberries, which commanded no market several years ago, today are in great demand as a result of the loganberry wine industry.

Compared to the probable results the expense of conducting these experiments has been relatively low. A total of \$13,050 has been expended by the University of Washington and the WPA, according to a statement recently released by Don G. Abel, State Administrator. This last allotment of \$4,176 will cover the cost of chemicals, yeast food and pay the salaries of the three certified chemists supplied by the WPA.

"Scarcely a day passes that does not bring inquiries from California, the east or some other section of the country," said Dr. Smith in conclusion. "Berry growers associations of Oregon have recently become greatly interested in the probable results of our experiments as their problems are similiar to ours." There is little reason to doubt the Pacific Northwest will become one of the greatest wine-producing areas of the country."

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Seattle, Washington, October 26, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Farm-to-Market roads, parks and playfields in Pierce and Clark counties will benefit by Works Progress Administration grants amounting to \$51,936, according to word released today from the office of Don G. Abel, State Administrator.

Improvement of Leverich Park in the City of Vancouver, slated to begin December 4, with \$42,262 made available from WPA funds, calls for the construction of a grandstand, ticket booth, dressing rooms, showers, comfort stations and a tennis court. Also the installation of a drainage and lighting system. Considerable work will be put on the grounds, including grading and reseeding.

Rehabilitation of the athletic field and school grounds at Washougal is also expected to begin on December 4. The work will consist of grading the field, building a tennis court, cinder track, bleachers and sidewalks. The cost will be \$4,264.75 of which the WPA will put up \$2,147.

Work is expected to start November 11 to provide proper drainage for Tanwax and Kroger farm-to-market roads in Pierce County at an expenditure of \$6,000 of which the WPA supplies all but \$40. The work consists of removing slides, surfacing, grading and repairing.

Improvement of the Eatonville cut-off is now under way with the ditches being deepened and widened to provide proper drainage and the road graded and re-surfaced, which was provided for by a WPA grant of \$1,687. Labor for these project is taken from WPA rolls.

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Seattle, Washington, October 28, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Another chapter in the history of the pioneer Northwest is nearing completion at the University of Washington through co-operation of the University Library and the Works Progress Administration.

To the long list of facts and incidents of exploration and settlement of the Northwest as recorded by the British and Americans now is added the Russian and the French experiences in their English version.

According to the knowledge of the University Library staff, this marks the first time these writings have been available to the English reader. This much-needed work gives the history student restricted to English the writings of the first Roman Catholic priests and the early Russian traders and settlers of Alaska.

The original writings are from the pens of such colorful persons as J.B.Z. Bolduc and Rev. F. X. Blanchet, two of the earliest French priests; Eugene Duflot de Mofras and St. Amant, explorers of the Oregon Territory and the California coastline; the Russian contributions are mainly ships logs, diaries, letters and documents of a similar nature.

Another phase of the work covered by this project has been the classification and filing of hundreds of documents given to the university by individuals, clubs, business concerns and other organizations interested in preserving the original sources of Washington history.

Logging company records, trading company reports, scrap books yellowed with age, letters, diaries and similar items that shed light on the early picture have been properly classified.

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Seattle, Washington, October 28, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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The University of Washington has joined with the U. S. Army Engineers Office, the Works Progress Administration and local county commissioners in combating flood conditions throughout the state.

The Hydraulics Laboratory of the University will undertake a series of studies made possible by a W.P.A. allotment of \$8,784 to determine the influence of river channeling, problems of silting and erosion in streams, and tidal and current movements in harbors and streams. Models reproducing existing conditions, will be used as the basis of the experiments.

Workers supplied by the W.P.A. will be used only to assist in the construction and operation of the models, according to Don G. Abel, WPA State Administrator. The data for the design, as well as the design will be furnished by other agencies qualified to undertake such work.

Of the \$3,000,000 federal funds allotted for flood protection measures in the Western Washington U.S. Flood Control District during the 1937-38 fiscal year, \$2,100,000 has been expended, leaving approximately \$900,000 available for the remaining period, according to data released by the U. S. Army Engineers Office.

During the more than two years operation of flood control projects in this district, 15 projects have been completed and 8 are now in operation. In King County, Skykomish, Cedar, Green and the Lower Carbon river projects have been completed; Puyallup and Carbon river projects in Pierce County; Skykomish River operations in Snohomish County; Des Chutes, Yelm, the Upper Chehalis and Skookumchuck river projects in Thurston County; Quinault River in Grays Harbor County; Skokomish, Coffee and Goldsborough Rivers in Mason County; Jimmy-Come-Lately River project in Clallam County.

More than 630 river workers, supplied by the WPA, are employed on flood prevention programs operating on the Nooksack River in Whatcom County, Skagit River in Skagit County, Stillaguamish and Pilchuck Rivers in Snohomish County, Chehalis River in Grays Harbor County, Docewallips River in Jefferson County and Snoqualmie River in King County.

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Seattle, Washington, October 28, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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Everett's domestic water storage reservoir improvement project on the Sultan River watershed was assured today with the announcement from WPA State Administrator Don G. Abel of approval of the City's application for federal aid.

In creating this new project, with operations expected to get under way November 1, the WPA granted an allotment of \$92,448 to meet the \$25,745.05 pledged by the city of Everett for preparing the ground surface so as to increase the water storage and to build a driveway around the reservoir. Present operations on the water system is expected to be finished by March 31, 1938, with final completion slated for September 1, 1938. More than 180 men are expected to be employed under this most recent project.

Additional water made available by the expected improvements it is thought will raise the efficiency of the Everett Fire Department and accordingly tend to lower insurance rates in the city. Numerous urban districts in the neighborhood of the city will also be benefited.

Upon completion of the project it is asserted that Everett will have a water system supplying its 50,000 residents that will be second to none.

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Seattle, Washington, October 29, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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Farmers of two northwest Washington Counties will benefit by two Works Progress Administration projects scheduled to get under way November 12. One designed to boost land values by drainage and the other to provide better farm to market roads.

In Snohomish County, farm land conditions will be improved by a drainage system affecting seven sections of land between the cities of Snohomish and Monroe. Cooperating with the State of Washington, sponsoring the project, WPA will invest \$14,989, according to an announcement from WPA Administrator Don G. Abel.

Clearing, deepening and widening existing ditches and constructing a new ditch will tend to remove the danger of floods and simultaneously help prevent erosion. Although this work is sponsored by the state, no additional taxes or assessments will be levied. Similarly private property rights will not be violated as easements have been obtained from the owners of property adjacent to the project.

The road improvement project in Whatcom County calls for an investment of \$9,955 by the WPA, \$7,963 by the Whatcom County Commissioners and will put the roads in the vicinity of Ferndale in the best of condition. Fifteen WPA workers are slated to start clearing, grubbing, grading and surfacing the road the day following Armistice Day and will complete the work in about two months.

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Seattle, Washington, October 30, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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Seattle, Washington

Vancouver, Washington will have its \$129,584 street improvement project after all! It was announced today by Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, following the appropriation of \$18,601 by the Vancouver city council for the drawing of engineers plans and miscellaneous expenditures.

The WPA allotment had been held in abeyance due to the lack of these plans and drawings and loss of the federal funds was only averted by last minute emergency legislation of the council body.

The largest street improvement project in the history of the city, its cost to the taxpayers will be negligible as far as a new tax levy is concerned. The city budget will not bear the brunt of the allotment as funds from the gasoline tax received from the state will be set aside for this purpose.

Approximately 170 men, taken from WPA rolls will begin work about November 4. The project will take more than eight months to complete.

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Seattle, Washington, November 2, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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Seattle, Washington

Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator, today released the results of a statewide survey of the ages of 28,106 persons employed on WPA projects, and those eligible for WPA employment. The findings based on records of November 1, show that more than half or 54 per cent of the men and women employed on WPA projects are between the ages of 18 and 45 and the balance of 46 per cent being between the ages of 46 and 65 years of age. These figures are exclusive of the National Youth Administration which employes some 1,632 men and women between the ages of 18 and 25, and other federal agencies.

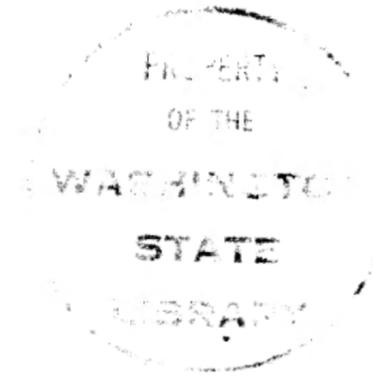
"It is of interest to note" Abel stated, "That the disparity between the proportions of men and women from relief rolls is higher in the group of workers from 18 to 45 years of age. Also, among the group of younger workers the total of women employed is 11.5 per cent, while among the 46 to 65 group the percentage of women workers is 14.4 per cent. Of the total number of WPA workers 87.2 per cent are men. Differences in the age distributions of men and women workers may be observed in the proportion of each in the various age groups."

"Age is a factor that has come to demand recognition in connection with the employability of workers. This has made age information necessary to the consideration of such basic social problems as dependency, unemployment and re-employment opportunities for unemployed workers. In order to provide some information of this kind, this tabulation has been made," Abel added.

Persons employed on WPA projects at security wage rates are assigned according to their ability and experience on any one of the four different wage classes according to which the monthly wage rates vary, the unskilled, intermediate, skilled and professional and technical.

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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Seattle, Washington



Ignorance of Tacoma's laws will be less excusable after a group of WPA "white collar" workers begin a much needed card indexing of city ordinances for easy reference this week.

About two months will be required to complete the project, according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator in announcing a WPA allotment of \$2,217 for the work. The city of Tacoma, as sponsor, has provided \$315 to assure completion of the project.

Professional, educational and clerical persons with WPA status have been given needed employment arranging and segregating the ordinances into proper classification groups and typing them on index cards and permanent sheets for binding. Lack of personnel on the city's payroll has prevented this type of work, made possible only through a WPA investment, says Tacoma officials, and no regularly employee is being displaced because of this project.

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Seattle, Washington, November 5, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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Seattle, Washington

Twenty-five men from the WPA rolls will begin work Monday, November 8, on the final stages of the grading and landscaping at the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries laboratory, 2725 Montlake Boulevard, near the Seattle Yacht Club, it was learned yesterday with the announcement by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator that \$4,810 in WPA funds have been allotted for the project.

About five acres will be improved, with special attention to completion of the area formerly a logging canal. The schedule, Able says, calls for excavating, the filling in of a pond and ravine, grading and seeding grounds, planting shrubs and other landscaping activities.

The property is Federally owned and the project is sponsored by the Bureau of Fisheries which is providing \$505 for materials.

Over 100 WPA construction projects of this or similar nature are now in progress in King County, according to C. T. Wende, WPA zone engineer. Approximately 4,300 men from WPA rolls are employed on the work, 50 per cent of which are in the unskilled labor classification. More than 300 WPA workers will be busy all winter on the arboretum at Washington Park, Wende stated. At present the crew is completing the green house, and constructing the water system and lighting system. The Madison Street entrance Lodge to the arboretum is expected to be completed by the first of the year, and the other Lodge by early spring.

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PR-315

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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Seattle, Washington

A city-wide WPA street construction and paving project is scheduled to get under way at Enumclaw, Monday, November 8, with the aid of \$12,160 in WPA funds and labor from the relief rolls, Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator announced yesterday.

Meeting the WPA allotment for the needed improvement, the City of Enumclaw is providing \$15,440, for materials and equipment for the project, which calls for the building of streets and alleys by excavating, paving, placing curbs, constructing catch basins, laying pipe drains, and performing incidental work. About 25 men will begin operations with increasing enrollment as the work progresses.

Improving streets and roads, it was learned from Washington, D. C., has been one of the chief activities of the WPA. Construction workers from relief rolls of the United States have built, repaired, renovated, extended, or modernized enough farm-to-market roads to reach five times around the earth, as well as 21,000 bridges.

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Seattle, Washington, November 5, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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Seattle, Washington

More than \$18,000 will be invested by the Works Progress Administration in Olympic Peninsula irrigation and water supply systems under two federal projects according to an announcement by Don G. Abel, WPA State Administrator.

Construction of a domestic water supply system for the Joyce Consolidated School District #313, Clallam County, will get under way November 12, with a crew of 38 men. Clearing and grubbing operations, installing of pipe, work on the intake dam, settling tanks and necessary roads is thought will be well under way by the first of the year with prospects of completion on February 10, 1938.

A total of \$7,997 will be invested with the WPA, furnishing \$5,930 and the remainder supplied by the Clallam County Commissioners. Private property owners in the district need not fear additional taxes or assessments, Abel explained, as proper easements have been obtained for all work on private property.

Near Sequim, the Agnew Irrigation District ditch will be improved by the removal of the old flume and the building of a new canal that will carry a larger supply of water. This will make possible the addition of more irrigated acreage to the district as well as give the farmers now receiving water a greater volume at their disposal.

The Agnew Irrigation District is a political subdivision of the state and thus in line for WPA aid. The \$8,380 allotted for this work will be used to defray labor costs only as the \$1,870 pledged by the irrigation district will be used to cover the cost of all easements and the materials going into the construction of the system. This project employing 56 men is scheduled to be under way by November 12.

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Seattle, Washington, November 9, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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Seattle, Washington

Ten more Whatcom County, Farm-to-market roads will be improved as the result of a Works Progress Administration allotment of \$25,667 it was announced today by Don G. Abel, WPA State Administrator. Forty-seven men are slated to report for work November 12, to begin the initial phases of the work.

In addition to routine road improvements, all bridges showing any weakness and which might be or shortly become unsafe will be replaced. This new project is sponsored by the County Commissioners who recently voted \$7,804.36, to cover the expense of purchasing materials to complete the job.

In Snohomish County, starting at U.S. Highway 99 and Casino Corner, four miles south of Everett, a county-sponsored road project is being undertaken to protect the recently completed oil-mat surfacing of the old Beverly Park-Mukilteo highway.

Extending west three miles to Nelson Hill and Fleming Way, approximately 13,000 lineal feet of bank sloping and road side ditching will be necessary before the heavy winter rains set in, WPA engineers report.

Replacement and repair work on the Mukilteo water district pipe lines, now being completed along the greater portion of this road, has made these precautionary measures necessary because of the increasingly heavy traffic using this road.

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Seattle, Washington, November 9, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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Seattle, Washington

Final approval of two improvement projects for the City of Yakima was announced today by Don G. Abel, Works Progress Administrator.

Construction of a new unit to the municipal water system is guaranteed by a total allotment of \$14,498, of which the WPA will supply \$7,342 and the city \$7,156. Of this amount the federal grant will be used to pay the wages of the fifty WPA workers to be employed and the city's portion used to purchase valves, pipe and other materials needed to complete the extension. Initial operations are expected to begin November 29.

The other project, slated to be under way December 13, will consist of revamping the landscaping in Washington Park, building of cinder paths, improvement of old ones and a general realignment of the natural setting. Eighteen men will be allotted to the project. While this project will cost the City of Yakima only \$288, the WPA will invest \$3,351, Abel stated.

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Seattle, Washington, November 9, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

The Washington State National Guard, Aviation Division quartered at Spokane will have their aero-photographic negatives and prints classified by workers supplied by the Works Progress Administration. The 41st Aviation Division's application received official approval last week according to Don G. Abel, WPA State Administrator.

A grant of \$1,020 will allow the employment of 2 persons for this work. In addition to the general cataloging of the photographic material, all incidental records will be re-indexed and filed.

Another project, somewhat similar in nature, to operate in the Spokane City Hall, and simultaneously approved, said Abel. Preparing, cataloging and filing of exhibits and other tabulations of records will feature this project. The wages of five persons employed, taken from Spokane County relief rolls, will be covered by \$3,690, supplied by the WPA and the necessary materials and equipment will be paid for by \$2,155 pledged by the Spokane City Council.

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Seattle, Washington, November 9, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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Seattle, Washington

Three projects involving \$59,792 of WPA funds are slated to begin operations in King County December 6, it was announced today by Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator. Farmers in the southeast section of the county will be benefited by road improvements covered by one project, while the school children of the Taylor and Maple Leaf grade schools are assured of additional schoolroom and playground facilities by the other two.

More than 165 persons, taken from relief rolls, will be put to work on the roads in the vicinity of Enumclaw, their wages paid by a WPA grant of \$41,551. Clearing of brush from blind corners, building ditches, laying culverts, erecting guard rails and work of a similar nature will be done on a score of farm-to-market roads.

When applying for a WPA allotment to make the necessary repairs to the Taylor Grade School, the school board specified the needed work to be done as: building a lunchroom, work room, tool room and fire door, laying a new floor, painting the interior and the installation of electrical fixtures. Fifteen men will be employed for two months on this work being paid from the \$2,261 made available by the WPA.

Preparations for the opening of the third project, improvement of the recreational facilities at the Maple Leaf Grade School, is now under way, Abel said. Approximately 53 laborers and carpenters will be employed with their wages expected to amount to a total of \$15,980. Equipment necessary to do the clearing, grubbing, installing a drain pipe, building a backstop for the ball diamond and doing other work will be met by both the WPA and the school district.

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Seattle, Washington, November 9, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Pierce and Thurston Counties will benefit by Works Progress Administration allotments totaling \$14,523, it was announced today by Don G. Abel, state director.

In Thurston County a "Farm to Market" good roads project is underway for the improvement of Morris and Price roads at a scheduled investment of \$19,583 of which an allotment of \$12,632 is provided from WPA funds. The Thurston County Commissioners, sponsoring the project provide the balance of \$6,931.

In line with the Government policy of improving the conditions of school buildings and grounds, WPA workers are expected to start November 24, clearing, grading and graveling the grounds and building sidewalks at the Eatonville School, Pierce County. The WPA allotment amounts to \$1,891, to which was added \$381, provided by the school board, Don G. Abel, state director stated.

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Seattle, Washington, November 10, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

To enlarge the Land Survey project now operating in King County with a personnel taken from WPA rolls, Don G. Abel, state director of the Works Progress Administration today announced the allotment of \$64,305 more to be available for this work. To date the WPA has invested \$17,000.

The project provides employment for WPA "white collar" workers in conducting an engineering land survey under the direction of the County Engineer. The survey will coordinate all section corners, quarter and sixteenth corners throughout the county under the triangulation control standards of accuracy laid down by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey. Permanent markers will be installed at all these corners. Engineering and technical advice is given by the U.S.C. & G.S. through officers assigned to aid the survey.

Results will serve as a basis for future surveys and will also make possible the correction by abstract of any errors that may exist in the legal descriptions of land segregations.

General William T. Sherman, of civil war fame, is credited with running the first survey of King County in the middle 1850's, and the method he is said to have used was the one most prevalent at that time. It consisted in counting the revolutions made by the wheel of a wagon by means of a cloth tied to a spoke.

Although this primitive method was used it was fairly accurate according to the engineers in charge of the Works Progress Administration Land Survey project.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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Seattle, Washington

Observance of National Education Week brings to the attention of Washington residents the huge WPA assistance for the improvement of educational facilities and instruction and represents an investment of more than \$3,000,000 Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator announced today.

This great contribution to the advancement of education since the inception of the WPA two years and four months ago is in addition to the large expenditures by the Federal Emergency Relief Acts for the Public Forums and the student aid and vocational divisions of the National Youth Administration, Abel stated.

Total figures, available up to October 1, do not include the contributions made through hundreds of going projects since then, Abel points out. Total teaching payrolls to October 1, since the beginning of WPA approach the million dollar mark being \$979,711, while construction and repair of buildings and grounds have provided payrolls, largely for unskilled labor, totaling \$1,465,370. WPA has provided \$418,917 for construction materials and supplies, \$22,864 for rentals and service of construction equipment, \$2,466 for rentals and service incidental to instruction and \$13,772 for materials and supplies needed in carrying on classes.

Added to the WPA total of \$2,903,100 are the allotments for hot lunches for needy school children, averaging more than \$10,000 monthly. Sponsors, including school boards, cities, towns and the State have provided \$393,284 to augment WPA construction and improvement funds. More than 150 schools have been repaired and the grounds improved and landscaped, and five brand new schools in the state were erected entirely by WPA with a small percentage of sponsored funds. These are at Pomeroy, Kirkland, Ewan, Belfair and Glenrose.

WPA educational activities and contributions include repairing books and papers, rebuilding and refinishing school furniture, and instruction in Literacy and Naturalization, Workers Education, Parent Education, Vocational Education, Correspondence instruction, General Adult Education and Nursery Schools.

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Seattle, Washington, November 11, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Federal approval of Tacoma's city-wide WPA sewer improvement project providing employment for more than 560 men, was announced today by Don G. Abel, state WPA director.

The WPA allotment amounts to \$95,776 to which the city of Tacoma will add \$13,208. Further allotments involving a total of \$172,122, to which the city of Tacoma is adding \$18,966 and which will employ more than 900 additional workers taken from relief rolls is awaiting Federal approval which is expected momentarily, Abel stated.

The district in which the approved projects will begin as soon as conditions will permit are Garfield Park trunk sewer, East "D" Street sewer, Alder Street sewer, South 18th Street and "G" Street sewer.

The expected granting of the further allotments will mean a total WPA investment for Tacoma's sewers of \$267,898 and employment for a total of 1,489 men taken from WPA rolls.

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Seattle, Washington, November 12, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Approximately 400 acres of rich farm lands near Mason, in Chelan county will be reclaimed by drainage when WPA workers complete installation of wood pipe about the first of next April, according to announcement yesterday from the office of Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

The project, which will benefit about 3,000 persons of the community and is about three per cent completed will again be put under way with a new WPA allotment, November 28, with a crew of 40 men. The project is carried on under the sponsorship of the Chelan county commissioners.

Starting the same day in Spokane county a WPA crew will put through a program of trenching, laying pipe and backfilling in Otis Orchard Irrigation District No. 1, which is sponsoring the work with a fund of \$5,462 to go with the WPA allotment of \$10,304.

—ooCoo—

Seattle, Washington, November 15, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Reading to the shut-ins and blind of four Washington Counties, aiding and instructing housewives, are projects that have found such favor that they are to be enlarged to state-wide proportions, Don G. Abel, state director of the Works Progress Administration, announced today.

Clark and King counties have set up WPA reading projects this month and Pierce County has continued this activity since last year, without interruptions, on former allotments. The project provides unemployed women employment consistent with their training and opens up the outside world to a considerable portion of truly "forgotten" shut-in men and women. The work calls for contacting blind, cripples, paralyzed and otherwise confined persons. Readers also call at homes for the aged, convalescent homes, orphanages and hospitals. Material is read to the eager listeners from appropriate books obtained from libraries and volunteer sources. Frequently the readers also serve their patients by other personal attentions, such as conducting correspondence for the incapacitated.

Abel states that already about 40 women are carrying on this useful service, and that approval of Snohomish county's application for a similar project is expected momentarily. Information on the readers' project in King County indicates that more than 40 per cent of those benefited are afflicted with blindness and receive little or no aid of this kind from any other source.

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Fourteen counties are now being served with the WPA housekeeping projects, it was learned, with a total of 300 women furnishing free home assistance with housework, care of children and similar useful tasks in the homes of needy housewives who are invalided or otherwise incapacitated. A project of this type is scheduled to begin in Skamania County November 19, Abel's office states.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Adding one more to the list of schools being built in the State of Washington by the Works Progress Administration, state administrator Don G. Abel, today announced a \$80,211 school building and garage for children of the Meridian School near Kent, Washington. The school district is providing \$31,620 of the total amount, for materials.

The project, scheduled to get under way by November 22, calls for the construction of a one-story tile and concrete building and a separate garage to house the school buses. 76 men taken from relief rolls will be employed for more than seven months.

When completed this will be the sixth new school in the State of Washington to be constructed by the WPA, while more than 150 schools have been modernized and reconditioned and the grounds improved by grading and landscaping.

More than 8,300 schools throughout the United States have been the recipient of WPA funds and labor for modernization and reconditioning of the school grounds, Abel stated.

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Seattle, Washington, November 15, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Critical reception of volumes thus far published in the American Guide series has been most enthusiastic, according to a statement by James W. Egan, director of the Federal Writers' Project in Washington State.

Typifying press reviews is this comment from the Springfield (Mass) Weekly Republican on the newly issued Vermont State Guide: "Exhibits the Federal Writers' Project of the WPA at its best. In this undertaking cooperative enterprise scores a bulls-eye because it has been conducted with enthusiasm and understanding, under mature direction."

Lewis Mumford, noted critical commentator, in reviewing the work of the Federal Writers' Project vigorously writes that "these guidebooks are the finest contribution to American patriotism that has been made in our generation." The Christian Science Monitor speaks of the "high standard of writing."

Public acceptance of the initial offerings in the American Guide series has been highly gratifying. A first edition of 10,000 copies of the Massachusetts Guide was quickly exhausted; 15,000 additional copies are on the press. The Idaho Guide, first issued, is reported to have sold out. Many smaller "local guides" have proved popular. Lincoln, Nebraska, a city smaller than Seattle, Tacoma or Spokane--all of which have been offered opportunities to sponsor local guides in this State--has sold more than 16,000 inexpensive guides.

The Washington State Guide is expected to be in shape for publication by January 1. Sponsorship probably will be assumed by the Washington State Progress Commission; and, if so, it will be issued as the official guidebook to the State, Director Egan declares.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Approval of Federal aid for the improvement of school grounds in both Yakima and Chelan counties has been granted, Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, announced today.

Immediately following Thanksgiving, work will begin on the grounds of the Malaga School, Chelan County, Abel advises. Funds from WPA in the amount of \$18,083 have been provided for excavating, grading, leveling and covering the ground with a top soil. The sponsors, School District #115, will provide \$4,400 to be added to the WPA grant and men from WPA rolls will complete the work by July 1, 1938.

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Work is expected to start immediately on the grounds of Granger School in Yakima County, Abel also advises, in leveling the grounds, installing irrigation pipes and graveling the parking strip. When completed the high and grade schools of the district will have a playfield of four blocks, separated so that the high school pupils will have a baseball diamond and tennis court on one side and the other half be developed for a playground for the smaller children. WPA funds in the amount of \$10,777 are provided with the school district contributing \$1,352. Twenty men from the WPA Yakima water system project will be transferred to this project which is expected to be completed by April 15, 1938.

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Seattle, Washington, November 16, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Don G. Abel, State director of the Works Progress Administration, today announced additional federal grants amounting to \$403,937.97, to carry on certain projects now operating and to initiate new projects throughout the state.

"These WPA grants will serve to continue and increase the purchasing power of the workers besides providing considerable more work for those now unemployed and especially at this time of the year when there is no seasonal work available. Merchants and workers alike will benefit from these allotments", Abel stated.

The state-wide educational program covering vocational training, safety education and workers educational projects, receives the largest allotment, being \$146,415. The University of Washington receives \$13,158 to provide employment for needy professional, educational and clerical persons in preparing and conducting correspondence courses in high school and college work for persons desiring to continue their education but due to lack of finances are unable to complete their high school education or to enter college. This project also operates state-wide.

King County ranks second with total WPA grants of \$142,501.24. The Seattle School district No. 1 receiving \$95,735 for improvements to various schools throughout the city, such as renovating and landscaping. The Seattle Public Library system receives \$38,679 for the same purpose and Vashon Island receives \$8087.24 to construct sidewalks along various public thoroughfares.

Spokane County receives \$27,094 to improve farm-to-market roads throughout the county.

Snohomish County School district No. 15 will improve high school and grade school buildings with a WPA appropriation of \$1,730.00. The City of Everett will be assisted in the preparation of a new file of city records with \$750, of federal funds.

The City of Tacoma receives WPA funds amounting to \$4080 to provide clerical workers to index files for deeds, contracts etc. and to provide a card index file for deposit records of commercial and industrial plant contracts.

Camano Island, Island County draws \$21,267 for reconstruction of farm-to-market roads.

Olympia will improve their water distribution system with a WPA grant of \$3,777 with school district No. 12 near Olympia using \$699 to replace the roof and paint the Collins grade school.

Chelan County receives \$1,356 to assist in cataloging and repairing books in high school libraries for the the construction of recreational facilities in parks including work on sewers and buildings, \$3,491 has been made available.

Yakima County Clerk's office has received \$2,013 to employ clerical workers to prepare a new file of records.

Walla Walla has received \$423 to assist in operating library services.

Clallam County Commissioners have received \$29,973.63 to carry on rural road improvement projects.

Mason County has \$5,240 made available from WPA funds for continuation of work on farm-to-market roads.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

"Are Bremerton's children inclined to be warlike, or just too playful?"

This question was brought to the minds of the WPA "white collar" workers recently when they were codifying Bremerton's city ordinances and discovered two acts, one passed 28 years ago and the other this year, to stop citizens of any age from dangerous, imitations of war-like activities.

A 1909 law still prohibits shooting of air guns and sling-shots or exploding of terpedoes, or other explosives in public places. Another wave of juvenile military antics seems to have burst forth again this year for the city fathers got the situation well in hand by again passing an emergency measure against persons who fire sling shots, "B.B." guns, bean-shooters and other similiar aggressive weapons.

Bremerton also had other legal taboos "for the safety and welfare of inhabitants" that still appear on the index of ordinances prepared by WPA workers. A lottery act, obviously including punch boards, passed in 1909. Up until 1931, when an ordinance set up a boxing commission, an old law forbade "any two or more persons to agree to or to fight by agreement." If this act did not hamper the navy it certainly would have declared Mayor Jesse Knabb a law-breaker if he had then staged his recent knock-out fight against the mysterious masked opponent. For 28 years Bremertonites have had to control their yearning for cock fights, bear fights, and the wearing of hats in theatres which was a real menace to vision at the turn of the century.

On completion of the Bremerton codifying work Mayor Knabb stated that the "city commission is deeply grateful to the WPA for the splendid job just finished, and find that the much needed revision of ordinances will be of lasting benefit to all departments of the city." More than 100 obsolete Bremerton ordinances are listed for repeal as a result of this project.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Work is expected to start November 29th for the improvement of the grounds and the construction of tennis courts, grandstand and other recreational appurtenances for the Arlington High School, Arlington, Snohomish County, was the announcement made by Don G. Abel, State Administrator today.

In the application made by the School Board to the Works Progress Administration for funds to take care of the labor on the project, it was stated that this would be the only tennis court in the town and that over 600 enthusiastic citizens would be benefited.

The WPA allotment for labor on the project amounts to \$6,598 to which the School Board contributed \$3,351.20 for equipment and material. Fifteen men will be employed some eight months to complete the work in time for the tennis season next year.

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Seattle, Washington, November 24, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Opening operations on the first unit in the reconstruction of county roads in Pierce County, the Hart's Lake Loop and Gehring farm-to-market roads, will see activity slated to begin December 9, Don G. Abel, state director of the Works Progress Administration, announced today.

The project which includes considerable work to be done in Tacoma on Tacoma Avenue and Cleveland and Hendricks streets has been allotted \$41,892 of WPA funds and will provide employment for about 179 men to be taken from relief rolls.

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Seattle, Washington, November 24, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

A new use for a famous old landmark in Bellingham has been found with a recently approved Works Progress Administration project designed to convert the old Fairhaven Hotel into a community recreational center and headquarters for local public welfare agencies. With definite word from Don G. Abel, WPA state director, the question of what to do with the county-owned historic building is now settled.

Dismantling operations are expected to get underway November 26, when the federal allotment of \$14,428 is made available. Following this, offices for housing the welfare agencies will be provided and various rooms will be revamped fitting them to the accepted mode of recreational activities.

Originally the County Commissioner's plans called for this once famous hostelry being converted into a County Hospital and Tuberculosis Sanitorium but the project was abandoned when engineers inspected the building and discovered that the interior would have to be completely rebuilt to provide adequate hospitalization conditions and accompanying costs would be excessive.

Old timers will recall when distinguished guests from all parts of the world stopped at the old Fairhaven Hotel. In those days it was reputed to be the swankiest hotel in northwest Washington and described in such words as appeared in the July, 1902, issue of the now defunct "The Coast," a magazine covering Pacific Northwest people and places.

"The finest hotel building in the Northwest," it said, "is at this place, (Fairhaven) fitted and furnished throughout with all modern conveniences in elegance and comfort."

From the original owners, the Pacific Realty Company of South Bellingham, the building eventually became the property of Whatcom County.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Don G. Abel, state director of the Works Progress Administration, today announced approval of a \$16,245 farm-to-market road improvement project for Asotin County.

Throughout the county the roads will be graded, resurfaced and generally reconditioned. The project is slated to begin about November 29th and will be completed about April of 1938, with labor taken from local relief rolls.

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Seattle, Washington, November 24, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

New living quarters for a portion of the 82,000 game birds raised annually by the State Game Commission is guaranteed under a joint Works Progress Administration grant of \$11,895 and a state allotment of \$3,617, according to an announcement made today by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. The state-owned game farm near Auburn, one of several such farms maintained by the commission throughout the state, is the beneficiary.

The work of clearing, grubbing, seeding the grounds, building setting and rearing pens, fences and similar improvements is expected to begin December 6 and be ready for occupancy March 5, 1938. Other improvements slated under this project include remodeling the garage, building a septic tank and repairing the superintendent's house.

Due to the increasing popularity of bird hunting and the consequent heavy toll in birds taken by the followers of the sport throughout the state a speedup in production of birds by the game farms has been called for. The State Game Commission through the WPA and other agencies of the state is endeavoring to meet the increased demand.

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Seattle, Washington, November 24, 1937

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PR-337

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

An adequate domestic water supply for Gold Bar, Snohomish County, is assured under a recent Works Progress Administration allotment of \$8,627, for setting up a project to construct a conversion dam and lay a feeder pipe to the town. The work, according to Don G. Abel, WPA state director, will begin approximately November 26, 1937.

In applying for the federal grant the town of Gold Bar raised \$3,008 to buy pipe and other needed materials. The 25 men slated to work on the project will be drawn from the unemployed rolls of Snohomish County.

The finishing touches on the dam, pipeline and the road which will give access to the dam is expected to be completed by March, 1938.

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Seattle, Washington, November 24, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Completion of the construction of 150 concrete tower footings in King County for Seattle City Light power transmission line No. 2 by WPA workers is assured with the announcement yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator that a Federal allotment of \$12,022 has been made that will put 85 men to work near Renton.

WPA workers began clearing the right-of-way for this transmission line, in King County a year ago, where it runs from near Bothell, around the east side of Lake Washington, by way of Renton to the South Sub-station at Fourth South and Spokane, Street, Seattle. The entire line will carry power from Diablo dam, through Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish and King Counties. Actual construction of tower foundations in King County began in January of this year.

There are only 16 tower footings left to construct, after which private contractors will erect galvanized steel transmission towers averaging 110 feet in height. Excavations for the tower footings are made by relief workers to a depth of 15 feet under difficult conditions of bad earth formations, quick sand, water and other hazards to progress, according to the project supervisor.

H. D. Strandberg, transmission engineer for City Light, states that a WPA crew of 150 to 175 men are now working on the clearing project for this transmission line in Snohomish county, and that the job is about 25 per cent completed. They are clearing a strip 200 feet wide on the power line route. The entire line will be 121.8 miles long when finished, next July, according to Strandberg. City light is providing \$2,565 in addition to the WPA grant.

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Seattle, Washington, November 24, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

The Port of Olympia is making a definite bid for world trade with the new harbor facilities made possible by W.P.A. grants now totaling more than \$87,296, Don G. Abel, state WPA director stated today.

"With harbor facilities rapidly assuming modern form under a fourth W.P.A. project, now approximately 60 per cent completed, the largest ocean-going vessels will be able to berth, be unloaded and loaded with the same dispatch offered by other important world ports." Abel stated.

No decisive effort to improve shipping conditions at Olympia was made until recently. This took no definite trend until November 1935, with the establishment of the first W.P.A. project designed to improve the harbor facilities. Wharfs were reconstructed and made safe for heavy railway and crane equipment, transit sheds built, roadways surfaced, railroad spurs leading to the docks constructed and a rock bulkhead, now under construction, were among the first four W.P.A. projects.

An average of 41 men have been employed daily for two years and the port authorities expect this number to be retained under the two additional proposed projects now waiting W.P.A. approval to complete the work.

"Value of the assistance rendered by the Works Progress Administration to the Port of Olympia and the taxpayers of Thurston County and through them to the industries and commerce of Southwestern Washington is incaluable; without the WPA aid it would have been difficult and probably impossible to carry on this improvement work without calling on the taxpayers for additional assistance" Ernest Gribble, Port Manager declared.

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Seattle, Washington, December 2, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Works Progress Administration officials reported today that the application for a survey of the Snohomish River flood situation presented by the Intercounty Flood Control Commission at Everett November 4, has been forwarded to Washington, D. C. for consideration.

Although accepted for consideration by the local WPA authorities, the officials pointed out, final approval must come from Washington.

Of the \$3,038,671 allotted by the federal government for flood control work in the Puget Sound District more than \$2,116,741 has been expended, according to a recent announcement made by the United States Army Engineers' office. And to this sum the state added \$34,385 and a further \$244,507 by the ten counties in the district.

During the period of more than two years in which the flood control work has been under the army engineers, 15 projects have been completed and 8 are now in operation. Projects have been finished or are now operating in Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish, Grays Harbor, Clallam, Jefferson, King, Mason, Pierce and Thurston counties. Approximately 634 men, taken from WPA rolls, are employed.

Danger points on more than the 30 streams worked on were strengthened by the removal of snags, straightening of channels, erecting dikes and construction of brush revetments. The revetments are designed to form a solid bank that will resist immense river pressure over a large area of the streams bank. In some cases the next to unbreakable one-piece wall of soil deposits and boulders held together by the revetment stretches from 25 and 30 thousand feet.

Allotments covering flood survey and control, ranging from \$6,600 to \$313,500, depending on the size of the stream and the amount of work called for, have been made for projects on the following streams: Nooksack, Skagit, Stillaguamish, Pilchuck, Skykomish, Quinault, Chehalis, Bagley, Jimmy-Come-Lately (Clallam County), Docewallips, Snoqualmie, Cedar, Green, Skokomish, Coffee (Mason), Puyallup, Carbon, Des Chutes, Yeln, Skookunchuck and numerous smaller rivers and creeks.

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Seattle, Washington, December 2, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

New projects totaling \$18,723 in WPA funds are scheduled for December in Clark and Skamania counties, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator.

First to begin is improvement work on the building and grounds at the school just south of Ridgefield in District No. 59. With a WPA allotment of \$843, workers drawn from relief rolls will begin December 6 on the leveling and surfacing of grounds, preparing a slide, building floor, remodeling kitchen, constructing a ceiling and fixing walls and tables. School District No. 59 is sponsoring the project with an additional \$488.

At the Mount Pleasant School, in District No. 29, about six miles east of Washougal, both the school building and playfield are scheduled for substantial improvements. About December 20, a WPA crew will be assembled for excavating, clearing, grubbing, grading, draining and fencing of a playground with a WPA investment of \$6,509; School District authorities furnish \$54, for materials. Planting trees and landscaping are included in this project. Improvements on the building, for which WPA provides \$2,322, includes excavating for a basement, building the foundation, modernizing the plumbing and water supply systems, installing toilets, pipe and fixtures, razing an old shed, and painting. All work will be performed on school property except what is required at the source of water supply and on the pipe line transmitting water, Abel said. Easements have been obtained for this part of the project. The sponsor adds \$715 for this improvement for materials.

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Pedestrians at Camas will "get a break" as well as WPA workers, for a project scheduled to begin December 20 calls for construction of sidewalks and curbs along public thoroughfares throughout the city. A WPA allotment of \$9,049 augmented by \$5,952 in city funds will finance the work, sponsored by the City of Camas.

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Seattle, Washington, December 3, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Don G. Abel, State Director of the Works Progress Administration, today announced approval of a \$148,458 project to improve the water distribution system in the Kenwood district, in Seattle.

More than 200 men taken from relief rolls will have about eight months employment, Abel stated.

The district affected lies between 15th avenue NE and Lake Washington and north of E 85th street to E 155th street. The projects calls for excavating, laying pipes, installing fire hydrants and necessary tunneling and backfilling.

No additional taxes or assessments will be placed on property holders as a result of the improvement. Of the total investment the WPA has made \$108,070 available from federal funds.

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Seattle, Washington, December 3, 1937

Don G. Abel, state director of the Works Progress Administration, today announced additional federal grants amounting to \$426,393 to care for the increase in WPA enrollment of more than 9,000 persons within the last month.

"From October 23 to December 2 the WPA employment rolls have increased from 20,926 to 29,436" Abel stated. "Projects are being scheduled to operate 8 hours per day rather than the usual 6 in order that as many project workers as possible will get in their scheduled hours and receive their checks before Christmas which otherwise would be delayed until after the holidays" he continued.

Monday of this week 12 labor W.P.A. projects will be under way with allotments totaling \$238,011. Largest project is the complete renovation of the water distributing system of Kenwood District, Seattle, with the aid of \$108,070 in WPA funds, and providing 211 men eight months' work. An Auburn street paving project begins this week, giving 175 men jobs for nine months with a W.P.A. allotment of \$93,509. Benefiting 400 residents of Magnolia Bluff, Seattle, in a sewer project, requiring \$2,135 in W.P.A. funds, and giving two months work to 16 men. A Seattle sewer project, at West Prospect and Van Buren was allotted \$1,140. School repair or school ground improvements were started this week at Ridgefield with an allotment of \$843. At Snohemish schools four months work will be given a crew with the aid of \$7,860 from W.P.A. The Taylor school gets \$2,261 for W.P.A. work repair. The Washougal athletic field-WPA allotment is \$2,147. Foot-paths are included in ground improvements for the Fort Orchard Park with \$1,207; and the Retsil Soldier's Home, nearby, receives 6,040 for grounds and landscaping improvement work. Two Poulsbo projects, one for sidewalks and the other for water system improvement, total \$5,919. Pe Ell started a street project with \$6,880 from W.P.A. funds.

The following Monday a street and alley project gets under-way at Blaine with \$25,756 from W.P.A. The largest project scheduled to begin next week is the Bellingham street improvement work with W.P.A. aid totaling \$63,348. Roads on Widby Island call for \$23,002, and a dike near Everett \$2,084. Wenatchee water mains project will be started next week, also with WPA providing \$50,355. Other WPA allotments to set up projects Monday are announced for drainage work near Sunnyside, amounting to \$2,084; and for additional State Fair Grounds improvement at Yakima, \$12,832.

New projects to begin December 20, are those at Mount Pleasant School in Skamania county with \$2,322; and Camas sidewalks with \$6,599 W.P.A. funds.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

The finishing touches to the creation of what is said will be the most beautiful college campus in the west will begin this week with the opening operations of a new Works Progress Administration project. The plans designed, under a series of projects of which this is the culminating one, will give the University of Washington a campus second to none in beauty of landscape, according to the university buildings and grounds engineers.

The WPA grant for the present project is the largest single federal allotment to the university and, according to present estimates, will complete the final grading, landscaping and building of retaining walls. The federal allotment is for \$240,790 and the university of \$107,865, according to an announcement from Don G. Abel, WPA state administrator.

Work under the authority of this project began Monday December 6. The former crew of men laboring on several smaller projects dealing with various angles of the program will be retained, said Abel. When under full swing the present project will allow a total employment roll of 372 men.

Launched shortly after the inception of the WPA in 1935, this series of projects is expected to be terminated late next summer. All work including the library quadrangle, Rainier Vista, Geyser Basin and all the landscaping will be completed by then.

The larger portion of work under the new project will consist of close grading, extensive terracing, planting of flowers, shrubs, trees, grass and otherwise dressing up the adjacent terrain.

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Seattle, Washington, December 7, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Rhode Island, the smallest state in the Union, and yet one laying claim to a greater number of historic sites and other points of interest than many larger, is subject of the latest volume published in the American Guide series being prepared by the Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration.

The full title of the 500-page book is "Rhode Island, A Guide to the Smallest State", and like its companion volumes on Massachusetts and Vermont, it issues from the presses of Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, Massachusetts.

Interesting essays on the general background of the state, ranging from history to education and religion comprise 175 pages. Exhaustive treatment is given the cities of Newport and Providence, and there are 11 major tours outlined. The work is finely illustrated, and supplemented by a number of good maps.

The State of Rhode Island formally sponsored the volume, through the office of Louis W. Cappelli, secretary of state. The director of the project is Jarvis M. Morse, working under the supervision of Henry G. Alsberg, national director of the Federal Writers' Project. The book is the fourth state volume to appear in the American Guide series.

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Seattle, Washington, December 10, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

The University of Washington Stadium, Seattle, will go into the final stage of construction December 21, when a Works Progress Administration allotment of \$23,345 is made available, according to Don G. Abel, state director.

A three-story headhouse will be built over the main entrance. The first floor of the structure will be occupied by ticket offices, storage rooms and public lavatories while the second floor will be given over to caretakers' apartments.

Equipment for a public address system, and an observation room will find a place on the third floor. Surmounting the structure will be a cupola and balcony from which a battery of searchlights will aid in illuminating the field for night play.

In addition, a rounding out of the seating capacity of the bowl will be undertaken. A top deck of 14 rows of bleacher seats will extend those constructed under a former WPA project, along the north and south sides of the stadium, around the closed end of the horseshoe.

The buildings and additional seating capacity is slated to be finished by March 20.

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Seattle, Washington, December 11, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Don G. Abel, state director of the Works Progress Administration, today announced allocation of more than half a million dollars for 15 new projects to start immediately.

"This brings out total allotments in the last three weeks to over \$1,200,000 and adds more than 3,000 needy workers to the WPA payroll which now totals 32,000 persons." Abel stated.

Largest new single project announced yesterday is a city-wide street improvement job for Bremerton with WPA funds totalling \$238,591. Sponsor's appropriations add another \$34,486 for materials, and other supplies as well as for special non-relief workers. Work begins on this big project December 21.

Next Monday reconstruction of water mains throughout Wenatchee is set to begin with \$50,355 WPA assistance. In Tacoma two park improvement and recreation projects, a storm sewer job and a school playfield improvement project will all be under way before the end of next week with a total of \$121,133, from WPA. Other allotments include: Tumwater, \$2,522 for school grounds; Ferndale, \$10,599 for schools remodeling; Snoqualmie, \$7,860 for a similar project; Chehalis, \$1,483 for school recreational facilities; drainage of Salzer Creek to improve Lewis County fair grounds, \$10,965; Everett streets, \$21,828; the Stricker road near Milton, \$4,087; bulkheads and other improvement of Pier 40, Seattle, \$24,553; and street work at Deer Park, \$9,598.

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Seattle, Washington, December 11, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Almost a quarter million dollars in Works Progress Administration funds, allotted for construction projects, slated to begin during December, will seek to lighten the unemployment rolls of southwestern Washington this winter, according to Don G. Abel, state administrator.

Clark County, the beneficiary having the largest single project in the group, will receive \$125,588 in federal funds for a county-wide road improvement and modernization project. Four projects, the first beginning December 4 and the last January 4 is expected to employ more than 500 men.

In Tacoma the construction of a temporary road and installation of storm sewers will call for an additional \$50,270, while another project also in Pierce County will feature the reconstruction of a portion of Stricker Road, near Milton. The Stricker Road project will employ 33 men and require \$4,087 in WPA funds.

Puyallup City Park will be cleared and fenced under a WPA allotment of \$38,618, and expected to be completed by July 8, next summer. Storm and sanitary sewers again will be the subject of another federal financed project in Olympia where \$14,390 of government money and \$5,835 local funds will be invested between December 9 and April 8, next spring.

Repairs to the buildings on the Salzer Creek Fairgrounds, near Chehalis, is slated for completion March 3, under a project allotting \$10,965 in federal funds.

Oyster shell for road topping is a unique feature of a road in Grays Harbor County that will shorten the distance about one-quarter mile from the Ocosta School to the homes of children living east of the school. An approximate total of \$3,238 will be expended with the WPA furnishing \$2,157 of the amount.

Grays Harbor County has another road project under construction, expected to be finished February 18. This farm-to-market project is operating with a federal allotment of \$1,550.

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Seattle, Washington, December 13, 1937

BH

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Paced by a playground improvement project for the Tacoma grade school, East 54th and Eye streets, with an allotment of \$16,890, the Works Progress Administration outlay for school improvement projects to date for December totals \$58,463, said a recent announcement from Don G. Abel, WPA state administrator.

Another playfield project beginning this week in Tacoma is at Stanley Grade School. The WPA's allotment of \$9,921 was matched by the Tacoma School District's \$300 making possible the completion of the grounds improvements by May 18, next spring.

Partial wrecking of the building before remodeling is possible will be undertaken at the Junior High School building at Ferndale, Whatcom County, according to engineer's specifications. The remodeling and installation of a heating unit will cost \$10,924, being supplied from federal funds. The work began December 13, with the completion scheduled for March 13, next spring.

The grade and high school playfields at Snoqualmie, Snohomish County, will have new tennis courts in addition to a general overhauling of the grounds as a result of a new project that began the fore part of the month. The work on the grounds and buildings will consume \$7,860 in WPA monies and \$422 in local funds.

Forty-one men are billed to start work December 21, on the Maple Leaf grade school building in King County when \$5,963 in a federal allotment will be available for this work. Two months is considered sufficient to complete the remodeling.

Repairs to the Lake City grade school, Seattle, will employ 22 men and require an expenditure of nearly \$4,000. February 21, is the date of completion.

Another school building and grounds improvement project is operating at the Tumwater schools, Thurston County, where \$2,522 in WPA funds is allotted.

The Cascade and West Side Grade School, Chehalis, received \$1,483 for a project slated to begin December 20, according to Abel. Fifteen men will be employed.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Work is scheduled to begin December 21 on the improvement of streets throughout Kirkland, with the aid of \$47,541 in WPA funds and a WPA crew of 135, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

Abel said the project would benefit 4,000 residents of the community and provide needed employment for men from the relief rolls for approximately six months.

A feature of the work not previously found in such WPA improvements is the construction of curbs and gutters. Work will include clearing, grubbing, excavating, grading, sloping, ditching, draining, surfacing, constructing curbs and gutters, installing culverts, and graveling.

The city of Kirkland, as sponsor is furnishing \$5,624 for materials and supplies as well as part of the equipment.

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Seattle, Washington, December 14, 1937

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

200 Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

Word of \$25,081 for WPA construction work in Yakima County was received today from the office of Don G. Abel, State Administrator, with the employment of 123 men from WPA rolls on projects to start December 28.

The Washington State Fair grounds at Yakima will be landscaped, the trees topped and a cess-pool constructed. An allotment of \$9,845 has been made by WPA, the Department of Agriculture, as sponsors, pledging \$2,186. Forty-six men from WPA rolls will be employed five months.

At the east city limits of Yakima the grounds will be cleared, leveled and landscaped around the Municipal incinerator. The allotment for this work from WPA is \$9,000 with \$500 from the sponsors, the City of Yakima. Fifty-two men from WPA rolls will be required for the work with the expectation that it will require four months to complete.

In School District #49, Toppenish, twenty-five men will be employed to construct an Athletic Field. The allotment by WPA is \$6,236 with the School District pledging \$1,646.86.

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December 17, 1937, Seattle, Washington

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Old Kris Kringle is getting some valuable help in Centralia, where a staff of 15 women are busy making new toys and repairing old ones for children of needy families in Lewis County. Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator announced yesterday that \$ 1, 652 in WPA funds have been allotted for the work which will be carried on through the holiday season.

The State Department of Social Security, as official sponsor of the project, has provided supervision quarters, lights, heat, water and telephone. Things are humming in this busy " Santa Claus workshop" at 208 North Pearl Street, with the aid of community donated cloth, wood, stuffing, paint and varnish. Dolls that need a bit of plastic surgery to bring back their pleasant smiles are being made into gifts to delight young feminine hearts, while battered toy trucks, drums and countless trinkets are getting spruced up for happy new owners.

An efficient Community Council, representing various Centralia clubs and civic organizations, is providing helpful cooperation to make this unique WPA project a success.

Abel states it is the first WPA project of its kind to operate in Washington this season, and was set up to provide needed employment to women who show special skill in the work, many of whom have had previous experience in toy-making.

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December 17, 1937, Seattle, Washington.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

Christmas payrolls are assured federal workers from relief rolls.

In compliance with national WPA arrangements for rescheduling project operations so that security wage earners may receive as much work as possible before Christmas, Don G. Abel, State Administrator announced yesterday that the estimated total of payroll checks to be issued in Washington to WPA and National Youth Administration employees, December 1, to 24, would amount to approximately \$1,900,000.

Employment under the Works Progress Administration has been rising steadily in Washington during the last three months, and with increasing rapidity during December. Arrangements have been made to deliver checks to workers before Christmas for all earnings shown on payrolls submitted to Treasury Accounts office before noon, December 21, Abel said.

Aubrey Williams, national Deputy Works Progress Administrator, stated that in Washington, D. C. the estimated December earnings of WPA and NYA workers before Christmas this year throughout the country would amount to nearly \$85,000,000. Of the total investment to meet needed employment Washington enjoys thirteenth place in December payrolls, although it ranks only thirtieth in population. More than 32,000 WPA workers will benefit by the pre-Christmas rescheduling of payrolls, according to State Administrator Abel, with every employee given opportunity to earn maximum wages before the holiday.

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Seattle, Washington December 17, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator disclosed yesterday that purchases will be made immediately for WPA materials and supplies required during the next three months, in compliance with a request by President Roosevelt through WPA Administrator, Harry Hopkins, to aid business recovery.

"We have been authorized by Administrator Hopkins to make commitments to sponsors on the basis that present WPA employment will continue on the present level at least until April 1, 1938", said Abel. " Furthermore, we are making every effort to persuade sponsors to make advance purchases of materials needed during the same period. In this way WPA and sponsors can cooperate in the advance purchasing policy recommended by the President for all federal agencies."

The advance purchasing program in Washington will mean an immediate distribution of many thousands of dollars, Abel said. It is the first time such a policy has been adopted by WPA.

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December 17, 1937, Seattle, Washington.

Between 20 and 30 projects, involving more than \$400,000 in Works Progress Administration funds, will be started throughout the state during the last two weeks of the year in an effort to give work to the steadily increasing number of unemployed, it was revealed by Administrator Don G. Abel, today.

The largest single project, expected to swing into action December 20, is financed by a WPA grant of \$174,763, and will provide the City of Vancouver, Wash. with an entirely rebuilt domestic water system within one year.

Another project, giving employment to 150 men, will operate in Seattle cleaning up Smith Cove Piers 40 and 41. It is designed to lead the way to the modernization of these two largest piers in the world. The WPA allotted \$35,227 to carry on this project.

Operating on an allotment of \$12,121, a sanitary sewer construction project will begin groundbreaking Monday following Christmas in Tacoma with an estimated crew of 67 men. A second project, in the same city, will construct a 2,400-foot drainage ditch at an estimated cost to the government of \$11,499, Abel said.

East Wenatchee will receive \$19,390, December 20 for a sanitary sewer system while 45 unemployed will be put to work on a flood control project in the Salzer Creek Valley, Lewis County, under a \$10,965 allotment. White Salmon, Klickitat County, was granted \$7,683 for the reconstruction of their water supply system.

Several road-building projects are slated to begin during the near-close of the year. An allotment of \$23,340, will go for the construction of roads near Raymond; \$17,520 will give jobs to 33 additional men on the roads near South Bend, both in Pacific County. Roads in the vicinity of Homes Harbor Island County received \$17,220, allowing the employment of 66 men, while an allotment of \$2,580 will serve to construct a farm-to-market link near East Stanwood, Snohomish County.

Eight projects, designed to improve school buildings or school grounds, are led by a \$48,966 allotment slated to begin work clearing and improving the Battle Creek School grounds, Clark County. Improvements to the athletic field of the Union High School, near Kent, will begin shortly after the beginning of the new year. The project has been allotted \$17,597, in federal funds, it was disclosed by Abel. An allotment of \$4,035 will provide a second project for this school and will feature the construction of fire escapes in addition to general repair work.

Other school grants provide \$3,225, for repairs to the Lake City, King County, grade school building; \$3,628, for the construction of a cafeteria and storeroom at the Washougal school, Clark County; \$4,262, to build a playshed at the Burton school, King County; and \$1,028, to install a furnace and lights and for general repairs at the Marblemount school, Skagit County.

Construction of bridle paths, rustic bridges and general landscaping in Puget Park, Tacoma, is scheduled under a WPA allotment of \$7,416. The project started operating this week.

Three projects, designed to give employment to white collar workers, calls for an expenditure of nearly \$12,000. Of this amount \$780 is allotted for work in the Puyallup City Library; \$5,200 for the purpose of checking timber growths in Grays Harbor County and the consequent preparation of maps for the information of the lumber industry; and \$5,800 allotted to the Secretary of State's Office, Olympia. The Olympia project is for the purpose of folding, binding and covering pamphlets and books. The help provided the Secretary of State will not displace any regularly employed person in that office, Abel said.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

200 Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

Don G. Abel, State Administrator for the Works Progress Administration in State of Washington will be heard over KJR Tuesday evening, December 21, at 8:15 to 8:30 P.M. He will speak on "The Works Progress Administration in the State of Washington."

Seattle, Washington, December 20, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Three Pierce County projects begin this week under the WPA, one in Thurston County and another in Grays Harbor County, according to an announcement yesterday from the office of Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. WPA allotments for the three projects total \$40,372.

Tacoma's projects total \$21,413 from WPA. To provide employment for needy persons on relief rolls an allotment of \$6,900 has been made, Abel, said, for labor in cleaning and renovating public buildings in Tacoma, such as the city hall, library, and others which have not been done by WPA before. The work includes cleaning walls, woodwork, furniture and washing and repairing furnishings and drapes. This project employs mostly women and the funds will carry it until about June 1, 1938, Tacoma as sponsor is supplying materials needed with \$740.

To continue improvements at the Jovita Grade School, in District No. 342, \$9,878 has been provided by WPA for clearing and preparing an up-to-day playgrounds. School District No. 342, as sponsor furnishes \$1,230 for materials. It is expected this job will keep a WPA crew busy until the last of April. For constructing a one story and basement gymnasium WPA has allotted \$4,635 more, and the school district \$70.

Largest of the projects in terms of allotments is the continuance of the sewing projects in Thurston County until January 1, with \$17,682 from WPA, and \$1,900 from the sponsors, the State Department of Social Security, and Thurston County commissioners.

At Aberdeen the "E" Street approach to the Wishkah Street Bridge will be improved through WPA funds totalling \$1,277 and an appropriation from the City of \$1,112.50. A WPA crew begins immediately on the removing of the old trestle, and construction of a new trestle, including concrete floor slabs. The job will require three months to complete.

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Seattle, Washington, December 21, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Completion of the Freshman football and practice field on the University of Washington campus, Seattle, was assured yesterday with the announcement by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator that \$22,705 has just been allotted for the work. Eighteen WPA men began work this morning and the crew will be increased to more than 50 during the next two weeks.

This WPA project began last January when a WPA crew was brought in to grade, drain, level and spread top soil on an area just east of the athletic pavillion through a WPA allotment of \$24,771 for labor and \$3,657 from the university for necessary materials and equipment rentals.

It is expected that by April 20 the field will be completed including seeding of the entire area, says Abel, but the turf can not be used before next fall. The University furnished \$1,207 for this new project to supply seed and other needed materials. In addition to football practice the area will be used for various field events.

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Seattle, Washington, December 21, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Further improvements to the Washington State Fairgrounds, near Yakima, will be started December 28, by a new \$9,845, Works Progress Administration project, according to an announcement from Don G. Abel, WPA administrator.

In addition to the construction of a rock wall and general landscaping, riprapping will be laid and cesspools built. The work, supplementing a former project that repaired the exhibit buildings and the grandstand, is expected to be completed the latter part of next May.

The State of Washington Department of Agriculture, sponsor of the project, is furnishing \$2,185, for the purchase of grass seed and materials needed in the construction work.

Another project, recently approved, to operate in the City of Yakima will undertake the repairing and renovating of damaged books at the City Library. Wages for the four persons employed on this project will amount to \$1,808, for a period of 9 months, said Abel.

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Seattle, Washington, December 21, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

Don G. Abel, State Administrator of the Works Progress Administration, today announced that a project is being set-up to clear the area to be flooded in the Columbia River Basin when the Grand Coulee Dam is completed. This project will employ 3,000 men for a period of three years and calls for an investment of approximately \$9,000,000.

Negotiations have been completed between the Works Progress Administration and Frank A. Banks of the Bureau of Reclamation in charge of the Grand Coulee Dam, regarding this work which covers the area along the Columbia River from the Grand Coulee Dam to the Canadian border, a distance of 150 miles.

The project involves the clearing of 28,440 acres of land, the removal of 250 miles of fencing, 100 miles of telephone lines, 1200 buildings; and the moving of three cemeteries. It includes the construction of 77.91 miles of primary state highway and 58.63 miles of secondary county highway; the construction of 26 miles of main-line railroad and 2.65 miles of siding and spur tracks for the Great Northern Railroad; the construction of 25.5 miles of telephone lines and the removal of a like amount; the construction of 158 miles of three-strand barbed wire fence; the removal and construction of three small timber bridges; the construction of one 110-foot timber trestle and two 36-foot span overpasses. It also includes the placing of 368,630 cubic yards of rip-rap for bank protection along the Great Northern Railway tracks; also all other work necessary and incidental to the main construction.

Mr. Abel plans to leave for Washington, D. C., shortly after the first of the year to confer with the officials of the Bureau of Reclamation and the WPA regarding approval of the project.

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Seattle, Washington, December 21, 1937

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## WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

200 Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

Where, when and how to stop, go and turn is the problem whose solution will be sought by the latest Works Progress Administration project for Spokane.

A city-wide traffic survey will be undertaken by WPA workers under the sponsorship of the City Traffic Department beginning December 30, it was disclosed today by Don G. Abel, WPA state administrator.

The project, employing at least five checkers, is expected to run for six months and will cost the federal government \$11,544, Abel said.

Experienced traffic officers will have direct supervision of the WPA checkers and all information will be turned over to the city traffic division to be used as a guide for future improvements.

The survey is expected to reveal the effect of recent changes in traffic regulations. This will be possible through the means of diagrams, vehicle volume counts, speed studies and street parking data. Observation of pedestrian obedience to traffic signals will supplement the other studies.

Because it was not a normal function of the Spokane Police Department and the city budget made no provision for this work, Abel said, it was possible for the WPA to undertake the survey.

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Seattle, Washington, December 22, 1937

## WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building      Seattle, Washington

Don G. Abel, State director of the Works Progress Administration, today announced receipt of approval from Washington D. C. to increase the employment rolls of the state to 38,000 persons in January, 1938.

"The decrease in private employment and the subsequent turn to relief agencies by persons eligible for WPA certification has increased our need for a larger WPA employment quota", Abel stated.

The WPA now employs approximately 34,204 persons throughout the state. Projects are operating in every county with the exception of a few localities where it is impossible to operate or where the projects have not been properly sponsored by local governmental officials, Abel continued.

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Seattle, Washington, December 31, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Against the traditionally grim background of military severity at the Vancouver, Washington Barracks the softening touch of fresh green plots of grass and shrubs, touched off by patches of floral color, will liven the surroundings by next May when a WPA landscaping project is scheduled for completion, according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. More than 50 men obtained needed employment today on this job through a WPA allotment of \$12,720, and an additional pledge of \$2,176 through the sponsorship of the Commanding Officer of the Barracks.

The project calls for clearing, grubbing and performing all incidental tasks needed to properly landscape the area.

Two other WPA projects for the U.S. Army will get under way Thursday. An allotment of \$5,624 has been combined with a sponsor's contribution of \$1,176 to improve the grounds around the Alaska Communication System Transmitter Station in West Seattle. About 30 men will begin on this job while 20 others will start the same day at Fort Lawton removing aerial poles, transmission poles, guys, and antennae and resetting them at a new location for an improved receiving station. WPA has provided \$4,230 for this work and the Army, through the Commanding officer has added another \$400. The work at both stations will be completed early in April, Abel stated.

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Seattle, Washington, January 5, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

With the aid of a WPA allotment of \$10,000 the improvement of the Military road near Spanaway will start next Monday, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. More than 30 men will make up the initial WPA crew.

Clearing operations are included as a necessary part of the widening and rebuilding of the road. The project which is being sponsored by Pierce County Commissioners is benefiting by an additional \$4,817 from that source for necessary equipment and supplies. It is estimated the work will require six months and benefit more than 1,000 persons of the vicinity.

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Seattle, Washington, January 5, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Publication of the Washington State volume in the American Guide series is hoped for late this spring, according to James W. Egan, state director of the Federal Writers' Project, WPA, which has been spent 18 months in gathering material.

Before publication can be undertaken, however, the Washington guidebook must be formally sponsored by the State or one of its tax-supported agencies. It is probable that the State Progress Commission will apply for permission to issue the volume.

"The purpose of the Washington State Guide apparently is misunderstood in some quarters," declares Director Egan. "It is not a history of the State, or was it ever planned as such. It is going to be the first official guidebook Washington ever has had, and it will contain all the information any visitor to the State might seek, including fully outlined tours to every point of interest.

"No government funds can be used to print or distribute this guidebook. It should be financed by the State as a valuable part of its advertising program, since this book alone tells where to go and what to see. Even now much material compiled a year ago is being revised to make it completely up-to-date when the copy is turned over to the sponsoring agency. Other states already are capitalizing on the American Guide; like opportunity is open to Washington."

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Seattle, Washington, January 5, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

A project to further beautify the grounds of the Washington State Soldiers' Home at Retsil, will start Thursday, January 6, when a WPA crew will begin extensive improvements to the cemetery, it was announced today by Don Abel, state administrator of the Works Progress Administration. WPA funds amounting to \$9,876 have been allotted for the work.

Although the schedule calls for completion June 30, both the crew and the supervisors, as well as officials of the Retsil Home, as sponsors, hope to complete beautifying the cemetery a month earlier in time for Memorial Day ceremonies.

Plans call for clearing, grubbing, excavating, construction of walls and curbs, installing water and sprinkling mains, erecting fences, surfacing driveways and performing all necessary incidental work for a thorough job, Abel revealed.

At least two other landscaping projects have been put through on the grounds of the Home. The institution, which represents an investment of several hundred thousand dollars was established by legislative act in 1907 on a tract of 75 acres, overlooking Port Orchard and Bremerton.

The sponsors are providing \$4,063 for materials and supplies.

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Seattle, Washington, January 5, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

For the improvement of health conditions in suburban communities of San Juan, Whatcom and Skagit counties, WPA funds totalling \$71,342 have been allotted for the construction of sanitary facilities, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. This amount brings the total for such projects to \$127,875 from WPA within two weeks, in Washington.

WPA crews will commence work throughout San Juan and Whatcom counties January 11, with \$40,000 in Federal funds together with \$15,140 from the State Department of Public Health, as sponsor of the projects. The Skagit project is scheduled to begin February 4 with \$31,342 from WPA and \$14,000 from the state.

Both of these projects, as well as a similar county-wide project in Yakima county which opened with \$56,533 from WPA, December 28, are slated for completion by July 1. Work will be provided to men from the relief rolls in the three areas with supervisory headquarters at Bellingham, for San Juan-Whatcom counties, Mount Vernon, for Skagit county and Yakima for Yakima county.

As in such projects operating during 1937, these facilities will be erected in districts where sewer systems are impracticable.

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Seattle, Washington, January 5, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

More than 125 men from the relief rolls will begin erection of a concrete one-story school building at Kenneydale, tomorrow, with the aid of \$50,374 in WPA funds, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

Plans call for an up-to-date, modern, six room building. Special features include a cafeteria and playroom space in the basement, and a modern gymnasium, convertible to an auditorium. School District #147, as sponsor of the project, will contribute materials and supplies totalling \$28,586.27.

Six hundred residents of the Kenneydale school district will benefit directly from this new asset, Abel said. He also stated that the building would be ready in ample time for opening of school next fall, as the working schedule called for completion in six months. The project also includes wrecking of the old school building and salvaging material to be used in constructing a play-shed and other incidental work.

Other schools constructed under WPA have been completed at Kirkland, Belfair, Ewan, Pomeroy and Glenrose. Late in November the sixth WPA school was started in the Meridian district, three miles east of Kent, with the aid of \$48,591 in Federal funds. This structure is expected to be finished about the same time as the Kenneydale project.

Improvement of the grade school building at Black Diamond also begins this week. WPA workers will modernize the inside and landscape and seed the grounds and add other improvements, with the aid of \$7,190 in Federal funds and material funds from the sponsor, Abel said. At Tacoma, the Park Avenue Grade School playfield will be extensively improved, beginning Monday, with WPA funds of \$14,501. Other similar projects will be opened in various other sections of the state, within two weeks, said the WPA Administrator.

In addition to the seven new school buildings, WPA has modernized and repaired and landscaped nearly 200 schools throughout Washington.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Public libraries throughout Washington will shortly receive copies of the recently published Historical Records Survey's index to the public records of Pend Oreille County, the first of 39 such volumes covering every county in the state, according to an announcement made today by Dr. Herman J. Deutsch, supervisor of this WPA project.

These publications will serve as a guide to the original sources of the public history of the state, covering every phase of public life whether city, county or state.

The survey of county records is 93 per cent complete and more than half the work on the state archives is ready for inclusion in the index, said Dr. Deutsch.

In addition to the survey of public documents records of 2,025 of the state's 9,600 churches have been inventoried. Dr. Deutsch also pointed out that the listing of private and public manuscript collections, newspaper records, old business concern's books and labor organization's records is now in full swing and is expected to be ready for publication some time this year.

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Seattle, Washington, January 6, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Don G. Abel, State Administrator of the Works Progress Administration, of Washington, today announced that 17 new projects involving \$193,409, would begin operations this week.

Farm-to-market roads in Pierce and Thurston counties receive the largest single allotments amounting to \$87,103 for grading and improving. The city of Yakima has added \$4,076 to the WPA grant of \$16,986 for the construction of sanitary sewers and manholes. Wapato has received \$1,178 to extend their street lighting system. The preparation of hot school lunches for undernourished school children in Walla Walla county will be continued until the summer vacation with an allotment of \$2,640.

City streets will be improved in three Washington towns, Medical Lake receiving \$10,309, Everett \$38,024 and Shelton \$9,493. The Grays Harbor cities of Hoquiam and Aberdeen each received federal grants, Aberdeen \$5,608 for clearing right-of-way for excavating for water supply pipe line, and Hoquiam \$1,805 for improving recreational facilities. Clark County's project to assist needy homemakers by supplying domestic aid will be carried on until the end of the fiscal year with an appropriation of \$10,158. Olympia's Public Library will have assistance in the repairing of worn books with a WPA grant of \$1,932 for the salaries of the workers.

Edmonds High School will receive \$1,338 for the improvement of their new high school's athletic field, and Bayview, Skagit County, will have a new recreation building and the grounds improved with a WPA grant of \$6,935.

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Seattle, Washington, January 12, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Opportunities for increased employment of WPA workers of central Washington this week were revealed in an announcement by Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator that two allotments, aggregating \$61,029.75 in Federal funds have just been made for projects to begin Thursday.

Improvement of Dry Falls State Park, two miles from Coulee City will keep more than 50 men busy for eight months, Abel said, with the aid of \$29,601.75 in WPA funds. This allotment continues a project which is already 25 per cent completed, and includes the construction of water systems, roads and other needed improvements. The State Park Committee is sponsoring the work which a project supervisor estimated would benefit more than 100,000 persons.

The Priest Rapids Irrigation District system of Benton and Yakima Counties is scheduled to receive major improvements with WPA funds totaling \$31,428. Plans call for deepening the intake canal, raising a wing dam, erecting a dike, and constructing additional pipe lines and canals as well as doing many types of incidental jobs on the big project. The Priest Rapids Irrigation District, as sponsor is providing \$11,272 for necessary materials and supplies.

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Seattle, Washington, January 12, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Modernizing of the Seattle Civic Auditorium and Ice Arena by WPA workers will begin January 21 with the aid of \$21,539 in Federal funds, it was announced today by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

One of the important features of the scheduled project will be the improvement of air conditioning in both the auditorium and the arena, Abel said. A WPA crew will be busy for more than six months on the substantial improvements. In addition to complete renovating, painting, varnishing, refinishing floors and new floor construction, special wood-working and electrical improvements will be put through. Remodeling of the air conditioning equipment includes reconstructed mushroom ventilators and new exhaust grills.

In the Ice Arena new bleacher seats are planned. New lockers and benches will be made for the dressing rooms, and the broadcasting house is slated for complete remodeling. The auditorium stage will have new benches, and there will be new lights at the entrance, in the basement, for the stage, and in the arena. The public address system will be remodeled and enlarged. More than 50 men from the relief rolls will be required for six months to complete the project. The City of Seattle is providing \$4,321 for materials and supplies.

Approximately 100 WPA workers will begin the same day improving the grounds at Firlands Sanitarium, Richmond Highlands, north of Seattle, with a WPA grant providing \$41,254 and the City of Seattle furnishing needed materials totaling \$6,735, as project sponsor. The work, which will require an estimated six months, includes paving the roadway, excavating, grading, pruning, landscaping, erecting fences, installing sprinklers and many other incidental tasks on the grounds of the sanitarium.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

WPA workers will start construction, about the third week in January, on a new athletic field for the Meridian school, near Kent, State Works Progress Administrator Don G. Abel announced today.

Six acres will be cleared, and about two acres landscaped. This will involve approximately 2,000 cubic yards of excavation and 16,000 square yards of leveling.

Construction work calls for a tennis court, a 24 by 360 foot running track and bleachers with a seating capacity of 800 persons. Other items include a baseball backstop and 1,200 feet of fence surrounding the field.

Sponsor's and Works Progress funds amounting to \$19,640 has been allocated for this project. Of this amount \$868 has been set aside for the repair of the school's present gymnasium.

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Starting about January 21, improvements will be underway at the Luther Burbank school on Mercer Island. The sponsor, Seattle school district #1, has made available \$1,510 for the purchase of materials and supplies. To this sum the Works Progress Administration has allotted \$4,750 to cover labor costs.

The project calls for installing 1,300 feet of water pipe and landscaping approximately 3,750 square feet of the grounds. The present water system has been found insufficient, not only for the school's present daily needs but to maintain proper pressure for adequate fire protection.

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Seattle, Washington, January 12, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

To revise and modernize courses of study in use in the state's schools, the University of Washington is sponsoring a WPA project to provide employment for professional, educational and clerical workers to prepare thousands of new "Units of Study" for distribution to public schools throughout the state.

The University, in sponsoring this new educational project for improvement of study courses, has contributed \$4,758 for the purchase of materials and supplies. The Works Progress Administration, according to a statement from the office of State Administrator Don G. Abel, will invest \$14,760 to cover labor costs.

The project is the result of the State Teachers Association's desire to revise the state's study courses. Many new activities and subjects should be brought into courses of study, old subjects changed or omitted. This work will form a part of a state-wide Curriculum Revision Program, and the Curriculum Laboratory, at the University, under the supervision of Professor Edgar M. Draper, Professor of Education, will contact various school executives to gather experiences and judgments, and these findings will form the basis of the work.

WPA workers will summarize and make copies of the findings, and will furnish typing, stenographic, mimeographing, cataloging, filing and mailing assistance. Eighteen WPA "White Collar" workers will be employed and work is scheduled to begin about January 21 at 133 Educational Hall, University of Washington.

This project, said Abel, will extend throughout the year and is expected to greatly improve Washington's educational system.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Eight new WPA projects, calling for an investment of \$52,618 from Federal funds for additional improvements in Washington's educational facilities, were announced yesterday by state Works Progress Administrator, Don G. Abel. Four projects are slated to begin this week and four next week.

At the Yelm Union High School, improvement in playfield facilities will be made with \$3,768 from WPA funds. As with all the other school projects the school district is sponsor, and the Yelm district is providing \$531.91 for needed materials. Work includes reconstruction of the ball grounds, football field, grand stand and back stop, as well as landscaping. A WPA crew began work Monday and is expected to complete the job by April 8.

Four King County projects have been set up to begin January 21. Building repair and landscaping at the Falls City School calls for \$12,592 from WPA while the sponsor is furnishing \$156.75. Painting and calcimining are included in the program, as well as ground-clearing and seeding. This work is expected to be finished by June 20. Improvement in the Coalfield School playfield will require three months and \$5,405 from WPA. A water system installation is the project for Luther Burbank Parental School on Mercer Island. WPA is allotting \$4,742 for this, while Seattle school district will furnish materials and equipment rentals totaling \$1,510. Where the new school is being erected by WPA at Meridian district, three miles east of Kent, a WPA allotment of \$17,429 has been made for constructing an athletic field. Sponsor's contribution for this project totals \$2,212. This job is expected to be completed by May 20, and the Luther Burbank water system, a month earlier.

Snohomish High School already has a crew from the relief rolls doing various improvement work on their athletic field, with \$1,932 from WPA and \$550 from the district. The work, which began Tuesday will require two months.

Under sponsorship of the Spokane school authorities a dozen white collar workers from relief rolls this week began organizing and operating a school library service. This WPA project has been set up for six months with \$6,120. A similar project for Granger High School has been opened with \$630 from WPA.

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Seattle, Washington, January 13, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

How to figure your income tax.....in thirty easy lessons...such is one of the correspondence courses now offered by the Works Progress Administration's Division of Education, under the sponsorship of the University of Washington, according to a statement released today from the office of Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator.

As each session of Congress continues to subject the tax laws to modification, amendment, or repeal, this course of instruction was designed to keep the student informed of the most recent interpretations of this intricate, specialized subject about which there seems to be endless debate.

Texts selected, such as Federal Tax Accounting by Sherwood, have been adopted because of their simplicity and low price, and for supplementary study, copies of regulations can be secured from the Bureau of Internal Revenue. Other text books can be consulted in the Public and University libraries. Such subjects are treated as Income Tax Legislation, Exemptions, Deductions, Partnerships, Estates and Trusts, and Accounting Procedure.

Further information regarding the Federal Tax Course, or other correspondence course subjects, can be secured from the Works Progress Administration, Division of Education and Recreation, 819 Alaska Building, Seattle, Washington.

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Seattle, Washington, January 14, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Wash.

Picnickers of the Grays Harbor district may look forward to new inducements to get out into the open when warm spring days arrive in 1938. The WPA has allotted \$3,335 for improvement of the recreational camp grounds at Lake Aberdeen beginning tomorrow, according to an announcement yesterday at the office of Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

Under the sponsorship of the city of Aberdeen, WPA workers from relief rolls of the community will put through a project of clearing, grubbing, excavating, surfacing and placing drains throughout the area. A feature of the work most pleasing to prospective users of the recreational camp will be the new kitchen and fireplace the crew will construct. Such improvements have proven popular throughout the state and have been important factors in substantial increased use of such camps.

The project will be completed, under present plans, about the middle of April. Aberdeen is furnishing \$633.60 worth of supplies required for the work.

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Seattle, Washington, January 19, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Wash.

Scheduled to start, as a new project about January 26, with employment of a large number of men, Everett's Forest Park project will be continued for another eight months was revealed by Works Progress Administrator Don G. Abel in a statement issued today.

Approval of a new WPA grant of \$188,344 to match \$18,893 contributed by the city park department, Everett will take advantage of the good weather conditions of the Spring and Summer months to rush to complete landscaping of the city's largest park.

Work will be continued, especially in the lower Pigeon Creek area below reservoir number one. Additional diversion dams will be constructed in the lower creek, squater's shacks will be removed, the road to the beach continued, and the picnic area parked. Shelters will be constructed after the creek has been confined to its new channel. Landscaping will be continued on the heights on each side of the creek, foot paths and bridle trails constructed.

New work proposed at Forest Park will include construction of rockery for a new entrance, removal and reconstruction of bear pen, improving of monkey and bird houses, erection of other small buildings, such as kitchens, wood storage, sheds and commissary building, toilets and septic tanks and disposal systems. Other items include construction of tennis courts, moving and erection of new fences, and laying new water lines.

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Seattle, Washington, January 19, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Wash.

With a Works Progress Administration grant of \$22,232 assured to carry on Spokane County's work in providing assistance in housework and care of children in homes of the needy, where the homemaker is temporarily incapacitated due to sickness or confinement, thirty-four women will continue to be employed throughout Spokane County, was revealed today in a statement from the office of State Administrator Don G. Abel.

This county-wide WPA project, sponsored by the county commissioners, will be supervised from Spokane, and is scheduled to operate until the end of June.

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Seattle, Washington, January 19, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Wash.

In Thurston County, this week, WPA workers began indexing and transcribing county records on a project being sponsored by the county commissioners to include records extending from the year 1852 to January 1936, according to a statement from the office of Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator.

With the Thurston County Commissioners contributing \$959, and WPA funds amounting to \$2,656, the project is scheduled to provide employment for professional workers for a period of nine months.

Records to be checked, transcribed and indexed will include the Commissioner's minutes, especially those pertaining to the engineer's office; also engineer's field books for checking of establishment and location of roads. Proper arrangement of field books will also be made, checked and indexed. The work will be done under the supervision of the county engineer.

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Seattle, Washington, January 19, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



The nation's Northeast corner is described in the latest American Guide volume to come off the presses. "Maine, A Guide Down East", contains 459 pages of colorful material on this rugged New England State, prepared by the Federal Writers' Project in Maine.

In addition to essays on Maine's historical, industrial and architectural backgrounds, word pictures of nine cities are given. Scores of highway tours guide the visitor to points of interest. A special section of the Maine book is devoted to island tours, and there is a lengthy supplement dealing with inland and salt water fishing, hunting, canoeing, hiking and riding trips in the State.

The Maine Guide was sponsored by the Executive Secretary of the Maine Development Commission. When similar sponsorship by a State agency is obtained here, the Washington State Guide book will probably be placed in the hands of a large eastern publishing house. Final editing of Washington's copy is nearing completion.

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Seattle, Washington, January 27, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

With a \$61,912 grant of WPA funds to cover labor costs, plus the King County commissioner's contribution of \$18,224 for materials and supplies, units "C" and "D" of King County's road reconditioning program will be placed in operation about the second week in February, it was announced today by Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator.

Both units, it is stated, will work on roads in the north district, from the Seattle city limits to the Snohomish County line. Combined items of work on these two units call for 22 acres of clearing and grubbing along right-of-way on approximately eight miles of secondary roads. This also calls for 28,640 cubic yards of common excavation and 21,292 cubic yards of dirt to be moved by equipment, such as bull-dozers, graders and trucks, and 1,730 cubic yards to be handled in installing approximately 2,814 feet of 12" and 18" culvert tile for drainage. About 34,382 lineal feet of ditching and sloping will be done, and the erection of 2,037 feet of guard rail. It is estimated that work on Units "C" and "D" will be completed by July 1st.

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Seattle, Washington, February 2, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Yakima's county-wide WPA project to exterminate the coddling moth is scheduled to begin during the third week of February, with a WPA allocation of \$81,920 in federal funds which will be expended entirely for labor, according to a statement from the office of State WPA Administrator Don. G. Abel, together with a sponsor's grant of \$6,450, which will be for equipment rentals and transportation furnished by the State Bureau of Horiculture in directing the work to control this orchard pest in the State of Washington.

Infected orchards throughout the county will be carefully inspected, and if found slightly affected will be scraped, while incurable trees will be destroyed. Headquarters for purposes of supervision will be located at Yakima and will be under the direction of members of the staff of the director of the State Department of Horticulture, who has legal authority to prosecute the work over the areas involved. It is estimated this work will be completed about the first of July.

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Seattle, Washington, February 4, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Sponsored by the University of Washington and the U. S. Bureau of Mines, two WPA "white collar" projects designed to establish new payrolls and to aid the coal mining and mineral industries in Washington, are now in operation at the University, according to WPA administrator Don G. Abel. Both projects are being jointly sponsored by the University and the U. S. Bureau of Mines, and the work is being conducted at the Northwest Experiment Station, established here in 1917 and is one of eleven stations in the nation, reports H. F. Yancey of the Federal Bureau of Mines, who is supervising the work of the two projects.

The State of Washington has enormous coal deposits in well known, easily accessible locations near the state's centers of population, and with this in mind, the present projects were designed to supply accurate knowledge in order to stimulate the use of our domestic fuel supplies to increase employment and speed development of Washington's mining industry.

In a 65-page report, illustrated with drawings and photographs, which is being submitted to Washington D. C. for approval, a series of exhaustive experiments have been concluded on recent investigations conducted by WPA workers on the burning qualities of various kinds of coal by both the continuous and intermittent method of utilizing "overfeed" stokers for domestic use. This report may soon be made available to the public, as it contains descriptions of testing equipment, facts about coals tested, testing procedure, and the results obtained by continuous and intermittent operation. A number of surprising facts of great importance have been brought out in the experiments. A fact never before fully understood or appreciated was the efficiencies of various types of coal stoking furnaces at "medium and maximum" firing rates as compared with oil burning furnaces of the intermittent type.

It is also interesting to note that one of the first "underfeed" stokers small enough to be used for domestic residential purposes was developed at Seattle in 1912, and that in 1916 a small "overfeed" stoker was developed, and these two types are generally considered to represent the beginning of the present domestic stoker industry in the United States.

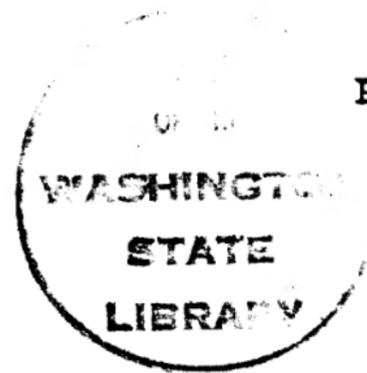
The second WPA project being conducted at the University College of Mines is the study of Washington's non-metallic minerals, such as clays, lime rock, sand, soapstone, and especially "olivine" which is an olive-green, or yellowish mineral in crystalized fibrous form. It is used in certain metallurgical operations and extensive deposits are known to exist in the state. The largest is in Western Washington, near Anacortes, on Cypress Island, one of the San Juan group in Puget Sound. The importance of this deposit lies in its large tonnage and its nearness to tide-water for easy shipment. Tests of Cypress Island olivine have shown it can withstand a temperature of 1580 degrees Centigrade. This work is undertaken to determine the extent of these deposits under the direction of Professor Hewitt Wilson of the Ceramics department of the University. Should the results of this investigation prove that the minerals are to be found in quantities large enough for commercial use it will mean additional payrolls and industries for the state, it is stated.

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Seattle, Washington, February 10, 1938

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PR-387



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

A large Totem Pole will be hewed by hand from a cedar log by Indian W.P.A. workers on a project scheduled to get under way at the Swinomish Indian Reservation, near La Conner, February 11, according to Don C. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. Federal funds totaling \$16,093 from WPA have been allotted for the totem pole and many other improvements on a seven acre tract.

The pole will depict the history of the Swinomish tribe from the beginning to date. Other features of the improvement program include building chimneys, installing plumbing and electric wiring and fixtures and laying a dance floor in the recreation hall. The crew, will also shingle and paint the roof and paint the building. The ball park will be graded and fenced, and movable bleachers will be erected. More than 7,000 cubic yards of excavation will be required on the ball field.

The U. S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs is sponsoring the project and is contributing \$3,904.65 for equipment rentals and construction materials.

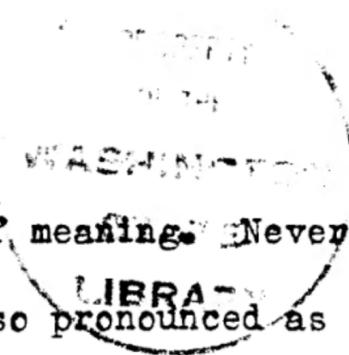
Indians who are at present certified and employed on WPA will be utilized on this project wherever available, says Abel, especially for such work as the totem pole carvings. The work is scheduled for completion by June 30.

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Seattle, Washington, February 11, 1938

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



The expression "Poor Fish" is fast becoming devoid of meaning. Never before has Uncle Sam's activities in behalf of the fish family been so pronounced as they are at present in the State of Washington and Alaska.

According to State Works Progress Administrator Don G. Abel, WPA workers now engaged in checking data collected by the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries have discovered that during the past six years, rail and water shipments from Seattle and Bellingham total more than ten million cases of salmon, valued at more than fifty million dollars.

Fisheries Bureau officials, assisted by WPA workers familiar with the technical details of the problems involved, have completed a report on the bureau's economic survey of the salmon industry for the Department of Commerce, according to Fred J. Foster, Regional Director of the Bureau of Fisheries for the eleven western states and Alaska. Much of the data for this survey has been taken from findings gathered by the bureau since 1908, and is being used in investigations now being conducted regarding the salmon population of Alaskan waters, in order to stabilize the "take" in relation to the yearly run of salmon in southwestern Alaska. The ultimate purpose of this investigation is to protect the salmon fishing industry from extinction, and this is especially important, at this time, in view of the controversy now arising over alleged raiding operations in Alaskan waters.

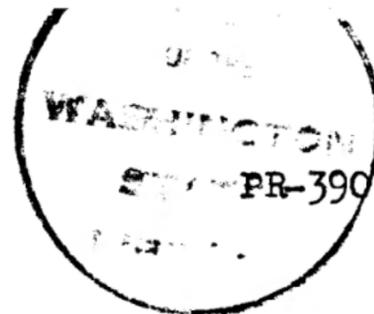
WPA laboratory workers employed at the Fisheries Bureau headquarters, near the University at Seattle, have completed preparation of "fish scale" exhibits for laboratory tests to determine the age of fish taken in southwestern Alaska. Carefully selected specimens of salmon scales are sealed between glass slides in a solution of sodium silicate and when examined under a microscope the scales tell a great many facts concerning the life story of the Alaskan salmon.

Under the direction of R. W. Harrison, chief of the bureau's laboratory, WPA chemists and assistants are investigating the food value of the flesh of the salmon during different periods of the fishing season, as the fish undergo great changes between the first days of the catch and the end of the run.

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



With not one fatal accident for the year 1937 the Works Progress Administration of Washington today claimed the most outstanding safety record of any other state in the nation.

Don G. Abel, State Administrator, declared that with an average of 28,644 WPA employees working 30,668,993 man hours during the past year in Washington, the record of no fatalities is unequalled anywhere. "Considering that the workers are drawn from all walks of life and sometimes unsuited to the type of work to be performed, the accident prevention record is one of which we can be justly proud," Abel said.

In a report released today by Abel from the office of R. P. Duncan, State Safety Consultant, of the Works Progress Administration, it is shown in a comparison between private industry and WPA construction projects that the likelihood of injury in private employment is much greater than in WPA work. These facts are disclosed in tables compiled by both the Department of Labor and Industries and the Safety Department of the WPA. Outstanding is the difference in frequency rate per 1,000,000 man hours worked. The table shows the industries of the State have nearly three times as many lost-time accidents as the WPA, six times as many permanent partial disability cases and nine and one-half fatal accidents for everyone occurring in WPA employment.

One of the most reliable tests in determining the standard of efficiency of any safety work is the permanent partial disability rating and the small number of fatalities. The Works Progress Administration, like private industry, carries on a broad diversity of work throughout the State, embracing employment of all degrees of hazard. A partial enumeration of work projects includes the construction and demolition of buildings and bridges; miles of trenches dug for slide control; construction of tunnels, sewer and water lines, much of which is through solid rock and hard pan formation, requiring blasting, flood control and river work including pile driving, rip-rapping, rock, concrete, brush and plank bulkheads and revetments; ditching, draining, land clearing for roads, airports; recreation grounds and buildings involving logging operations, falling timber and blasting stumps as large as ten feet in diameter; blasting rock from mountain sides for rip-rap, transporting rock, gravel and dirt by wheelbarrow, horse teams, trucks; industrial railroads, using steam locomotives and scows using a variety of machinery and equipment in moving and placing materials.

"This impressive record is due to the constant and intensive work of the WPA Safety Department, combined with the cooperation of project engineers and foremen and in the training of project workers in the use of their equipment and in making safe working condition a basic requirement on all projects." "We believe in preventing accidents before they occur," Abel stated.

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Seattle, Washington, February 12, 1938

IMMEDIATE RELEASE



PR-391

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

A national literary publication, written in spare time by workers of the WPA Federal Writers' Project, will come from the presses during February. The publication will appear as a non-profit guest issue of "Direction", a newly launched periodical of art, literature, and general culture. It will bear the sub-title "American Stuff", which was the name of the Writers' Project anthology of creative material published by Viking Press last fall.

"American Stuff" will contain a selection of short stories, poetry, literary criticism, folk-lore and reportings by writers from every part of the nation. It is hoped that several contributions from Washington State will be included.

In addition to 128 pages of reading material, there will be eight new reproductions of lithographs, by artists of the WPA Federal Art Project. The Editorial Advisory Board for the publication is headed by Henry G. Alsberg, Federal Director of the Writers' Project. Chairman of the sponsoring committee is Franklin P. Adams, noted New York columnist and author. This special issue will be on sale to the general public at the price of 25 cents.

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Seattle, Washington, February 16, 1938

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



To aid in the fight against the destructive effects of slides in Seattle, the WPA has allotted \$55,522 for two street and sewer projects to begin this week, Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator announced yesterday.

A sewer will be constructed from 39th and Americus Street to 42nd Avenue South, and will keep a crew busy for at least two months, under present plans. Engineers on the project predict some tough digging problems will be involved, which includes drilling through solid rock at several stages of the work.

To stop serious earth slides and threats of slides on Ravenna Avenue, between East 45th and East 52nd street, a WPA crew has started a heavy schedule of excavation, pipelaying and backfill work, expected to take four months. The draining of sub-strata under the threatening areas will be effected by the ditching and pipe installation, Abel said.

The city is providing the materials and needed equipment with funds totalling \$20,352.38.

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Seattle, Washington, February 24, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

STATE  
LIBRARY

Extensive improvements and modernization of the water systems of five more Washington cities are scheduled to begin this week or early in March with the aid of \$112,000 in WPA funds, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

Two of the projects are set up to begin tomorrow, at Olympia with a WPA grant of \$16,712, and at Milton with \$37,463 in Federal funds. Wood stave water mains will be replaced with cast iron mains on various streets in the state capital, which is expected to take about four months, and directly benefit 2,000 persons. Materials and rental of equipment will be provided by a city appropriation of \$15,342. City officials say the improvement will aid in reducing water costs.

By utilizing every possible facility the Milton project will be speeded up to completion by June 30, and benefit approximately 3,500 residents. Materials for the reconstruction, and extension of the water system will be furnished by the city which as sponsor is making a contribution of \$24,258.20.

Placing of new pipe, valves and hydrants is the main feature of the Yakima project slated to get under way in various sections of the city, February 28. WPA funds totalling \$22,446 will provide the labor. The city is appropriating \$50,646.25 for equipment rentals and materials. Project supervisors estimate the job will be complete by June 13.

A complete new water system is planned for Lowell, through the aid of \$34,041 from WPA. Main construction feature is the erection of a 60,000 gallon steel tank. Two wells will be drilled. Pump houses, a pumping plant, a fire station foundation and 45 hydrants are listed in the schedule. The WPA crew will also lay 27,810 lineal feet of new steel water pipe, with 230 service connections. More than 2,000 residents will directly benefit from the improvement. Lowell city fathers have appropriated \$50,646.25 to assure sufficient materials.

WPA also begins improvement of the Coupeville water system, March 4, with Federal funds of \$1,338,

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



The first complete guidebook covering Washington State will be sponsored by the State Progress Commission as a part of its 1938 program, Don G. Abel, State Administrator announced today.

Entitled "Washington: A Guide to the Evergreen State", the volume is one of the American Guide series being prepared by the WPA Federal Writers' Project. The book, now undergoing final checking, will contain 200,000 words of contemporary and historical material, with special emphasis on tours to every point of interest within the State's boundaries. There will be 100 illustrations and 12 maps.

Already guidebooks to Idaho and the New England states are off the press and have received much favorable comment. It is believed publication of the Washington book will bring the State nationwide publicity.

The sponsorship agreement was signed by Eric A. Johnston, Chairman of the Progress Commission, following an unanimous vote by the membership of the group that such action be taken. The Commission is authorized to make the arrangements for publication, and the Washington volume may appear on the late spring list of one of the country's larger publishing houses.

A State Advisory Board of prominent Washington citizens headed by Governor Clarence D. Martin has been asked to pass upon the Guide copy. Other members of the committee are Mrs. Belle Reeves, Secretary of State; Dr. L. P. Sieg, University of Washington; Dr. E. O. Holland, Washington State College; Dr. W. A. Bratton, Whitman College; Rev. L. J. Robinson, S. J., Gonzaga University and F. W. Hull, 1938 Publicity Chairman, Seattle Chamber of Commerce.

Material for the Washington Guide has been compiled and edited under the supervision of James W. Egan, state director of the Writers' Project and a nationally known writer and newspaperman who has resided in Washington for 40 years. The Federal director of the project is Henry G. Alsberg of Washington, D.C.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Don G. Abel, State Administrator of the WPA today announced receipt of a telegram from Senator Homer T. Bone, announcing presidential approval of \$236,131 state-wide flood control allotment.

"This allotment is to provide for necessary emergency work when danger to life or grave risk to property is engendered by flood or thaw conditions," Abel said. "The purpose is to make funds available so that workers in the immediate vicinity of the flood can be immediately transferred from any project to the flooded area any where in the state."

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Seattle, Washington, February 24, 1938



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

An increase of 7,000 in Washington's employment quota for March was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, State Administrator of the Works Progress Administration.

He said that Robert H. Hinckley, Assistant Administrator for the Western Division, had authorized the expansion, which will bring the total number of relief workers in the state up to more than 45,000.

Abel declared that the new quota will enable him to employ most of those already certified for WPA work.

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Seattle, Washington, February 24, 1938

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PR-397

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

WASHINGTON  
STATE  
LIBRARY

With WPA grants totaling \$92,899 to cover labor costs, together with \$25,789 in sponsor's funds for materials and equipment rentals, King, Mason and Stevens county WPA workers will begin Spring road repair work about March first, reports State WPA Administrator Don G. Abel.

In Mason County, about six miles of the Hoodport-Lake Cushman road will be improved. About ten acres of right-of-way will be cleared in realignment of curves and providing adequate drainage.

Work in Stevens County will be county-wide in extent, and calls for clearing, grubbing, draining and surfacing on roads designated by the county commissioners. WPA funds of \$51,884 have been allotted this work.

King County road work will be started in the commissioners' third district, in the vicinity of Kirkland, Juanita and Woodinville, and calls for placing secondary county roads up to standard specifications by grading, ditching and surfacing.

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Seattle, Washington, February 25, 1938

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Two park improvement projects were announced today by Works Progress Administrator Don G. Abel as scheduled to start about the first of March. One project, near Redmond in King County, has been allocated \$11,125 in WPA funds to match \$1,695 furnished by the sponsor, and in Eastern Washington a \$2,251 allotment was made the city of Walla Walla, with \$1,961.51 to be provided by the sponsor.

At Redmond work will include an addition to the caretaker's house, erecting a water tower, installing a sprinkler system and plumbing, constructing roads, picnic shelters and kitchen, clearing, excavating and doing other incidental work in beautifying the grounds.

For the Stadium Park, at Walla Walla, WPA workers will construct restrooms, install plumbing, lay out pathways and roads, which will include excavating, surfacing and landscaping.

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Seattle, Washington, February 25, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



The City of Yakima has been granted \$22,446 in federal funds by the WPA to match a sponsor's pledge of \$30,674.40, which will be invested in the purchase of materials and supplies for construction work on Yakima's municipal water system, according to Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator.

Work is scheduled to begin about March first and will employ approximately 120 men for about four months. Present work will be within the area bounded by Tieton Drive, Summitview, 34th Avenue and Stanley Boulevard, and will serve to bring an adequate supply of water for domestic uses and fire protection to approximately 5,000 persons living within the district.

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Seattle, Washington, March 2, 1938

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



Starting early in March, WPA workers will undertake building and playfield improvements for three rural western Washington schools, reports State WPA Administrator Don G. Abel.

Total grants, including sponsor's contributions, will amount to \$19,470.90, district 210, near Auburn, receiving \$8,936, and district 201, at Snoqualmie, getting \$10,531.90. The Ashford district 331, in Pierce County, has been granted \$725 in federal funds.

At Auburn WPA workers will clear an additional two and a half acres to increase the size of the new inadequate playfield, install drains, landscape, seed and plant shrubs about the buildings. To improve the school's water supply a 9,000 gallon concrete reservoir will be constructed.

Snoqualmie's school will receive extensive remodeling, including dressing room repairs, storerooms for athletic equipment, installation of electrical equipment, a new hot water heating system, automatically controlled. On the playfield, a new sprinkler system, drains and catch basins will be installed, cement steps, walks and retaining walls constructed. Other work will include plumbing repairs, painting and fences.

At the Ashford school, the Recreational Building of the school will be repaired. This includes leveling the structure and placing 90 foundation blocks beneath the gymnasium. Other work calls for ceiling the gym with plywood veneer, painting and other incidental work.

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Seattle, Washington, March 2, 1938