

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Seattle, Washington

Enthusiastic reports of the wholehearted cooperation given by the various commercial and civic organizations, particularly the Chambers of Commerce, to the Federal Writers' Projects were interesting and encouraging highlights of the two-days western Regional Conference of the State Directors of the projects held recently at Salt Lake City, according to James W. Egan, Seattle, Washington State Director, who attended the meeting.

The projects, which include the American Guide and the Historical Survey, were discussed by Directors from 14 states west of the Mississippi River. They gathered in a general convention at the call of Henry G. Alsberg, National Director of Writers' Project, Washington, D. C. Important discussions at the convention were held under Mr. Alsberg's direction, and tentative proposals for future writing projects were formulated.

Dr. Luther Evans, National Supervisor of the Historical Records Survey, told the State Directors how important information, gathered in the Survey, had served to contribute new data to abstract companies, lawyers and historians, said Mr. Egan. This work included the uncovering of records as far back as the earliest white settlements in North America.

All sessions of the convention were held in the Salt Lake City Chamber of Commerce building, first of which was presided over by Maurice L. Howe of Utah, Regional Director of Federal Writers' Projects. After this session the conference split into special roundtable discussions.

Among plans for future writing activities, discussed at the conference, was the possibility of using the valuable material, gathered by research workers of the American Guide and Historical Records Survey, in the compiling of State and County atlases. The American Guide includes maps, tourist directories, and scientific, economic and historical information, much of it heretofore unpublished.

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Seattle, Washington, July 21, 1936

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Real flesh and blood actors, the Hill Billy troupe, bowed graciously and obliged, with repeated encores, to an audience of over 300 that packed the tight little recreation hall at Camp George, CCC camp near Port Townsend, recently.

"I was surprised," said George Hood, State Supervisor for the WPA Federal Theatre when reporting the performance, "to learn that many in the audience had never seen a stage performance before. The stage is unknown to them, an art of the past, particularly to those in younger groups.

"The enthusiastic acclaim given our traveling Hill Billy troupe by this new audience led to some inquiries. I discovered that throughout the United States, even in the larger cities, there were many who had never seen a living actor on the stage before the Federal Theatre projects were started. In some localities this ratio ran as high as 90 per cent.

"It is in this manner that the WPA theatre projects are providing employment and helping to restore appreciation for the American Theatre."

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Seattle, Washington, July 21, 1936

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Seattle, Washington

PROPERTY  
OF THE  
WASHINGTON  
STATE  
LIBRARY

Works Progress Administration projects in some parts of the state are being suspended or curtailed to avoid conflict with seasonal demands for labor, Don G. Abel, State Administrator, announced today.

"Adjustments are being made to meet conditions peculiar to regions and groups of workers involved," Abel said. "Wholesale stoppage of work projects does not necessarily fill a labor shortage as the skilled workers desired by private employers are not always available from the groups of project workers."

In the Spokane district Major Mott Sawyer, Acting District Director, reports a virtual closing of all labor projects in five eastern Washington counties during the wheat harvest.

O. R. Young, Acting District Director of Yakima, has arranged his program so that all projects may be stopped or curtailed to meet seasonal employment demands when necessary. He anticipates extremely low work project activities during the wheat harvest. A meeting of officials from the National Reemployment Service, the WPA and Board of County Commissioners is now being scheduled in Yakima for July 22 to discuss the question of seasonal employment and work project operations.

Operations in the Everett district, it is reported, by Acting District Director G. P. Weber are little effected by seasonal employment although two small projects at Index have been suspended to release men for logging.

From the Tacoma district, Acting District Director, C. E. Putnam reports a practically normal operating basis, but with provisions made to release WPA workers whenever they can secure satisfactory private employment.

The state quota of workers is now 27,000. The current check-up shows 25,591 now employed on WPA projects.

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Seattle, Washington, July 21, 1936

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Release for publication on receipt

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
Seattle, Washington



Pioneer lore and historical traditions of the state, represented by photographs, drawings, documents and old maps, as well as stories of early settlers are being collected by field writers of the American Guide throughout the state in order to preserve them in libraries and archives.

No concerted effort has ever been made to collect pioneer American historical records and photographs, and these are rapidly being lost to posterity, James W. Egan, State Director of Federal Writers Project, points out.

Much of the material is being assembled with the cooperation of the University of Washington Library, Washington State College Library, the State Historical Society, and photographic and civic organizations in the state.

Material assembled, Egan said, will be used in the Washington edition of the American Guide and some of it will later be forwarded to Washington, D. C. for a huge national exhibit, illustrating the wide scope of the important work being done by this division of the Federal Writers Project.

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Seattle, Washington, July 23, 1936



Release for publication on receipt

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
Seattle, Washington



Attendance at the Golden Jubilee convention of the Washington Press Association, held at Olympia, July 24-25, broke all records, according to Fred. C. Kennedy, University of Washington, who has been manager of the press association continuously for 27 years.

Olympia, birthplace of the state's first newspaper, 84 years ago, was appropriately host during this semi-centennial two-day session. A program highlight was the address by Governor Clarence D. Martin, Friday evening, while a feature of the conclave was the colorful exhibit in the historic room of the Washington State Museum, prepared under the direction of Manager Kennedy. Exceptional interest was shown in three photographs made available through efforts of field writers of the American Guide, of the State of Washington, Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration. One was a picture of the first issue of "The Columbian", first newspaper printed in what is now the State of Washington, at Olympia, September 11, 1852. Another was a picture of the old Ramage hand press, upon which the newspaper was printed and which was also the first press on the Pacific Coast. The third picture was a portrait of Thornton F. McElroy, co-founder with J. W. Wilcy of that pioneer journal.

The press is now one of the most cherished relics of the University of Washington Museum, and was first used in Mexico City, where it was shipped from New York City more than 133 years ago, and was valued at about \$100 then. Some years later it was sent to Monterey, capital of Upper California, on the backs of mules, finally arriving in 1834 to print official orders of Mexican officials. Californis's first newspaper was printed on the old Ramage in 1846. Later it was moved to San Francisco to print that city's first newspaper in 1848. Two years after that it was moved to Portland, where it printed Oregon's first



newspaper. Then in 1852 McElroy and Wiley bought the press and shipped it aboard the Schooner Mary Taylor to Olympia to begin Washington's first newspaper. The press printed about 1,000 single pages in 10 hours, requiring two men to operate it.

Seattle, Washington, July 27, 1936

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Release for publication on receipt.

PR - 106

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
Seattle, Washington

A security wage operation in the Bremerton Navy Yard, to be administered by executives of the yard, utilizing in excess of 400 persons eligible for employment by the Works Progress Administration, was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator.

The announcement followed receipt of a requisition from Captain Warfield, of the Bremerton Yard, for 410 men of various skills including carpenters, painters, electricians, plasterers and a number of general helpers. One hundred and forty seven men awaiting assignment in Kitsap County have already been given jobs and 20 additional men from that county who have been certified as eligible will be assigned immediately. Also, Abel stated, 50 other Kitsap County WPA workers, employed on other operations in that county, will be reassigned to the Navy Yard at once.

When all assigning and reassigning is completed, Abel pointed out, all certified workers in Kitsap County will have been given employment.

The balance of the workers required at the yard, it was stated, will be assigned from those certified in King County.

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Seattle, Washington, July 28, 1936.

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Release for publication on receipt.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
Seattle, Washington

Employers in need of labor who find difficulty in filling their needs in communities where WPA projects are operating were urged today by Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator, to contact the district WPA director nearest to them and make known their wants.

"WPA is anxious to cooperate in every way with private employers," Abel said, "wherever it is shown that a genuine demand for labor exists which will provide the worker with a reasonable wage.

"There has been some criticism that the WPA is competing with private employers for its labor supply. However, this is not correct. WPA desires to place its workers in private employment wherever possible," Abel asserted.

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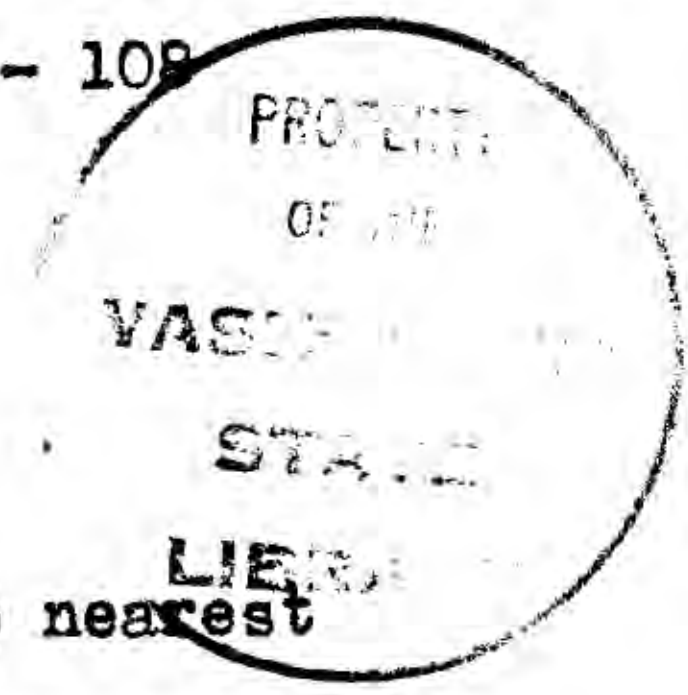
Seattle, Washington, July 28, 1936



Release for publication on receipt.

PR - 108

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
Seattle, Washington



"Needy workers desiring W. P. A. employment should contact the nearest office of the State Department of Public Welfare," Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator, announced today,

The announcement was made, Abel pointed out, to dispel a certain amount of confusion that has developed in the public mind regarding the procedure for employing workers not hitherto given jobs on the Works Program. "Arrangements have been made," Abel said, "with the State Department of Public Welfare, to certify to the Works Program needy persons on an individual basis."

New certifications will start about the middle of August.

The W. P. A. is operating on a state quota basis, which for the present is 27,000 persons in all occupational groups. This quota must be respected in the employment of additional persons.

"However," the State Administrator said, "vacancies are developing from time to time as workers find private employment. We are endeavoring in every way to distribute the jobs that we have available to those who are most in need and who are capable of filling the particular occupational skills required on our projects."

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Seattle, Washington, July 28, 1936.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
Seattle, Washington

Despite the fact that he has announced that the Federal Art Project was not designed to further the education of aspiring artists, sculptors and modelers, the office of R. B. Inverarity, State Director of this Federal-sponsored project, is daily flooded with eager students desirous of pursuing an art avocation.

"A misapprehension prevails," Inverarity stated, "that we are teaching art subjects. This is not the case. We are providing employment for professional artists who, through circumstances, have been forced to accept jobs entirely foreign to their education, training and abilities. In other words, the Federal Art project was set up for the purpose of fitting the square pegs in the square holes. We are doing this."

Federal art project workers, Inverarity pointed out, are now engaged in painting murals, sculptoring and making models in various schools, Universities and like tax-supported institutions. Co-sponsors, who are prepared to pay for materials required in this work, are urged to contact the Federal Art Project maintaining offices at 306 Alaska Building.

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Seattle, Washington, July 30, 1936.





WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Motor transportation from Seattle and Tacoma to men assigned to blister control work in the pine forests of Northern Idaho was assured yesterday by Sidney E. McLaughlin, Assistant Pathologist, Department of Agriculture, of Spokane, who is visiting Puget Sound cities and placing with the WPA district divisions of employment requisitions for all certified relief workers that can be furnished.

"Blister control work is a camp project," McLaughlin pointed out, "and the majority of men referred are single; however, married men are acceptable if they desire to engage in the work. If men assigned remain on the project through to completion, which will be about October 15, return transportation to the base from which they were assigned will be furnished."

Men certified by the State Department of Public Welfare wishing to proceed to the work are asked to contact Mr. Knox, 507 County-City Building, Seattle; Mr. Remedés, Washington Building, Tacoma; or Mr. Dougherty, Central Building, Everett.

The initial caravan, McLaughlin stated, 'is expected to leave Seattle some time between August 6 and 10.

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Seattle, Washington, July 31, 1936.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Clearing a situation which has been considered confusing in the past, Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, yesterday stated unequivocally that the State Department of Public Welfare is the only certifying agency for the Works Progress Administration in this state. "We will accept," he stated, "certifications from this agency with the understanding that eligibility for relief will be the basis for such certifications. This is in conformance with the Act which was passed by Congress to provide work for those in need of relief."

Abel also stated that the quota for the State, 27,000, will not at the present time permit of additional initial assignments. We are not anticipating an immediate increase in our quota.

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Seattle, Washington, July 31, 1936

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Strange as it seems, this state once had a Washington, D. C.!

From musty files of old archives comes the long-forgotten information that 73 years ago Port Angeles, was made the second national city of the United States and interesting facts concerning this unusual form of government have just been gathered for present day readers through research activities of field writers on the American Guide, Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration.

This second national city was created at Port Angeles by a special Act of Congress in 1863 after the sponsor of the plan, Victor Smith, had conceived the idea the United States might reap a profit in the real estate business, through building a model city, and thus help defray the expenses of the Civil War.

The previous year, President Abraham Lincoln had ordered a reservation at Port Angeles for a lighthouse and military base. Shortly after this order, Lincoln's Secretary of the Treasury, Salmon P. Chase, sent his reporter friend, Smith, to the nearby town of Port Townsend, as Collector of Customs for the Washington Territory. Marine and mountain scenery at the new Port Angeles reserve so captivated Smith he promptly urged the creation of the second national city, as a part of the general policy of the Union government, to stimulate development of properties which would later yield taxes and revenue, according to the research report of a field writer for the American Guide.

By 1894, the Federal townsite reserve proved to be such a disappointment the United States Land Office sold the town lots to the highest bidders and Port Angeles became an ordinary town again.

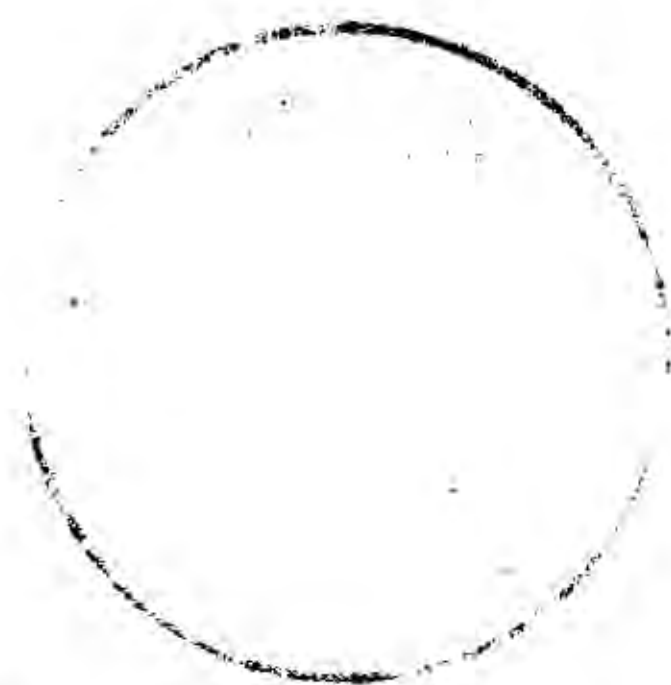
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Seattle, Washington, August 4, 1936.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Work has been started on the mural decorations at the Tacoma Indian Hospital, R. B. Inverarity, Director of the newly instituted Federal Art projects in Washington State, announced today. The work is jointly sponsored by the Tacoma Indian Hospital and the Federal Art Project of the Works Progress Administration, and is being executed by Julius Twohy, a native Indian artist of extreme promise, Inverarity says.

Inverarity, formerly an instructor at the Cornish School and the University of Washington, studied under Mark Tobey of England, Kazuo Yamagishi, the celebrated Japanese wood block carver, Tokyo, and Blanding Sloan, the well known American painter and etcher. He has exhibited in a great many American galleries, including the National Gallery of Art in Ottawa, Canada, and at Tokyo. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, London, England.

The Federal Art Project is already under way in Seattle and Tacoma, Inverarity stated, and it is expected that more projects will be instituted soon in Spokane, Everett, Bellingham, Yakima, and other smaller Washington cities.

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Seattle, Washington, August 4, 1936.



Release for publication upon receipt.

PR-115

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



Nearly 300 Washingtonians have enrolled in an extension course in Consumers' Cooperation, offered by the WPA, through its Division of Education.

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PR-116

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Two symphonic 30-piece bands, employing security wage musicians in Seattle and Tacoma, are achieving two-fold results--rehabilitating the musicians and providing entertainment for the citizens in the various communities of the two cities. Under auspices of the Works Progress Administration, the bands playing concerts in parks and playfields are attracting thousands of listeners.

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A marked reduction in child delinquency is reported in Seattle as the result of the work of the Recreational Division of the Works Progress Administration, executive heads of this Federal agency assert. Recently arrangements were made with the Seattle School Board for conducting classes in school portables for tap dancing, orchestration work and dramatics.

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Supplementing the work of the Americanization and Naturalization classes being conducted by the Educational Department of the Works Progress Administration, a comprehensive booklet is being prepared covering dictionary drills, pronunciation, correct usage and grammar. These booklets will be used in the classes during the year. Foreigners throughout the state are eagerly taking advantage of the opportunity afforded by the classes, the WPA Educational Department reports.

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First aid training is being given recreational leaders and project foremen in District No. 4 by the Recreational Division of the Works Progress



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Administration. The work, classed as safety education, will, it is stated, be extended throughout the state.

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An inventory of records reposing in official depositories, mainly courthouses and city halls, and of manuscripts of historical importance now in private hands or in the archives of societies, is being compiled by security wage workers employed by the Works Progress Administration under the supervision of Dr. Herman J. Deutsch, associate professor of history at Washington State College. The project is a federally-sponsored WPA undertaking.

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Seattle, Washington, August 13, 1936.





WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Five WPA projects sponsored by the University of Washington, involving the construction of a nine-hole golf course on the northeast corner of the University Campus, the construction of wooden bleachers with seats and a concrete walk at the Stadium, improvement of the Geyser Basin drainage and water supply system, grading and draining the football field and improving Rainier Vista by regrading, planting a new lawn and landscaping, have been approved by the office of the Comptroller General in Washington, D. C.

This announcement was made yesterday by Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, who stated that work on the various projects will be started at the discretion of the District Director when and if funds are made available.

Other projects receiving approval of the Comptroller General's office, announced yesterday by Abel, include the following:

King County-Seattle: Landscaping and improving beaches on Montlake street and construction of a double tennis court.

Lincoln County-Edwall: Paint gymnasium inside and out; minor repairs to structure; install sprinkling system; building two tennis courts; construct baseball and football field and install running track, in School District No. 5.

Clark County-Ridgefield: Excavate, fill and grade playfield area, install drainage and fence, and construct running track in School District No. 99.

Lewis County-Klamber: Level and improve playground area in School District No. 234.

King County-Renton: Develop athletic field at Liberty Park, move grandstand, enclose grounds with fence, grade field and parking areas, and plant grass.

King County-Richmond Beach: Complete a retaining wall and grade field on Richmond Beach Athletic Field, for School District No. 86.



Clark County-Yacolt: Clear, grub, drain and surface roads with crushed rock as requested by Clark County Commissioners.

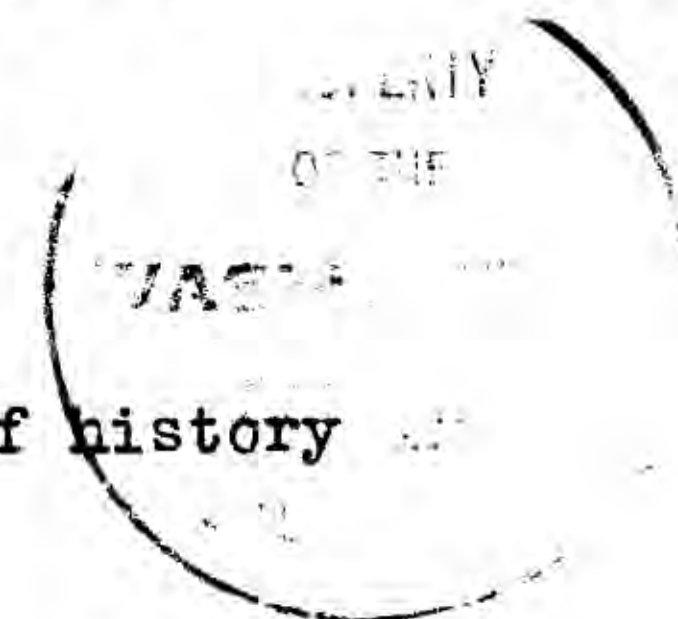
Clark County-Vancouver: Clear, grub, drain and surface with crushed rock certain roads requested by Clark County Commissioners.

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Seattle, Washington, August 13, 1936.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

If the tall trees of the state could talk they could reveal more of history than the most astute recorder of human events!

More than 500 years before William of Normandy crossed the English Channel to vanquish the Saxon Harold on the Plains of Hastings, a Douglas fir, near Mount Vernon, began its long life, according to the Pacific Northwest Forest Experiment Station, Portland, Oregon.

This tree is estimated by the experiment station to be over 1,375 years old, beginning its long life about 560 A.D., or shortly after King Arthur's Roundtable of Knights held their sway. Another of the same species, in the vicinity of Mineral, is approximately 1,022 years of age, while a huge Western Red Cedar, growing in Washington's Snoqualmie Forest, dates back to approximately 800 A. D.

A copy of this report on the astonishing ages of trees in Washington was obtained by a field writer for the American guide, operating under the Works Progress Administration. Other interesting facts were found to indicate the colossal heights and diameters of some of these ancient forest sentinels. One Douglas fir, near Little Rock, has thrust its tip 330 feet skyward to equal the height of the 27-story Northern Life Tower at Seattle. Another fir in the same vicinity measures 310 feet high. Near Ryderwood, reports the Guide field writer, the big-tree data shows there is a fir measuring 303 feet; one near Sauk River towering 325 feet; one near Hoquiam of 318 feet, and one at Cathlamet reaching 315 feet. The tallest tree in Washington so far recorded is a Douglas fir that measured 380 feet and was mentioned in the Forest Service report of 1900.

Although the great majority of Washington's forest giants grow on the west side of the Cascade Range, Eastern Washington has some tall Ponderosa Pine, forest station data shows. One specimen measures 200 feet, and many other nearly as tall.

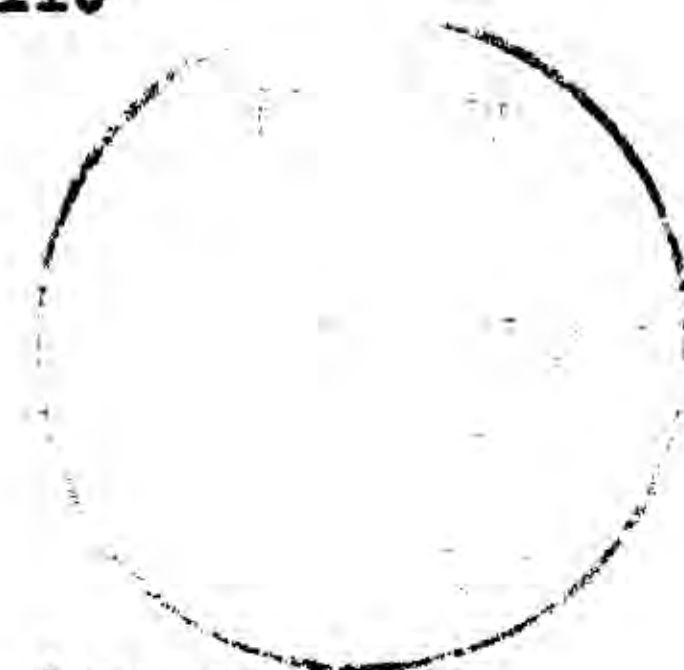
Greatest diameter of any Pacific Northwest tree reported is that of a Western Red Cedar in the vicinity of North Bend, with measures 18 feet. Near Kelley's Ranch Quinalt, stands a Douglas fir measuring 17 feet, five inches in diameter, while the 1,022-year old tree at Mineral measures 15 feet, 5 inches in diameter.

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Seattle, Washington, August 18, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



Letters to the editor were just as popular 84 years ago in Washington as they are today, so popular, in fact, the publishers of the first newspaper in the state, The Columbian, published at Olympia, printed a long list of instructions to readers, headed "Writing for the Press". These appeared in the initial issue of the pioneer newspaper which was printed at Olympia on September 11, 1852.

It is apparent the editor, Thornton F. McElroy, feared the handwriting of the doughty pioneers more than anything else. He was patient in explaining to those writing to the newspaper to use black ink and a "plain, bold hand", adding that, "some hands are too elegant to read". He declared, "An editor will read with reluctance what he sees with difficulty."

A copy of this initial issue of the Columbian was found at the University of Washington by a field writer for the Works Progress Administration, and the quaintly-worded instructions to readers deciphered from the yellowing page.

In those days when every letter was set by hand the importance of time in getting out an issue of a newspaper was indicated in the fact that the first rule cautions writers "use note paper, because large sheets cover the printer's case, and hinder his work". Then there is the warning "do not write on the back of the paper, as that doubles the time of printing the article; while one side is being 'set up', what is written on the back cannot be 'gone on with'".

Finally, as a last appeal, in the sixth rule, the editor wrote "You may scribble with a pin on your butter paper, and the editor will try to make it out ..... but if yet so popular that anything must be printed that bears your name, then cleave to good sense, good taste, correct expressions and a plain hand."

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Seattle, Washington, August 18, 1936.



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PR-120

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Seattle, Washington

Thousands of men, women and children are now being instructed by WPA leaders on the Recreation Program throughout Washington in the aquatic art of handling themselves safely in the water. Swim meets are now the order of the day.

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Over 1100 students representing Washington, Alaska and the Territory of Hawaii are now taking advantage of the WPA's College Correspondence work which offers more than 140 courses, ranging from art to zoology.

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Under the Safety Education of the WPA, classes in First Aid are now being conducted in the Ballard Fire Department where over 25 men from the various WPA projects and civic organizations are learning the rudiments of First Aid.

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Once a housemaid in the home of Bjornstjerne Bjornson, one of Norway's great poets, and taking an active part in all the plays written by Bjornson's good friend Henrik Ibsen, a gray-haired Norwegian lady today attends one of Washington's WPA classes in Americanization, preparing herself for naturalization in her adopted country, the U. S. A.

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An allotment of Federal funds to cover the cost of clearing, improving and fencing the pauper's cemetery in Tacoma, has been approved by the office of the Comptroller General at Washington, D. C. Pierce County is sponsoring the project, which will be carried out by WPA security wage workers.

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"The Works Progress Administration is not referring persons to the State Department of Public Welfare for certification," Don G. Abel, State Administrator, explains. "The WPA is not a certifying agency; we only assign persons to work from the certifications we receive. Certifications are made on the basis of need for relief."

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Seattle, Washington, August 18, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Assuring close cooperation with the established school system, Don G. Abel, State Administrator, Works Progress Administration, today announced the appointment of Wallace W. Kelso as State Director of Education and Recreation.

"I have had opportunity to observe Mr. Kelso's work through personal acquaintance extending over several years," Abel said. "I am happy to say that the appointment also has the approval of Dr. Showalter, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, as the educational program of the Works Progress Administration is closely identified with the public schools of the state."

Mr. Kelso, a graduate of Washington State College, was principal of the Junior High School at Chehalis for the past eight years. He took an active part in recreation, serving as basketball and baseball coach.

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Seattle, Washington, August 20, 1936





Approval of allotments of Federal funds covering nine separate civil works projects in five counties of the State was received from the office of the Comptroller General in Washington, D. C., yesterday, with instructions to start work on the improvements at the discretion of the directors of the Works Progress Administration in the districts affected.

Included in the approved list, Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, pointed out, is a project which calls for the construction of a storm sewer and for cleaning tributary ditches on city-owned property in Tacoma. The work is sponsored by the city of Tacoma. Other projects include:

Sub-grading, graveling and binding with earth filler certain streets and alleys in Toppenish, Yakima County.

Construct a pipe and ditch drain for disposal of storm and flood water in Camas, Clark County.

Excavate, ditch and place culvert pipe and construct a road bed near Midland, Pierce County.

Repair and improve the Lake View school on Mercer Island, King County, work involving a basement, installing new piping and plumbing fixtures, painting, kalsomining and minor improvements.

Grade, level and otherwise improve the playground in Ravensdale, King County, in School District No. 109.

Improve Highland Park in Seattle, by constructing a concrete wading pool with a drain water supply and sewer; also, build cinder paths and grade and seed the field.

Construct a grandstand, concrete walk, pony golf course with sprinkling system, build a tennis court, double handball court and install wire fencing, and clear and grade playfields in the Olympic addition in Longview, Cowlitz County.

Construct a municipal recreational center, remove brush and stumps for a bathhouse and concrete tennis courts, remove irrigation canal; also, construct concrete tennis courts and bathhouse with showers; relocate irrigation canal; install drain tile; construct sewer and build septic tank in the town of Wapato, Yakima County.

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PR-123

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



In many recreational centers of the State, under the direction of the Recreational department of the Works Progress Administration, tennis, considered the professional men's game, is gaining in popularity in communities composed principally of manual workers.

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Handcraft teachers, employed by the Works Progress Administration, though hampered considerably by lack of materials, are doing yeoman service in instructing literally thousands of women in the art of making pillows of yarn, table mats, bedspreads, embroidery work, paper-craft vases, purses and similar items. In some localities, it is stated, it has been possible to make these lesiure time activities pay for all material as well as labor.

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Seattle, Washington, August 25, 1936



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PR-124

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Three new members have been added to the faculty staff of the College Extension and Correspondence project, operated under the Works Progress Administration, Miss Pamela Pearl Jones, State Coordinator, announced yesterday. The additions include: John P. Clyde, M.A., Columbia University; Elmer D. Hansen, B.S., University of Washington, and Ira M. Gish, M.A., University of Washington.

The latter two, Miss Jones states, are now working for their Doctorate at the University of Washington. Clyde will teach English Literature, Hansen mathematics and Gish will instruct in foreign languages.

Approximately 1200 students are now enrolled in the WPA Correspondence project which offers 140 courses, it was stated. Interested students are urged to send to the Education Department, WPA, Alaska Building, Seattle, for application blanks and a list of the courses offered.

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Seattle, Washington, August 25, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

In strange contradiction to the vivid tales of redskin savagery that blood-stained the pages of Washington's pioneer history is additional proof just brought to light to show that converted Pacific Northwest Indians possessed a deep, expressive faith in the "Great Spirit of the white brothers".

An Indian version of the Lord's Prayer, has been re-discovered among little known or long-forgotten documents deep in the archives of the Seattle Public Library, by a field writer on the American Guide, a federal writers' project under the Works Progress Administration, and translated for him from the "Chinook Jargon" by Edward Harper Thomas, retired Seattle Newspaperman, Indian authority and author of a history and dictionary of the Chinook Jargon.

A literal translation of this interesting evidence of religious devotion to the white man's god made by Thomas follows:

Our Father who dwells on high,  
Good for our hearts your name;  
Good you chief of all people;  
Good your heart to such country as yours  
Up above; give us all days our  
Food, and stop remembering all our sins  
We make to them, suppose sin against us;  
Throw far away from us all evil.

Amen.

The Indian who wrote the prayer wanted to be sure they had more than "bread", according to Thomas, and so, in exercising their child-like, simple precaution they asked for "muck-amuck", which covered their daily ration of meat, fish, etc., and is translated as "food". Chinook Jargon, the oldest and greatest trade language prior to English on the American continent, came from the basis language of the Chinook tribes, to which was added words from other Indian tongues, and later from the French and English traders, trappers, and settlers.

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Seattle, Washington, August 25, 1936





WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

PR-126 PROPERTY  
OF THE  
WASHINGTON  
STATE  
LIBRARY

Evidence of the Works Progress Administration's efforts in making school buildings and grounds habitable and happy places will be seen on every hand when the school bells ring out in the cities, towns, villages, and rural communities throughout the state, this month.

During a year's operation of the WPA in the State of Washington, within which time in excess of 7,000 security wage workers were given employment on this class of work, more than 200 school properties and grounds were rehabilitated, renovated and improved.

The work done, Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, explains, involved innumerable major and minor operations, including the construction of needed additions, enlargements of classrooms and ~~gymnasiums~~, improvements of boiler rooms and plumbing installations, interior and exterior painting and re-shingling of many structures. Also, Abel points out, the improvements, sponsored by the various school districts and carried out by WPA workers involved clearing, leveling and otherwise improving school grounds, the installation of tennis courts, football and baseball fields and running tracks.

"Our work, of which we are justly proud," Abel stated, "served a two-fold purpose --we accomplished things which will immeasurably benefit the school children of the state and, at the same time, gave sorely-needed employment to thousands of men who could not find employment in private industry."

A resume of work performed during the year's operation shows that in excess of 140 school properties were improved in nine counties in the Puget Sound area; approximately 50 in 12 counties located in Eastern Washington, beyond the Cascade Range, and 35 in five counties in Southwest Washington. The resume further shows that in excess of 4,000 men were utilized on the work in the Puget Sound section, 1,250 in Eastern Washington, and in excess of 1,000 men in Southwest Washington. Classifications of men employed covered building trades mechanics, including carpenters, plasterers, painters, electricians, journeymen plumbers, semi-skilled and common laborers.

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Seattle, Washington, September 1, 1936



Release for publication on receipt.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Operators of resorts, owners of dude ranches, and professional guides throughout Washington are invited to cooperate in giving authentic information to tourists visiting the state by sending in details of local attractions and accommodations, to the office of the American Guide of the State of Washington, a federal writers' project of the Works Progress Administration.

James W. Egan, state director, in asking this aid said the information should be sent to the Tour Editor, The American Guide, 102 Chamber of Commerce Building, Seattle. Egan pointed out how valuable to Washington this type of information will be, since almost half of the American Guide, now being compiled, is devoted to tours covering all parts of the state. The information for tourists is intended to supplement the attractive data frequently presented in newspapers throughout Washington, and will tend to focus greater attention on the attractions described in the daily and weekly press.

Although all available sources of information are being combed for facts, with mention being made of the various mountain camps, hunting lodges, resorts, dude ranches and chalets, Egan urged anyone who is operating any establishment catering to the motorist or vacationist, to cooperate in this manner to minimize the possibility of overlooking some interesting detail.

Egan suggests that operators send in accurate information about highways near their establishments, features of surrounding scenery, historically interesting places, facilities for hunting, fishing, boating, swimming, golfing, types of accommodations and rates and principal industries of nearby towns. Tourists reading the American Guide will expect to be told about hiking trails in the vicinity, and availability of guides, pack horses, provisions and other similar details.

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Seattle, Washington, September 1, 1936



Release for publication on receipt.

PR-128

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Harry L. Hopkins, WPA Administrator, who is making an administrative survey of the western states, will be in Seattle on Saturday, September 12. Following the Seattle visit, Mr. Hopkins will head south.

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Seattle, Washington, September 1, 1936





WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



"Our College Extension and Correspondence Project," declared Wallace W. Kelso, State Director of Education and Recreation for the W.P.A. in Washington, "is designed primarily to appeal to those individuals who are financially unable to take advantage of the regular work offered at the established colleges of the State.

"Over 1200 students are now registered for work in this project and more enrollments are coming in with every mail. There are over 140 courses which have been carefully worked out, all of which means that there is bound to be some subject that will appeal to every one. "

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"In our W.P.A. classes in Americanization, Naturalization and Literacy which are now going on all over the State of Washington," stated Wallace W. Kelso, State Director of Education and Recreation, "we have many interesting individuals enrolled. For instance, a Chinese woman who cannot read, write or speak English has recently registered in one of our English classes. While she will never be given the privilege of becoming an American citizen she is extremely eager to become Americanized.

"At Harborview, the King County Hospital, The Chinese chef has asked for instructions in English in order that he may become more familiar with our American recipes."

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Seattle, Washington, September 1, 1936



Release for publication on receipt.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



PR-130

During a year's operation of the Works Progress Administration in the State of Washington, the anniversary of which will be observed on September 9, in excess of 1400 projects of various types were placed in operation, the work employing from 27,000 to 47,000 security wage workers.

This announcement was made by Don G. Abel, Works Progress Administrator, who stated that of the number of projects started during the year, approximately 300 have been completed and that the others are being operated at the discretion of the directors of the districts, operation depending upon availability of workers and suitability of the project.

"During the year," Abel stated, "the WPA carried out needed improvements for counties, towns and cities which, because of lack of funds and depressed conditions, could not be started; however, our main concern during the period was in transferring men and women from relief rolls to WPA payrolls."

Quoting from a statistical report Abel produced the following information covering larger construction projects listed as completed in the 39 counties of the state which is divided into six districts.

Water systems, 55 units; sewers, 56 miles; schools, 236 units; parks, playfields, tennis courts, etc., 228 units; farm-to-market roads, 2,168 miles improved and constructed; streets, 462 miles; flood control, 88 units; irrigation 66 miles.

Segregated as to districts, Abel's report is broken down as follows: District No. 1, 10 counties, Spokane headquarters: water systems, 7 units; sewers, 16 miles; schools, 51 units; parks, playfields, tennis courts, etc. 20 units; farm-to-market roads, 334 miles; streets, 35 miles; flood control, 5 units; irrigation 4 miles.

District No. 2, 10 counties, Yakima headquarters: water systems, 6 units; sewers, 5 miles; schools, 3 units; parks, playfields, tennis courts, etc., 37 units; farm-to-market roads, 36 miles; streets, 60 miles; flood control, 5 units; irrigation, 29 miles.



District No. 3, 5 counties, Everett headquarters: water systems, 6 units; sewers, 1 mile; schools, 28 units; parks, playfields and tennis courts, 32 units; farm-to-market roads, 700 miles; streets, 20 miles; flood control, 8 miles.

District No. 4, 4 counties, Seattle headquarters: water systems, 17 units covering 65 miles; sewers, 10 miles; schools, 76 units; parks, playfields, tennis courts, etc., 64 units; farm-to-market roads, 672 miles; streets, 90 miles; flood control, 7 units; irrigation, 7 miles.

District No. 5, 4 counties, Tacoma headquarters: water systems, 10 units; sewers, 19 miles; schools, 44 units; parks, playfields, tennis courts, etc., 75 units; farm-to-market roads, 319 miles; streets, 233 miles; flood control, 55 units; irrigation, 19 miles.

District No. 6, 6 counties, Longview headquarters: water systems, 9 units; sewers, 5 miles; schools, 34 units; parks, playfields, tennis courts, etc., 24 units; farm-to-market roads, 107 miles; streets, 24 miles; flood control, 8 units, irrigation, 7 miles.

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Seattle, Washington, September 8, 1936.





WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Harry L. Hopkins, storm center of the nation's relief problems, will present the national viewpoint on the Works Program in an address to be given at the Seattle Civic Auditorium at 8:00 p. m., Saturday, September 12th.

Perhaps no other figure in national affairs, other than the President himself, has been more widely discussed than Mr. Hopkins. In his capacity as Federal Administrator of the Works Progress Administration, it has been Mr. Hopkins' job to lay down policies around which have centered millions of controversial discussions.

The Seattle appearance is only one scheduled stop on an administrative tour of the western states. The Seattle address will be preceded by a half hour concert by the WPA Symphonic Band under the direction of John Spargur. The speech will be broadcast over radio station KJR.

On Saturday noon, September 12, Mr. Hopkins will address a luncheon attended by city, county, and state officials, educators, and members of civic, labor, church, and other groups.

Arrangements are being made to handle a capacity crowd at the Auditorium because of the widespread interest in the Works Program. Mr. Hopkins is known as a colorful platform speaker. His address should clarify many of the little understood questions about WPA.

Following his Seattle appearance, Mr. Hopkins will spend a quiet day in Tacoma with his brother, Dr. L. A. Hopkins. From Tacoma Mr. Hopkins will go to Portland.

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Seattle, Washington, September 8, 1936.



Release for publication on receipt.

PR-133

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



An expression of confidence in the manner in which the Works Progress Administration is carrying out an airport program in the Northwest was received yesterday by Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, from Earl C. Popp, Regional Supervisor, Bureau of Air Commerce, of the Department of Commerce.

Writing to Abel, expressing satisfaction with the approval of air terminals at Everett and Bellingham, the Regional Supervisor stated: "the Bureau and my Chief, John S. Wynne, of the Airport Section, are most appreciative of your helpful attitude."

Further Popp said: "Have noted with great pleasure the consistent cooperation which you are giving this type of project in Washington"\*\*\*\* and "we are confident that we may always rely on your sympathetic attitude in this fundamentally important work".

The letter follows:

BE



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Bureau of Air Commerce  
Washington

September 15, 1936

1201 Bedell Building  
Portland, Oregon

Honorable Don G. Abel  
State Administrator  
Works Progress Administration  
Seattle, Washington

My dear Mr. Abel:

I have had an opportunity of studying the airport program as carried out under the Works Progress Administration in the Northwest for the past two months and have noted with great pleasure the consistent cooperation which you are giving this type of project in Washington

The Bureau of Air Commerce and my chief, Mr. John S. Wynne of the Airport Section, are most appreciative of your helpful attitude. It is decidedly encouraging to find high Works Progress Administration Executives like yourself who see the wisdom of contributing, as far as is within their power, to the building of so important a permanent factor in our national economic structure, as we both know efficient air transportation facilities to be.

Your recent approval of such important airport terminals as those in Everett and Bellingham are concrete evidences of your vision and sincerity. We are confident that we may always rely on your sympathetic attitude in this fundamentally important work and trust that we may look forward to the airports at Mt. Vernon, Yakima and Walla Walla receiving favorable action in the near future.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very respectfully,

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EARL C. POPP  
Regional Supervisor  
Bureau of Air Commerce

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Seattle, Washington, September 16, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

More than a million tourists have visited Washington this year!

Closing of the summer season at Rainier National Park, September 8, marks the unofficial end of the great 1936 tourist season in Washington which shows at least 25 per cent increase over last year. Some districts of the state report double the travel business of 1935, according to information gathered by a field writer of the Washington section of the American Guide, a federal writers' project of the Works Progress Administration.

From travel bureaus, immigration authorities, steamship companies, automobile clubs, railroads and hotels, data was gathered through the cooperation of the Tourist Committee of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, which reveals over 450,000 persons visited Seattle and more than twice that many came to Washington up to September 1, when virtually all tourist travel ends. The estimated amount spent by the tourists was conservatively set by the Tourist Committee at \$60 per person.

To further stimulate this huge travel industry is one of the main purposes of the Washington section of the American Guide, says James W. Egan, state director. Almost half the Guide will be devoted to accurate, colorfully written information about the tourist attractions of Washington and the United States, Egan says and adds that one of the ultimate results to be expected from the Guide's publication is a substantial reduction of the unfavorable balance of tourist trade between this country and Europe. According to information gathered by a field writer on the Guide from the United States Department of Commerce the colossal sum of \$770,000,000 was spent by Americans in Europe during the normal year of 1927, while in the same year only \$123,000,000 was spent by European tourists in the United States. "And almost every government in Europe has published a National Guide for many years", observes Egan.

The National Park Service reports that in 1936, at Rainier alone, there were 77,653 more persons than last year, with 13,364 people entering the park on the peak day, August 9, which is the all time record.

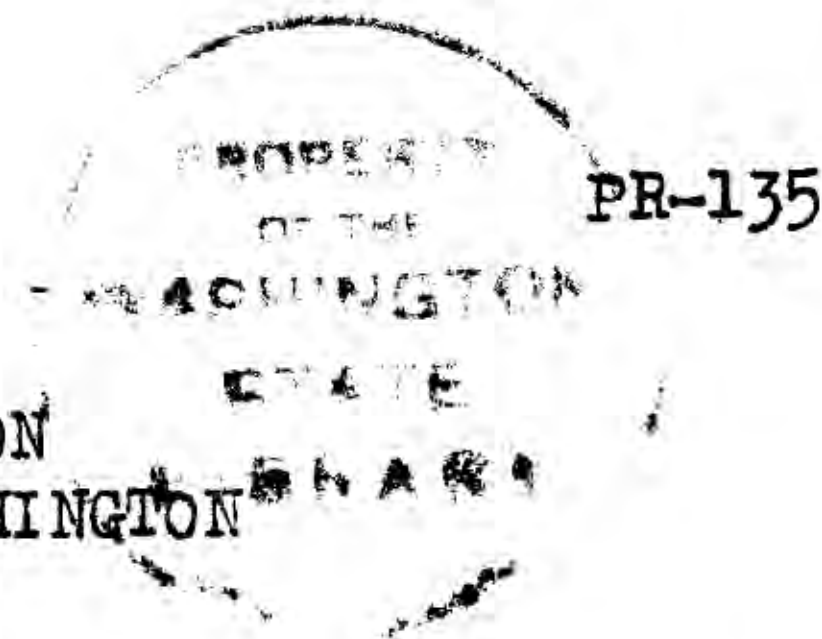
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Seattle, Washington, September 17, 1936.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Who was the laziest man ever to come to Washington? The answer is: Lazy Dan.

That rather uncomplimentary cognomen attached to one Dan Harris who nearly starved through his own shiftlessness until he got his pigs to dig clams for his meals, according to information gathered by a field writer on the American Guide, a federal writers' project.

For this amazing procedure, and other extraordinary evidences of a workless life, Lazy Dan was accredited with top rating among the indolents of early 'ry Washington. This pioneer character earned his special reputation particularly during the 1870's and 1880's on his claim which afterward became Fairhaven, a part of Bellingham, when Nelson Bennet and his Fairhaven Land Company bought the Dan Harris place for a reported \$40,000. in 1889.

Bennet, one story goes, asked Harris how he managed to live without working and Harris, with an anguished expression, replied that the problem at first had him worried. But soon he discovered that when the tide went out his table was set, except for the strenuous job of digging the clams.

Legend has it that while Harris was visiting at Olympia a friend presented him with two pigs. Not knowing what to do with them or how to feed them, their new owner turned them loose on his claim to rustle for themselves. Soon the pigs took on a more prosperous appearance than he could account for, and Harris determined to fathom the mystery. He found the resourceful pigs down on the tide flats rooting up clams. Lazy Dan then proved his mental superiority by appropriating for his own use one of every two clams his pigs retrieved. But Lazy Dan Harris always contended he treated his snouted pals fairly, by never taking more clams than he could use between tides.

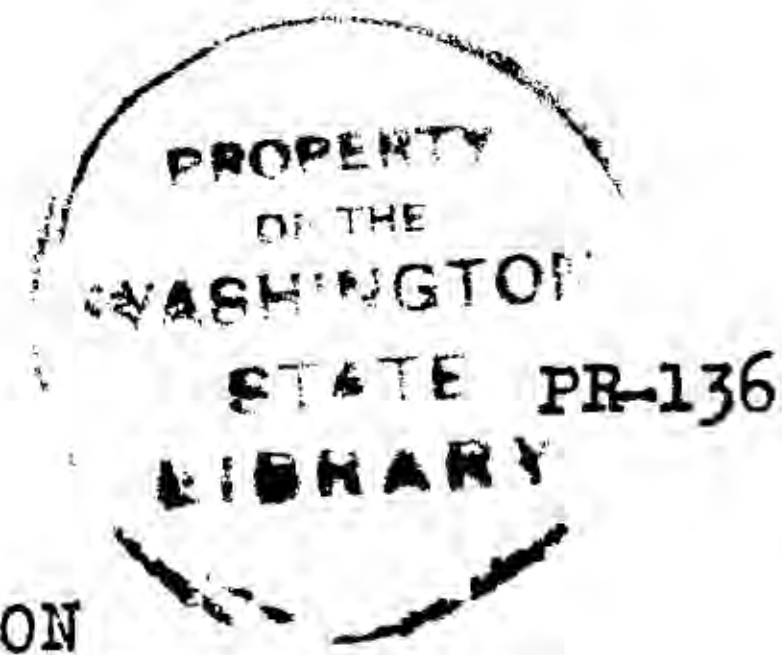
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Seattle, Washington, September 22, 1936

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Released for publication on receipt.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Work of reinterviewing the normal wage earner of all families certified as being eligible for employment under the Works Progress Administration's program has been started in the State of Washington by the National Reemployment Service, and the task, involving some 70,000 persons, including some 25,000 WPA employees, will be completed by December 1.

This announcement was made yesterday by H. D. Huxley, Associate Director of the National Reemployment Service, located in Seattle, who stated that a request for the resurvey was made by President Roosevelt. "The major purpose of the reinterview," Huxley stated, "is to gain such occupational classifications and information which will enable the N.R.S. most effectively to place in private industry a larger number of these persons on jobs which they, through training and past experience, are competent to perform."

Huxley further explained that the WPA's participation in the resurvey involved only making available for interview those persons certified as being eligible for the works program.

National Reemployment offices are scattered throughout the state and those persons who are registered with N.R.S. at this time are urged to contact their nearest office for a reinterview.

Calls from private industry for skilled help, principally mechanics and trained office help, are showing a marked increase, Huxley said.

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Seattle, Washington, September 22, 1936

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

How can social unrest be reduced and greater patriotism instilled in Washington citizens? By creating more affectionate attachments for our own community through the study of its history, legends and traditions, declares Al Benson secretary of the Pioneer Association of the State of Washington, and a member of the board of curators, Washington State Historical Society.

Benson, whose father was one of the earliest building contractors in Washington, is so convinced his theory is right he is extending every possible effort to assist field writers on the American Guide, a federal writers' project, who are gathering and compiling such information for inclusion in the Washington section.

"We should all know more about our state's history, its struggles, pioneer adventures, traditions and the local color that make Washington the grandest place in the world in which to live", says Benson. "The more we learn about its background and that of our own little communities, the more we come to appreciate how lucky we are to live here. We will then be rid of many of our imaginary grievances and become better, more patriotic citizens".

State Director of Federal Writers' Projects, James W. Egan, points out this spirit is back of the entire preparation of the text of the American Guide, and that not only will there be colorful, fascinating material on Washington of the past, but a liberal section will be devoted to travel information intended to attract more tourist to the state than ever before. Many of the most outstanding organizations in the state, says Egan, in addition to the Pioneer Association have assisted field writers' materially, in gathering information. These groups include the various chambers of commerce, business associations, and fraternal organizations, as well as historical societies, libraries and educational institutions.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

How Washington farmers in practically every county in the State were literally lifted from the mud of countless makeshift roads and placed on newly constructed or reconstructed Farm-to-Market highways will be explained by Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, at the Thirty-seventh Annual Convention of the Washington State Good Roads Association, scheduled to be held at Ellensburg on October 1 and 2.

Since the inception of the WPA program, Abel will point out, in excess of 3,000 miles of Farm-to-Market roads have been developed and 464 miles of streets constructed, utilizing the labor of security wage employees. Labor, he will state, was paid 75.2 per cent of the total cost of the work and materials cost 24.8 per cent. Sponsor's contributions totaled 21.8 per cent, the remainder being paid from Federal funds.

Segregated as to districts as defined by WPA--there are six in the state, covering 39 counties--Abel's resume will show where the road and street work was performed. The tabulation he will use follows:

District No. 1; Spokane; 10 counties: Farm-to-Market roads, 334 miles; streets, 36 miles.

District No. 2; Yakima; 10 counties: Farm-to-Market roads, 1,056 miles; streets, 60 miles.

District No. 3; Everett; 5 counties: Farm-to-Market roads, 700 miles; streets, 20 miles.

District No. 4; Seattle; 4 counties: Farm-to-Market roads, 672 miles; streets, 91 miles.

District No. 5; Tacoma; 4 counties: Farm-to-Market roads, 319 miles; streets, 233 miles.

District No. 6; Longview; 6 counties: Farm-to-Market roads, 108 miles; streets, 24 miles.



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Improvements to the Farm-to-Market roads, it will be pointed out, involved new construction as well as reconstruction, draining, removing obstacles on blind corners, eliminating dangerous curves, widening road beds and numerous other operations, while the street work involved placing various types of surfacing, including graveling and bituminous paving.

Favored Farm-to-Market projects operated by the WPA, Abel will state, were those in isolated districts, where funds were lacking to progress the urgently needed improvements. Also, he will state, many of the improvements will be connecting links of projected cross-state thoroughfares.

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Seattle, Washington, September 29, 1936.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

PLOT AGAINST THE KIDS

Plans are proposed for a state-wide Hallowe'en party, Saturday, October 31, with parades, snake dances and bonfires with city and town officials and civic organizations cooperating with the Educational and Recreational Division of the WPA.

Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, says the plan has already received the hearty endorsement of many officials who are interested in substituting supervised Hallowe'en festivities for vandalism on All Hallows Eve.

Civic-minded persons interested in the plan are urged to contact the WPA Educational and Recreational supervisor nearest them.

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Seattle, Washington, October 6, 1936.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

The University of Washington's colorful Pacific Coast intercollegiate football history began 43 years ago when that institution played its first out-of-state game. And that contest, which was with Stanford, was arranged by Herbert Hoover, who later was to become President of the United States!

As far as the score is concerned, the Huskies would just as soon forget that memorable day, December 29, 1893, for Stanford trounced them 40 to 0. The reason the score was so one-sided, according to information gathered by a field writer on the American Guide, a WPA writing project, was that a number of the best players on the Washington team were away for the holidays and volunteers from the spectators were used to fill the gaps!

Hoover, then a student at Palo Alto, made arrangements for the game with ex-Councilman Ralph D. Nichols of Seattle, a student football manager at Washington. Due to some misunderstanding with the Seattle Athletic Club about the use of its grounds, the university players turned to a West Seattle field as the only one available. This, incidentally, was the only college game ever played there. Teams and fans had to cross over by ferry from Seattle and reach the field by cable car which ran up the hill from the ferry landing.

"There were about 500 to 600 spectators, but our team didn't put on a very good show, due to shortage of regular players," Nichols said.

Prior to this, Washington's games were played principally with clubs, including Multnomah Athletic Club, Portland, Port Townsend Athletic Club, Tacoma Athletic Club, and the Vivienda Athletic Club, Tacoma.

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Seattle, Washington, October 6, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

While observing Washington Parent-Teacher Week, October 11 to 17, in accordance with Governor Clarence D. Martin's proclamation, the Works Progress Administration should be given credit for the Emergency Nursery schools which are being so successfully conducted.

This is the expressed thought of Mrs. Thomas H. Jones, president of the Seattle council of the P. T. A., who states the schools have been of untold value to the various communities.

"The schools", she stated, "have taken the under-privileged children from those homes most seriously affected by the depression, cared for their physical and mental health and assisted in fitting them for the parts they will play as citizens."

As explained by Mrs. Cecile Garland, State Supervisor of both Parent Education and Nursery Schools, the WPA provides sixty percent of the daily food needs of the nursery school children, carefully preparing the meals under the direct supervision of nutrition specialists. Also, she pointed out, every child who enters one of the nursery schools is given a complete physical examination by a reputable doctor and daily health inspection is required. Provision is also made for vaccination and immunization, Mrs. Garland said.

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Seattle, Washington, October 13, 1936.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Part of a nation-wide study which will be carried on in approximately 900 cities of the United States, a Buildings Permit Survey will shortly be under way in various centers of the State of Washington, Don G. Abel, State Administrator of the Works Progress Administration, stated today.

The project has the two-fold purpose of providing reliable statistics on the building situation for the use of the United States Bureau of Labor and other agencies, and of giving employment to needy clerical and professional workers. Under its operation a collection will be made of detailed facts concerning building permits covering the years of 1929 to 1935. The data for each city will be broken down by geographic areas within the city according to type of dwelling or building, cost, number of rooms and materials. The extent and nature of the demolition of buildings will also be studied.

This survey will begin in Seattle on October 13, in the City Building Department, under the direction of H. C. Sampson, District No. 4, Director of Professional Projects. Five professional workers will be engaged upon the collection of data at the outset. Similar surveys will shortly be undertaken in Bremerton and Port Angeles, Abel said.

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Seattle, Washington, October 13, 1936.



Release for publication on receipt.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



High points being stressed in the Americanization and Naturalization program being conducted by the Division of Education and Recreation of the WPA include the following:

- Ability to speak the English language.
- Ability to read and understand an American newspaper.
- An appreciation of American ideals.
- A respect for American institutions.
- A desire to participate in American community life.
- A sense of responsibility toward the duties and privileges of citizenship.

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The Division of Education and Recreation of the WPA, state headquarters located in the Alaska Building, Seattle, reports the project for college correspondence and extension work, designed to operate from September 30, 1936, to September 30, 1937, is rapidly being placed under way. This activity is planned to meet the need of adults who cannot take advantage of the courses offered by the established colleges of the state.

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Inquiries regarding the WPA's recreation program for the year are coming in from leading citizens, school principals and civic leaders throughout the entire state, WPA educational and recreational executives of the program report. Cooperation from the general public, they state, is assured.

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Seattle, Washington, October 13, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Wide acceptance of the plan of the Educational and Recreational Division of the WPA for a state-wide Hallowe'en Party, on Saturday, October 31, featuring parades, snake dances, bonfires, and like activities, has been received, Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, states.

"City and town officials, police departments, and various civic organizations have commented favorably on the plan," Abel said, "and have gladly promised the fullest cooperation. It is not the intention to stifle Hallowe'en fun; rather we hope to substitute real supervised play for vandalism."

In many of the towns reporting as favorable to the plan, downtown streets will be utilized for the parades and snake dances, but in the larger cities, playgrounds, community houses, and gymnasiums will be the scenes of the celebration.

Park board officials sponsoring the plan in Seattle, Tacoma, Spokane, Bellingham, and Everett are especially enthusiastic, Abel said.

There is still time, Abel pointed out, for interested sponsors to contact WPA supervisors in connection with the plan.

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Seattle, Washington, October 20, 1936.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



"Wanted, heap fine apple in exchange for my squaw's skirt."

Back in 1865 the Chehalis Indians in the Grays Harbor district of Washington were desperate. The region by no means resembled the Garden of Eden, but apples were causing a lot of fuss. The Indian braves wanted apples, that strange fruit of the white man, and wanted them in a big way. They would go to any extreme to get apples and the squaws were made to pay and pay, according to information gathered by a field writer on the American Guide, a federal writers' project.

Raids on the limited wardrobes of those hapless squaws all began after Patterson Luark, resourceful pioneer, introduced apples to the redskins of that section. The enticing flavor of the fruit caused such a "wild" demand among the braves that they would resort to any sort of bartering to get more. They would bring valuable furs, and their own most cherished personal belongings to induce a trade for apples. When competition ran highest, and there seemed no other way, they would drag in their squaws and offer their skirts and most valued ornaments for the fruit. Luark's fame spread rapidly throughout their tribal world, and he became fondly known among the Indians as the "Apple Doctor".

In contrast to the billions of apples that make Washington the leading producer in the country today, were the precious few which found their way into those pioneer settlements. The first apple tree in Washington was grown from seed brought from London, England, to the Hudson's Bay Company trading post at Vancouver, Washington, and planted in 1826. This tree is still growing and is said to be the oldest in the northwest. The Guide writer obtained the information that the first apple orchard was planted by "Okanogan" Smith, in 1858, on his ranch three miles above the junction of the Similkameen and Okanogan rivers. One of these trees is also still standing.

From these and other early plantings began the steadily increasing demand for Washington apples that has led to the present huge production.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Initial operations on the proposed Bellingham airport, to be built three and a half miles north of the Whatcom County metropolis, will be started by WPA security wage crews October 21.

This announcement was made yesterday by Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, who stated the work would be done under the direction of L. A. Lechner of Everett, Director, District No. 3 of the Works Progress Administration. Immediate supervision of the work, Abel said, will rest with the superintendent of construction to be furnished by the sponsor of the project, Whatcom County. No less than 125 men, certified for WPA employment, will comprise the original crews.

The Bellingham field will cover 200 acres, owned by Whatcom County, and the work to be done in the first stages of operations will include clearing a runway 1,000 feet wide diagonally southwest and northeast, and grading and levelling 500 feet of this cleared improvement.

Whatcom County, it was stated, has an option on an additional 100 acres adjacent to the planned project, which later may be added to the field.

The Bellingham airport, situated 22 miles from the Canadian border, will be utilized as a port of entry by the U. S. Customs Service. At this time the port of entry from Canada to the United States for air commerce is located at Boeing Field in Seattle, 115 miles from the border.

In connection with airport development in the state with which the WPA is actively engaged, Abel stated, work on the Snohomish County airfield project, located six miles south of Everett, is progressing rapidly. Work on the project was started recently, and at this time approximately 250 workers living in the vicinity of the project are employed. Work being carried on at the Snohomish County field consists mainly of clearing and grading raw, cut-over land.

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Seattle, Washington, October 20, 1936.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON  
ALASKA BUILDING



"Partners wanted! Must be females. Beauty no objects"

It was a critical situation that faced many rugged outdoor men of upper Kittitas County, Washington, back in 1885, as revealed in this advertisement headline in a pioneer Teanaway newspaper. Names of fourteen men were affixed to the advertisement.

The pioneer men-without-women wanted it strictly understood they were not particular. All they asked for were damsels "with sound teeth and strong constitutions". They particularly emphasized "no capital required and but few questions asked", according to information discovered among the fading pages of a copy of the long-forgotten Teanaway Bugle, a two-column newspaper of that day, by a field writer on the American Guide, a federal writer's project.

Considerable inquiry developed the information that at least two or three of the worthy gentlemen, whose names appeared, later entered the matrimonial life, which seemed to point to the importance of advertising, even in that pioneer period. The gentlemen stated that "after roaming around this cold, cheerless and unsympathetic world for many years, with nothing to love, no one to caress us, we the undersigned old bachelors, have at last settled down on lovely ranches in the charming valley of the peerless Teanaway. All that is wanting to complete our happiness is partners of the female persuasion. No capital required and but few questions asked. Women of uncertain age and questionable beauty accepted, provided they can otherwise pass the examination. Sound teeth and strong constitutions are the essential requisites".

The proposition set forth in the advertisement courted investigation, and the postmaster at Teanaway was given as reference.

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Seattle, Washington, November 3, 1936.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON  
ALASKA BUILDING

Complete instructions in the seven fundamentals of first aid to the injured are now being given by qualified instructors of the Works Progress Administration and, to date, in the State of Washington, more than 4,000 men and women have received certificates attesting proficiency in this line of endeavor.

This announcement was made by Wallace W. Kelso, State Director of Education and Recreation for the WPA, who stated that the work, under the direct supervision of B. F. Snook, State Supervisor of Safety Education, conforms in every detail with the course conducted by the U. S. Bureau of Mines. "The activity is being conducted on a state-wide basis," Kelso said.

In the Seattle district, classes for WPA foremen were inaugurated at the Ballard fire station on November 2. They will continue until November 6. Similar classes will be carried on in various parts of Seattle and suburban districts during the succeeding weeks.

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Seattle, Washington, November 3, 1936.



Release for publication on receipt.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Faced with the difficult problem of operating within a curtailed quota of project workers, the Works Progress Administration will of necessity immediately apply a more stringent test of need and employability, Don G. Abel, State Administrator, announced today.

"We had projected our plans on the basis of an increase in unemployment with the falling off of seasonal work offered by private industry," Abel said. "We have been allotted a quota of 28,000 workers for November, which is a continuation of the October figure. This allotment is in effect a severe reduction when viewed in the light of actual employment need.

"Redistribution of quota on a national basis has become necessary because of the extremely unusual and unforeseen need for aiding distressed families in the drought states."

WPA will endeavor to distribute the available jobs within the quota on the fairest basis possible, Abel emphasized, but to do so will necessitate drawing extremely fine and impartial lines.

"WPA was set up to provide useful employment for those persons who were not eligible for benefits under social security legislation," Abel stressed.

"This is a work program for the needy unemployed. We are forced therefore to meet our quota by limiting our rolls first to the needy and unemployed heads of families."

Quota will be met, it was stated, by dropping from the active rolls all those who display a wilful negligence in the performance of their tasks, persons over 65 years of age, women with dependent children eligible for widow's pensions, all single men and women, and all those who are physically unable to perform their duties on assignments offered.



Pointing out that WPA had a definite responsibility to heads of families who had left WPA during the spring or summer to seek private employment, the state administrator said, "We have made our promise to these family heads that we would take them back, and we will do everything humanly possible to see that that promise is fulfilled. We will clear our rolls of everyone who doesn't appreciate his job enough to work for it or who can be taken care of elsewhere. Need for employment of the workers returning to us will be re-established on an individual basis.

"I am fully aware that to meet our quota limitations hardship will be worked upon some classes of individuals, and this I regret exceedingly. With the dimensions of the problem set for us, the best we can do is to make that hardship fall lightest on those who can least afford to bear it."

Abel indicated that the present moves may be charting the future course of relief and the Works Program.

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Seattle, Washington, November 3, 1936.



Release for publication on receipt.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



Three courses in Biblical literature compiled by the Rev. Henry Atwell Post are now available to students enrolled in the college correspondence and extension project of the Works Progress Administration. This announcement was made by Wallace W. Kelso, State Director of Education and Recreation for the WPA, who stated, "Among the one hundred courses which the faculty members of my staff have ~~worked~~ out, there is none more valuable than these courses".

Mr. Post's work covers, "The English Bible as Literature", "A Critical Introduction to the Literature of the Old Testament", and "A Critical Introduction to the Literature of the New Testament".

"It is the aim of these courses," Kelso said, "to present the Holy Scriptures from the literary and historical standpoint and to rigidly exclude the discussion of controversial questions of theology and doctrinal tenets peculiar to one or the other of the various bodies of Christians."

The Rev. Mr. Post is an Episcopalian clergyman, a graduate of Hobart College at Geneva, New York, with an A. B. degree (cum laude) to his credit. His theological education was received at the General Theological Seminary of New York where he maintained an average grade of 94 per cent in Biblical literature. Mr. Post was the winner of the English prize scholarship, and also winner of the prize in Classics. He received sophomore honors in Greek, Latin, English, and French, as well as final honors in Greek, Latin, and English. He was the Latin salutatorian.

Any individual desiring to enroll in these or in any of the other courses taught in the college correspondence and extension project, Kelso stated, may obtain application blanks at the state headquarters of the WPA in the Alaska Building in Seattle.

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Seattle, Washington, November 10, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



Death by guillotine was once a legal means of execution in Washington!

This startling bit of information was uncovered recently by Works Progress Administration research workers employed on the Federal historical records survey, according to Dr. Herman J. Deutsch, State Director for the survey. In early territorial days a person convicted of a major crime with death as the penalty had his choice of three methods of execution, viz.: To be hanged, shot, or guillotined.

No record that the guillotine was ever used for such a purpose has been disclosed, Dr. Deutsch explained. It is believed that that method of execution was written into early territorial laws by error, but was subsequently erased from the statutes at a later session of the territorial legislature.

This is just one of the many interesting facts, Dr. Deutsch points out, of early Washington history brought to light by the sixty research workers engaged on the historical records survey in the state of Washington.

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Seattle, Washington, November 10, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



There's a fine thought expressed in the following editorial, "America's New Dress", which appeared in the Tacoma Times on November 5, 1936.

AMERICA'S NEW DRESS  
By X Reporter

A ramble through the countryside in some of the western states reveals the illuminating and gracious fact that America is becoming more beauty conscious than it has ever been.

The "Main Street" that Sinclair Lewis wrote about, with its galvanized iron sheds, its littered roadsides and its unlovely auto junk yards, is definitely on the way out.

It will be with us for some time to come, but it is passing.

"Boon-doggling" is a political issue right now, and we as a people are notoriously dense when we have our political backs up. It may be years or even decades before we finally arrive at a point where we will give the man with the rake, the shovel and the mattock the credit he deserves for making us more conscious and more appreciative of our everyday surroundings.

I prophesy that the time will come when the gentle art of making our town and city streets and our country roads and highways places of beauty, will be a recognized and very important part of our "American way" of living.

Circumstances have compelled us to make a start in that direction. The necessity for providing man-hours of labor thrust the nation smack up against the task of manicuring, massaging and otherwise beautifying itself.

The workers of the WPA, mostly unhonored and unsung, are the pioneers in a great crusade that one day will make this, our nation, one of the fairest on the face of the globe. Right now they are paying the penalties of hardship that all pioneers must pay.

To mention an instance or two of special pride in beauty, and the simple ways in which it may be achieved—

The little town of Montesano, in southwestern Washington, has planted flower gardens to greet the eye of the wayfarer, instead of forcing him to get his first view of the town across a vista of tin cans and rusted, broken automobile bodies.

The beauty of the scene is so startling that few who pass that way by daylight can fail to appreciate and to offer comment.

The Oretown Grange on the Oregon coast is another unit of citizens that favors beauty over ugliness.

Whether by agreement or because their individual minds run in the same direction, the farm members of that grange whose homes are along the highway have sprinkled their yards and some of the ordinary unsightly spots on farms with the seeds of flowers that bloom gorgeously in the fall.

The result achieved is just that the traveler via the highway is smitten with the beauty of the scene. Great masses of varied color meet his eye, where in



some communities ugliness unadorned is the only prospect.

It is good to know that America, as it comes of age, is being measured for a new dress. And a very pretty dress it is going to be, too.

Tacoma Times,  
November 5, 1936.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Approximately 2,500 men and boys enrolled in the 60 CCC camps maintained by the Federal government in the State of Washington will take advantage of the courses offered by the Correspondence and Extension Project on the college level actively operated by the Works Progress Administration during the ensuing year.

This announcement was made yesterday by Wallace W. Kelso, State Director of Education and Recreation for the WPA, who stated the work will be under the direct supervision of Miss Pamela Pearl Jones, who, at this time, is sending out application blanks to the various camps in lots of 500 to 1,000. In excess of 8,000 men are being employed and cared for in Washington CCC camps, it was stated.

"To assist in carrying on the correspondence work," Kelso stated, "ten additional instructors have been added to the faculty staff". Of the teachers on the staff, it was also stated, ten members are working for their doctorate at the University of Washington.

Mathematics, forestry, history, English and bookkeeping are the favored subjects in the camps, it was pointed out.

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Seattle, Washington, November 17, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

"And they were stronger hands than mine that digged the ruby from the earth."

Before the depression swooped down in the fall of 1929, throwing millions of respected and ambitious citizens into financial tailspins from which many have never righted, Orval L. Howe, of Sequim, Washington, was a landscape artist with hopes of recognition and great success deeply embedded in his heart. Today, after years of vicissitudes, which would have prostrated many men, Howe, now the father of nine children, the oldest 14 and the youngest two, is a WPA security wage worker, supplementing his meager income, \$63 per month, by selling his masterpieces in oil for any sum the purchaser can pay.

Howe does not admit stronger hands than his digged the ruby. His efforts, aimed toward ultimate success in his chosen work, are continuous. Some day, he firmly believes, he, too, will go "forth to sell" and the "long bazaar will praise".

"Like any artist," he says, "I'm living in my town of banishment and eating the bread of discontent, but this condition will not persist forever. Some day my landscapes of the Olympic Peninsula will attract attention and the world will beat a path to my door."

Howe does not admit that he is handicapped by his large family. "The family is my spur and my inspiration," he said. "Of course, if I didn't have to buy shoes, I would have more money to spend for canvas and materials, but that doesn't matter. Some day, there will be shoes for all and enough money left over for my art needs. Then I'll do my great work."

At the age of 11, Howe, living in Vaughn, Washington, pestered a painter so much that he was given a bucket of paint and an old brush. The first attempt, as he remembers, was a daub of the fishing fleet riding at anchor in a quiet bay.

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Seattle, Washington, November 17, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

HUMANITY

The following letter of appreciation, written by an invalid, unable to hold a pen for six years, now well on the way to recovery due to the aid received from a WPA Home Aid worker, was received by Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator.

"I wish to express my appreciation for the help of the WPA Home Aid nurses. I have sat in my chair for six years, getting more helpless and helpless every day.

"A nurse has been put on my case and under her care, I am much improved and feel that with proper care continued, I shall walk again. We cannot afford to hire a nurse and I cannot help myself. It is wonderful what the Home Aid nurse had done for me and I hope the WPA will continue this work for there are so many that are like myself.

"If I could have had this chance two years ago, I would be around now, but being so helpless, it will be longer and more difficult to get over it.

"I wish to say thanks for it all and to all who have helped me so much."

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Seattle, Washington, November 23, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building      Seattle, Washington

In the valleys and low-lying places, the snow may pile knee-deep to a squaw on stilts; the elements may war with one another and howl defiance, but in the cabin homes of the Muckleshoot tribe, in the valley of the Muckleshoot, near Auburn, this coming winter holds no terrors. There is fuel. There is food.

The Great White Father at Washington, through the Works Progress Administration, and Morris Labehan, Chief of all the Muckleshoots, have taken care of the details. A WPA farm, producing tons of vegetables, and a sewing project, each employing security wage workers, solved the problem. The depression, if any semblance of it exists, appears as remote to the Muckelshoot tribe as a penguin on an ice floe at Little America.

Showing visitors through the neat community club house on the reservation, pointing with justified pride at the totem carved by a 14 year old boy with a jack-knife, through the gardens where vegetables of all kinds and descriptions grew in abundance, to the storehouse where row on row of canned goods await to be distributed—share and share alike, Chief Labehan discourses in clipped English.

"It looks as though you captured the summer, Chief," a visitor remarks, pointing at the cans of peas, beans, tomatoes, the barrels of sauerkraut and other stored provender.

"There are 54 families of Muckleshoots above ground," the Chief says. "There will be ample."

Explaining the Nesika Club, comprised of women members of the Muckleshoot WPA sewing project, Chief Labehan said: "They meet quite often after WPA work. They talk about good government, about how best to can beans, about a daughter who is working in a restaurant in the city or a son who is on the fishing in Alaska. They laugh lots. They are happy."

Nesika, one explains, means "Friendship". Another says "Nesika" means "Our Club". Take your choice. It is a fine club and the women make moccasins or do bead work while they talk and laugh.

"Good government," Chief Labehan says. "Good WPA. Muckleshoots all set."

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Seattle, Washington, November 23, 1936

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Americanization and naturalization classes being conducted by the Works Progress Administration throughout the State of Washington are extremely popular and the enrollment has grown to enormous proportions, Wallace W. Kelso, State Director of Education and Recreation for the WPA, reports.

In District No. 4, covering King, Kitsap, Clallam and Jefferson counties, in excess of 1,100 foreign-born residents, have enrolled in 88 classes being conducted in Seattle, Bremerton, Port Angeles, Port Townsend and other larger towns in the district. "Throughout the state," Kelso states, "the growth of the classes and interest manifested compare favorably with the activity in District No. 4."

Mrs. Leslie A. Mason, long associated with Americanization and naturalization work, is state supervisor for the project, which, originally, was started with Federal funds under WERA in 1934.

Further information regarding the classes may be obtained by writing or calling the offices of the WPA State Director of Education and Recreation in the Alaska Building, Seattle.

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Seattle, Washington, November 23, 1936.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

POMEROY, Wash. --- Demonstrating what can be done to the community's advantage by intelligently planning useful work for local relief labor, the Garfield county seat on November 21 formally dedicated the 12-room, three-story brick addition to its school plant with an open house and appropriate exercises.

The work was carried out as a WPA project. It included installation of a modern central heating plant servicing the grade, junior high, and high school rooms. With the exception of a very few skilled brick masons, not locally available, the job was carried out by local men drawn from the relief rolls.

The school now has a splendid science laboratory, modern manual arts department, and a home economics department rated second to none in the state. A modern sound system permits the superintendent or principal to address all or any of the 26 class rooms for emergency purposes, for announcements or addresses. The same system permits radio broadcasts to be brought to the rooms for educational purposes.

To School Superintendent Gus Lybecker is due much of the credit for planning the buildings and equipment and in following the project through from dream to realization.

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Seattle, Washington, November 23, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Sacajawea and a negro cooked the first Thanksgiving dinner in Washington!

It was not a Turkey feast, but a fish and pheasant affair prepared for Lewis and Clark 131 year ago on the bank of the Columbia river in what is now Cowlitz county, November 5, 1805, according to information gathered by a field writer on the American Guide, a federal writers' project. The "bird woman" guide for the expedition, assisted by her colored "bus boy", set before the ~~intrepid~~ American explorers a bountiful table befitting the occasion.

But it was to be a long time after that before Washington officially observed Thanksgiving as a holiday, which was first proclaimed 76 years ago by Acting-Governor Henry M. McGill, four years before President Abraham Lincoln issued the first presidential proclamation fixing Thanksgiving as a national holiday on the fourth or last Thursday in November.

Governor McGill issued the proclamation November 9, 1860, proclaiming Thursday, November 29, of that year as the first official Thanksgiving day in Washington Territory saying it was to be "a day of Thanksgiving and praise to Almighty God". He pointed out, "neither war nor pestilence has affected us. The earth has yielded her fruits abundantly. As a territory we have shared in the general prosperity. Let us not forget him from whom all these bounties come".

This first official Thanksgiving was observed by many pioneers throughout the Territory, but the idea was new to most of the population and did not become generally accepted as a holiday until years later. As turkey was not a native of this section of the country, the pioneers resorted to all forms of wild game as the main item on their Thanksgiving menus.

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Seattle, Washington, November 24, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

In practically every district of the State of Washington, numbers of security wage workers employed in sewing rooms operated by the Works Progress Administration are making cloth toys from scrap material suitable for Christmas gifts for children. Dolls and animals are being featured.

The first of three murals to be placed in the Drama Library at the University of Washington has been completed by the Federal Art Project operated under the supervision of the Works Progress Administration. The mural is entitled "The Theatre of the East." The second mural, "The Theatre of the West", will be completed during November, and the third, "The Theatre of Shakespeare", is being designed. This work is co-sponsored by the University of Washington.

Completion of the Raymond, Washington, waterworks reservoir by the Works Progress Administration, an improvement with a capacity of 3,750,000 gallons, is announced by WPA executives. This completed project insures fire protection for the city as well as an adequate water supply.

Plans have been completed by the Works Progress Administration for a proposed wind tunnel in the aerodynamics laboratory at the University of Washington. The tunnel, it is stated, will be the most up-to-date wind tunnel in the United States. Technical men employed by the WPA will carry out the project.

Completion of the Zillah, Washington, sewage disposal plant, another link in the chain of plants which will eventually be constructed, lessening the contamination of the Yakima River, has been announced by officials of the Works Progress Administration.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

A course in the "History of Religion" is now ready for distribution to students enrolled in the College Correspondence and Extension Project of the Works Progress Administration, Wallace W. Kelso, State Director of Education and Recreation for the WPA, announced yesterday.

This course, prepared by the Rev. Henry Attwell Post, B.D., A.B., of the faculty staff of the extension project, is arranged in three parts of 18 assignments each. Part One treats of the principles of primitive religion; Part Two of the state religions of antiquity as well as with the religions of the Orient, together with a consideration of Buddhism in Southern Asia; while Part Three is a study of the origin and development of Judaism, the history of Christianity to the rise of Islam, the story of Islam, and the second millennium of Christianity.

"The course is worth nine college credits" Kelso stated, "and, undoubtedly, will command the interest of those thoughtful students who are eager to learn more of the religious life of the races that have trod the globe during the various ages of man."

Application blanks for this course, as well as for 100 other courses taught by the College Correspondence and Extension Division of WPA, may be obtained at State headquarters in the Alaska Building, Seattle.

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Seattle, Washington, December 1, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Shakespeare's schoolboy, as reported, may have whined and moped, even complained against the unkind fates that bent his unwilling feet toward the institution of higher learning, but the eager students attending the Americanization classes conducted by the Works Progress Administration do not follow his example.

In the portable school at Eighteenth and Main Street in Seattle, in one Americanization class, there are 18 middle-aged women, four Russian, six Turks, two Italian and six Chinese, and each of them in earnestly and eagerly striving to learn the language of their adopted country, "the great and big United States".

In District No. 4, alone, covering King, Kitsap, Clallam and Jefferson counties, the WPA's Educational and Recreational Naturalization and Americanization classes are accommodating 1,100 pupils and throughout the state the total number of pupils runs into the thousands. For instance, in one CCC camp in Eastern Washington, 40 lads from "way down south" are learning to read and write the English language.

At Eighteenth and Main on a recent afternoon, Miss Emma P. Kruger, the WPA instructor, was relating the story of the landing of the Pilgrims, illustrating the tale with written sentences.

"The ship was small," she wrote on the blackboard. "The ocean was rough. It was a dangerous trip. They sailed many weeks. They landed in the winter. It was bitter cold. They built log houses. They had little food. Many died from hunger and sickness."

"How do you like the story?" a lady from Russia was asked. "Fine story," she said. "They was depression, too, an' no Roosevelt president."

Miss Kruger silenced the laughter. "Girls! Girls!" she cautioned. "The lesson is about the Pilgrim Fathers."

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Seattle, Washington, December 1, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

HUMANITY

School children, like armies, march on their stomachs, according to the views of a certain Kitsap County schoolboy who was asked to write an essay on the value of hot lunches served by the Works Progress Administration in his district.

"Dad says eating is just a habit," he wrote. "But, if you ask me, it's the best bad habit there is. Anyhow, I've got it for keeps. And I want to say eating hot lunches at school is a lot better bad habit than eating cold hunks of stuff that feel like you'd swallowed a baseball mitt. Besides, some kids hadn't anything much to eat before the WPA got our lunches, and that wasn't so good.

"After my hot vegetable soup here at school I can do my arithmetic now, which I couldn't before.

"I guess there must be some kind of a straight line between the stomach and the head."

In the six districts of the State of Washington, covering 39 counties, the WPA, through the Division of Women's and Professional projects, headed by Hazel W. Dwinell, state director, hot lunches were served to 3500 under-privileged school children during the month of November. This, Mrs. Dwinell states, is but the beginning of the year's program. The remaining winter months will witness a decided increase.

Food for the lunches, dispensed by a cook and helper supplied by the WPA, is provided by parents or by the Parent-Teacher Association, supplemented in many instances by foodstuffs furnished by the Commodity Distribution Division of the State Department of Public Welfare.

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Seattle, Washington, December 8, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

In excess of 170,000 garments and miscellaneous articles were manufactured in the Fairview Avenue North sewing center in Seattle during the past 10 months, Mrs. Marion Briggs, supervisor of Women's and Professional projects for District No. 4 of the Works Progress Administration, announces. The completed merchandise, on which approximately 350 women were employed in manufacture, was turned over to the Commodity Distribution Division to be given away to the needy.

Included in the articles, Mrs. Briggs states, were 14,793 shirts, 1,970 pairs of trousers, 1,446 coats, 26,445 pairs of overalls, 9,557 women's and girls dresses, 9,149 undergarments, 1,914 sleeping garments, 2,507 children's playsuits, 137 children's dresses, 581 children's sleeping garments, 285 pairs of rompers and 1,886 diapers.

The Fairview Avenue North sewing center is the largest of 28 similar enterprises operated in District No. 4, covering King, Kitsap, Clallam and Jefferson counties.

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Seattle, Washington, December 8, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building      Seattle, Washington



A permanent "certificate of registry", issued on September 25, 1873, to A. T. Pingstone, owner, shows the "49 er" was the first steamboat to operate on the Columbia River. This information was unearthed by a research worker on the historical records survey, a WPA activity. The data were recovered from a private collection owned by Sam Glasgow. The certificate was issued by S. Garfield for a "one decker" with a plain head, a square stern, 114 feet long, 20 feet wide, and five feet deep.

This ship was built at Commipion Barracks, Washington Territory, in 1865. Commipion, it is stated, was located near Marcus, Washington.

The "49 er" ran between Arrow Lakes and Little Dalles. The boat was primarily used to freight gold from Marcus, but, when the quantity of gold fell far under expectations, the venture was marked down as a financial failure.

A temporary permit for the operation of the "49 er" was granted at Fort Colville on May 1, 1871, but this was surrendered when S. Garfield, Collector of Revenue at Port Townsend, District of Puget Sound, gave Pingstone the permanent certificate.

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Seattle, Washington, December 15, 1936





WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building, Seattle, Washington

A new division of a project organized to give employment to painters, graphic artists, photographers, and commercial artists who might not otherwise find employment, has been announced by R. Bruce Inverarity, Washington State Director, Federal Art Project, which is sponsored by the Works Progress Administration and under the national directorship of Holger Cahill.

The project will be known as the Index of American Design, and in operation will record material of historical significance, gather a body of traditional material which may form the basis for an organized development of American design, and make usable source records of this material available to artists, designers, manufacturers, museums, libraries, and art schools.

"We are interested in getting in contact with persons who may have material suitable to be recorded," Inverarity stated. "Already we have found that tin pants worn by loggers, and a design for an air-tight heater of the 'pot-bellied' type, originated in this state."

The American Index is to plan and do the groundwork for a nation-wide pictorial survey of design in the American decorative arts. Materials which will be recorded covering the years from 1620 to about 1890 will include furniture, silver, pewter and other metal work, as well as glass, ceramics, costumes, textiles, toys, and objects of every-day use. Basic material is being assembled for a series of portfolios of American design similar to the European publications on decorative design which are in constant use.

The Index of American Design project is nation-wide. Throughout the country at this time artists are working in the more important private and public collections, and research workers are employed in many of the chief museums and libraries.

"There is no single, comprehensive collection of pictorial data on American design extant," Inverarity said. "Completion of this work, it is hoped, will



stimulate the artist, designer, and manufacturer to build upon our American tradition, as well as offer an opportunity to the student, teacher, and research worker and the general public to familiarize themselves with this important phase of the American culture pattern."

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Seattle, Washington, December 15, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building      Seattle, Washington



With prominent public and Works Progress Administration officials participating, dedication exercises will be held in Woodinville on the evening of December 17, when the new \$50,000 school structure in District No. 213, King County, will be given over to the sponsors of this WPA project.

This announcement was made by Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator, who stated the structure, which is two story and basement, of brick veneer construction, was completed at a cost in excess of ten percent under the estimates of a private contract job. Security wage labor, of which 85 percent were skilled, were employed in the work which was started on March 16 of this year.

This grade school building, which replaces an old structure, covers an area 96 x 64 feet, and houses six large classrooms, two playrooms, aside from sanitary and heating facilities.

Completion realizes the dream of Mason C. Hall, principal of the school, who conceived the plan and who diligently followed the work through from inception to the present time. WPA officials also give much credit to L. A. Wallace, project superintendent, for his efficient handling of mechanics and other workers on the project.

John L. Langner, chief inspection engineer of the United States Public Buildings Division, after a close inspection of the structure stated: "This is the finest building of its size and type I have surveyed in a tour covering the entire country. It is indeed something to be extremely proud of, and proves conclusively that WPA workers can and are performing high class service."

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Seattle, Washington, December 15, 1936



Release for publication on December 25.

PR-169

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



We only get one chance in twelve months to wish you a

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and

A BIG ADVERTISING NEW YEAR

so why should we clutter your mail with a news release on this occasion?

Thanks for past cooperation.

Yours very truly,

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
DON G. ABEL, State Administrator

By

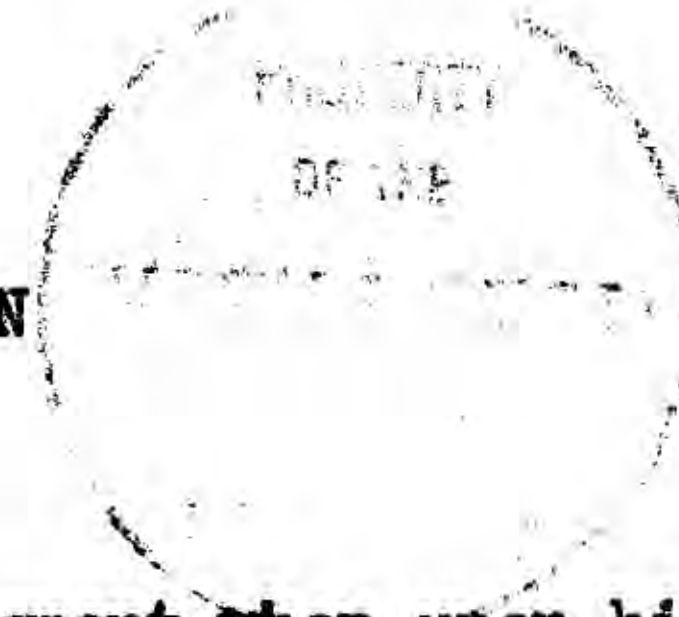
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "L E Thorpe", written over a horizontal line.

L. E. THORPE, Director  
Information Service



Release for publication on receipt.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



PR-170

No sooner had man invaded the new fields of settlement when upon his heels was the Word of God.

A worker of the Historical Research Project, operating under the auspices of the Works Progress Administration, states the first Methodist sermon was preached in the State of Washington by the Reverend Gustavus Hines, on May 21, 1843, in a fertile valley along the Columbia River, which is now known as Walla Walla.

Fourteen years later the seed from Reverend Mr. Hines' first Methodist sermon was rewarded and the first Methodist Episcopal organization was perfected in the year 1857.

The first class was organized in Walla Walla on October 11, 1859. The first board of stewards consisted of five men--S. M. Titus, William B. Kelly, John Moar, A. B. Roberts, and T. B. Denny. G. D. Roberts was elected recording steward. In January, 1860, the class decided to build a church, and at a meeting held in April of the same year, the committee reported securing Lots 6 and 7 of Block 10 of the original town of Walla Walla, which was transferred to the above church board by the county commissioners of that county.

The church was completed in the fall of that year and was the first church of any denomination built in Walla Walla, the total cost being \$1,046.52, with unpaid bills to the extent of \$131.02.

The most unique history of this church exists in the bell which was purchased by the Reverend J. H. Wilbur from a steamboat captain who used the bell for a signal on the boat. The bell was brought around Cape Horn from New York to Portland, Oregon, where it was first used on the Taylor Street Methodist Church, about the year 1851. It was sold to the trustees of the Walla Walla First Methodist Church, shipped by boat to Wallula via the Columbia River, then by wagon to Walla Walla. This bell today can be heard in actual service on the Waitsburg Methodist Church in Waitsburg, Washington.

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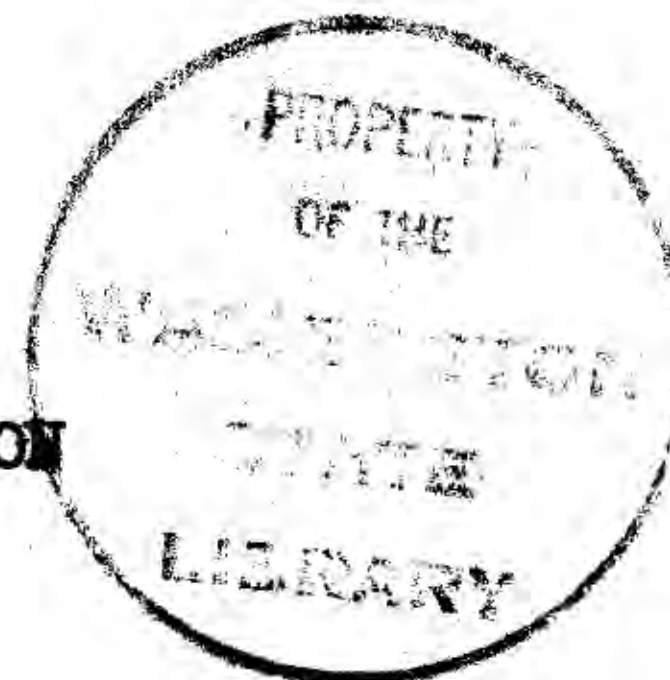
Seattle, Washington, December 29, 1936



Release for publication on receipt.

PR-171

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



A recent and heavy enrollment for correspondence courses offered by the Education and Recreation Department of the Works Progress Administration by Sisters in Catholic parochial schools and hospitals throughout the state is noted, Wallace W. Kelso, State Director of this division, reports. The subjects chosen for study, he states, include industrial arts, English, mathematics, literature and history, with industrial arts and literature appearing to be preferred.

Enrollment for these courses, covering more than one hundred subjects, is open to any adult who is desirous of taking or continuing college work, Kelso points out, and credits are given for work performed.

Interested students may secure application blanks and a list of courses from the Education Department, WPA, in the Alaska Building, Seattle.

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Seattle, Washington, December 29, 1936



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



Long before the days of Anti-tuberculosis Christmas Seal drives,, Seattle took care of its indigent ailing and injured in a crude boat hospital at the foot of Main Street, where an ex-pugilist kept unruly patients "within the bounds of propriety".

Dr. Alexander De Soto, son of a Spanish general, came to Seattle in the 1890's to practice medicine, and joined Capt. Amos O. Benjamin, pioneer shipmaster, at the turn of the century, in establishing the emergency charity haven aboard the dismantled steamship Idaho, according to information gathered by a field writer on the American Guide, a federal writers' project, of the Works Progress Administration.

The little floating hospital was known the length of the Pacific Coast as the "Wayside Mission Hospital", during the four years when it treated the city's emergency patients. This unique hospital may be said to have paved the way for the elaborate hospitalization system now operated by King County.

Captain Benjamin, who had also been a soldier, rancher, diver, wrecker, and dealer in furniture, bought the antiquated vessel for \$250 while he was a junk dealer. To carry out the project, which was intended as an establishment for the treating of emergency cases arising along the water front and on the streets, the two men enlisted other citizens in the organization of the Seattle Benevolent Society. A hospital structure was built on the Idaho hull and leased to Dr. De Soto for \$20 per month, rebateable to him during satisfactory tenancy. The Wayside Mission rendered an invaluable service during the years it flourished. Its operations were terminated when the property at the pier where the boat was tied up was taken over for an industrial structure.

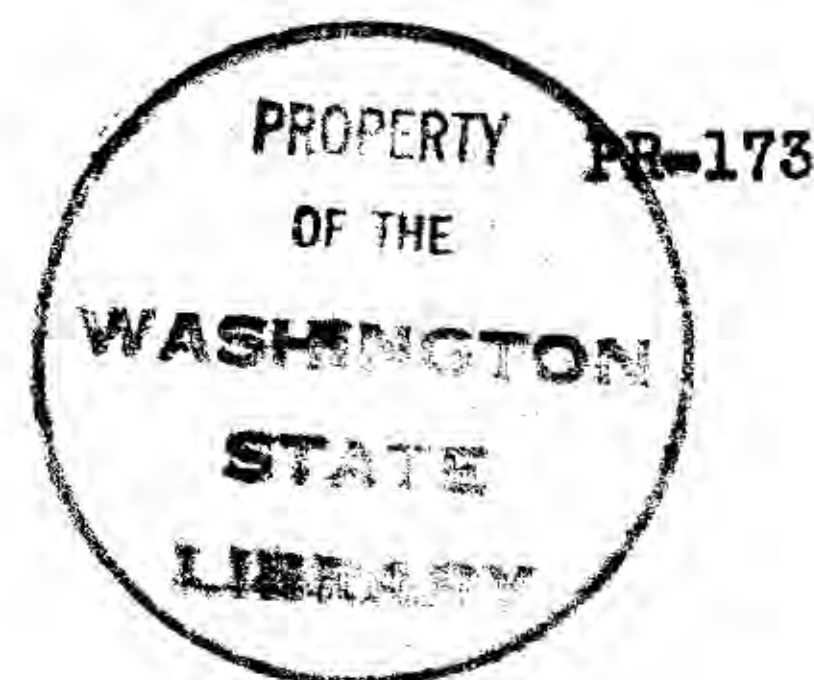
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Seattle, Washington, December 29, 1936



Release for publication on receipt.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



The College Correspondence and Extension project, operated under supervision of the WPA educational division, has an enrollment of 1,500 students. Excellent co-operation is being received from school officials as well as from the general public.

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Under the direction of WPA recreational leaders, boys in the various CCC camps throughout the state are being taught band and orchestra music as well as English, current literature, leather work, blue print reading and numerous other subjects.

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Approximately 100,000 checks are issued to WPA security wage project workers each month, the disbursing office of this agency states. Each check averages \$24.25.

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Recreational councils composed of representative citizens are now being organized in the various cities of the State for the express purpose of assuming responsibility for the conduct of the WPA recreational program.

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One of the most successful of the WPA art classes is being held in the historic old Sumbardo home in West Seattle where Madam Sumbardo, trained in Europe, teaches students to work with a palette knife instead of a brush. The studio, filled with copies of old masters, is a source of inspiration to the throng of eager art students.

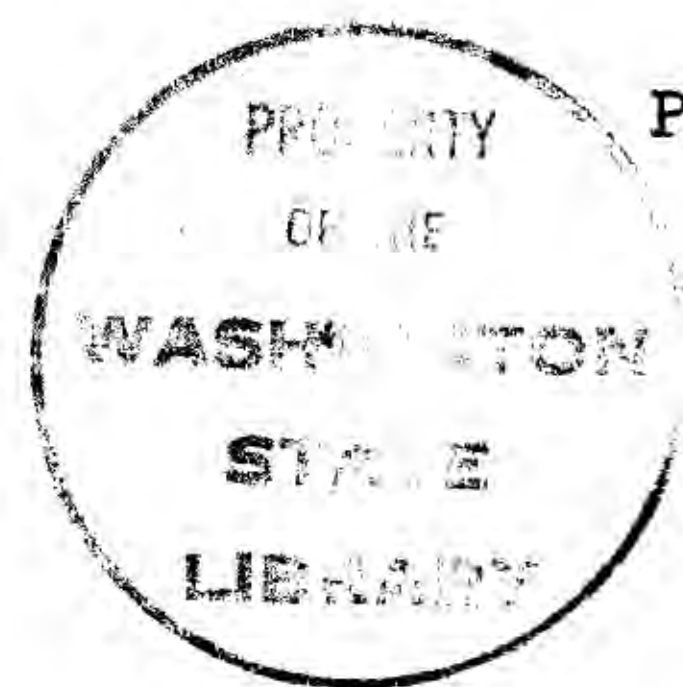
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Seattle, Washington, January 5, 1937



Release for publication on receipt.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



PR-174

"When the Works Progress Administration turns a rut into a road and makes regular folks out of castaways, it has done something."

A self-styled Robinson Crusoe, living in Jefferson County, recently wrote the WPA Division of Operations, expressing the sentiment above quoted. He wrote:

"Please accept my thanks for the new road built with government funds and security wage labor. Had it not been for the WPA, it would have probably been 20 years before this improvement was made.

"You might be interested in knowing my now son owes a debt to the WPA, too. He arrived during one of the worst wind storms of the year, when all the telephone wires were down. I hurried for the doctor and brought him back again in a tenth of the time it formerly took to make the one-way trip. It was touch and go to save the boy, but now, thanks to the new road, he's bossing the house.

"The way a lot of us outlanders feel about these new roads being built all over the nation is that they kind of tie us in with the scheme of things. We belong now. We never did before. By the time the WPA gets through, there won't be any Hill Billys and mountain music will be lost to posterity.

"Again thanks for the road. It's a dandy."

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Seattle, Washington, January 5, 1937.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



Adult education of the future and what the Works Progress Administration through its innumerable Educational and Recreational divisions hopes to achieve along this line of endeavor predominated in discussions held at various institutes and study conferences conducted throughout the State of Washington the last week of the old year.

Leading educators, including Stanley F. Atwood, State Superintendent of Public Instruction-elect; Worth McClure, Superintendent of Seattle public schools; Dr. Emil Friberg, pastor, First Swedish Baptist Church of Seattle; Dean Willis Uhl, College of Education of the University of Washington; Wallace W. Kelso, State Director of Education for the WPA, and many others addressed the sessions which were held in Spokane, Yakima, Wenatchee, Tacoma, Seattle and Everett.

In excess of 400 adult education teachers and 500 recreational leaders employed by the WPA attended the meetings which were held in the grade and high schools in the cities named.

"These institutes," the State WPA Educational Director said, "helped to make our teachers and leaders conscious of the fact that they are members of a large organization and that they have certain definite obligations to meet the needs of the communities they serve. We tried to make them feel that their work has permanent value and is not simply a day by day series of tasks that reach nowhere."

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Seattle, Washington, January 5, 1937.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Reporting to Don G. Abel, State Administrator, Works Progress Administration, Mrs. Hazel W. Dwinell, director of Women's & Professional Projects, stated as of January 11, there were 80 sewing room units operating throughout the state and that during the month of December 49,381 garments and toys of various kinds were made and distributed. Two thousand three hundred and forty women were being given employment on the January date named, it was stated.

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At Fort Colville on Christmas Day in 1863, a salute was fired from an old cannon which had seen service in the battle of Waterloo when the combined armies of Europe defeated the Legions of France under the great Napoleon.

This information was unearthed by a writer on the Historical Records Survey, being operated under the auspices of the Works Progress Administration, who further states the gun was never fired again. Being out of gun wadding, the crew packed the powder in with snow and when the fuse touched off the charge, the gun exploded, hurtling pieces of steel in all directions over the far-flung terrain. No one was reported as being killed.

Some pieces of the cannon are on exhibition at the Grace Campbell museum at West 2316 First Avenue in Spokane.

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"The parents of Charles Hull, who live in the northeastern part of Clark County," wrote Mrs. Berta Wildemuth, musical instructor identified with the WPA, "could not afford to buy Son Charles a clarinet for Christmas but they did the next best thing--they gave him a pig. Charles is to have the pig and the increase, if any, to apply on the purchase of the instrument. He had named his pet porker 'Clarinet'."

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building

Seattle, Washington



Placing emphasis on community cooperation, Don G. Abel, state administrator of the Works Progress Administration, this week issued to hundreds of civic leaders over the state a "report on your work". The report included an open letter to citizens and a very much condensed summary which highlighted the wide variety and geographical distribution of projects carried out by communities over the state with the assistance of the WPA. The letter follows:

(To the Editor -- The summary does not lend itself to publication without explanation, as it attempts only to show samples of projects. Its principle function is to acquaint the average citizen with what can be done. It is in no sense a complete catalog of projects.)

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Seattle, Washington, January 12, 1937.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

The unemployment problem and the Works Progress Administration's part in solving it will be discussed by Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, at a round table conference, via airplanes, on Saturday, January 23.

Broadcasting from a Seattle radio station, from 5:30 to 5:45 p.m., Abel will address 30,000 administrative, supervisory and project employees, outlining accomplishments and aims of the WPA. The general public is invited to tune in.

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Seattle, Washington, January 19, 1937





WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

A man whose sole interest lay in being himself, who had no desire to become famous or rich, who only wanted work and to be left alone, forms the central figure of the play "Natural Man", due to show at the Metropolitan Theatre in Seattle on January 28, 29, and 30, as the latest production of the WPA Federal Theatre Project.

Produced with a negro cast, "Natural Man" is based on negro legends surrounding the black Paul Bunyan of the South, John Henry. Theodore Browne, talented young actor-playwright, wrote the script, and all details of production have been worked out by the negro unit, under the direction of Florence James. Music, supplied by a male chorus of 12 negroes, is also mainly original with the workers, making the whole show a definitely Seattle production.

An interesting technical development was used in building the show, in that it will run in cinematic fashion, with no stops for scenes or intermissions. Scene changes will be effected with the chorus carrying the mood of the play from one transition to another.

Only two white actors appear in the show, Paul Travers and Toby Leitch, both old-time Seattle stock actors. Leitch will be particularly remembered for his recent part as "Buzz" Windrip in the Federal Theatre production of "It Can't Happen Here".

Low price rates, which have always marked the Federal Theatre's shows, will still be in vogue for the showings of "Natural Man".

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Seattle, Washington, January 19, 1937





WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

In excess of 11,000 hot lunches were served to school children in 128 school centers throughout the state during the month of December, with Works Progress Administration assistant. The hot lunch project gave employment to 163 women taken from relief rolls, who prepared and served the food.

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Approximately 200 security wage women workers are employed by the Works Progress Administration on the Housekeeping Aid Project, which, as of January 1, was operating 11 units. These women serve as aides in homes of under-privileged families where the mother is confined or is otherwise incapable of taking care of her household.

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A rehabilitation project for the unemployed blind operated in Seattle is employing an average of 22 persons in the manufacture of brooms, baskets, cane weaving and similar activities. The employees are also taught the use of the manual telephone, the typewriter, and given instruction in Braille.

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The Works Progress Administration has given employment for a number of months to seven skilled mechanics and architectural draftsmen who are designing, drafting and making blue prints for apparatus to test wind current effects on airplanes. This work, done at the University of Washington, is supervised by D. F. K. Kirsten, professor of aero-dynamics. When completed, it is claimed, the machine will be the most up-to-date in the world.

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Seattle, Washington, January 19, 1937





WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Anticipating the annual influx of tourists into Washington during the coming spring and summer, the American Guide, Federal Writer's Project, conducted under WPA auspices, is preparing publication of a number of motor tours designed to describe the scenic beauties of the state as well as acquaint visitors with all phases of life in this section.

This announcement was made by James W. Egan, State Director of the Federal Writer's Project, who stated the tours being written in the Seattle offices of the American Guide, will be published in pamphlet form in Washington, D. C.

Included in the tour pamphlets, Egan stated, will be the Olympic Loop Highway; the Vancouver, B. C., to Vancouver, Washington, route; as well as several other trans-state motorlogs. All towns and recreational areas encountered on the tours will be treated in the work, which will be profusely illustrated and completed with maps outlining the various routes.

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Seattle, Washington, January 19, 1937





WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



Can Major Bowes pick statuary?

At least in one instance, the one and only Major Edward J. Bowes of national radio fame, proved himself far less skillful in picking good statuary than in choosing popular radio talent, according to information gathered by a field writer on the American Guide, a federal writers' project of the Works Progress Administration.

While engaged in real estate promotions in Tacoma two or three decades ago, the public-spirited Major Bowes presented Tacoma with two heroic sphinxes which were set up in Wright's Park. They were presented and unveiled amid a fanfare of ceremony. But it rained that night! Going around the next morning to view with pride the two statues, Bowes found them slumped down ignominiously in two shapeless blobs of plaster. He stole quietly away and made no later reference to his ill-starred gift to the city.

But, states the American Guide writer, Bowes, even way back in those days, showed marked talents in at least two other directions, while a citizen of the Puget Sound metropolis. He added to the city's skyline in 1910 by erecting the Bowes Building, now the site of the Tacoma Savings and Loan Association Building, at Ninth and "A" streets. Then a beautiful actress came to town on a road tour. Bowes married her, became her manager, and left Tacoma to enter upon a successful theatre career. She was Margaret Illington.

For this reason Bowes still holds fond memories for Tacoma, though he shudders even today when he recalls the "tale of Two Sphinxes." But Tacomans chuckle gleefully at thought of the incident when over the radio they hear his now famous "all right, all right." Yet they have been known to mutter, "Not everything, Major, remember?"

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Seattle, Washington, January 26, 1937.



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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



The thought expressed below is worthy of deep study on the part of everyone. It is reprinted with permission of Mr. William Welsh, publisher, Port Angeles Evening News, in whose "Welsh Rarebits" column it first appeared, in the issue of January 12, 1937.

MANY FINE MEN

Then there is the "twilight zone" of employment. In Port Angeles this writer knows a great number of men on WPA. He talked to a number of them Monday morning before they shivered off into the frigid air. Many of them are crackerjack workmen, yet a number of them have passed that age when they can be absorbed by industry. They are what might be called "good old men" who are between the ages of active employment and the pension rolls--a zone of five to ten years. They could take the average young buck and crack his heels together for him, yet their age goes against them in private employment and they have not reached the age of legal retirement. They are in that "twilight zone" where so many good men unfortunately find themselves through no particular fault of their own. These men must be provided for--and the government will do well to keep going its program of public works to so absorb them, going even beyond the present wage scales in order to sustain these men well. The aged we can care for through the pension system. We have launched a future social security system for the men and women who toil. The young can find training to fit them for the future. But we have not arrived at the perfect scheme, for until years pass and they are all working smoothly, Uncle Sam must continue to be a big employer.

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Seattle, Washington, January 26, 1937



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



THINK LINCOLN'S SLAYER ELUDED POSSE

Was Abraham Lincoln's assassinator actually slain in Washington, D.C., or did he elude the posse and live for many years under an assumed name?

Research writers for the American Guide, Federal Writer's Project, have uncovered evidence pointing to the belief Booth was not shot by the posse in a Washington, D.C., barn and his body burned in the fire that destroyed the barn, announces James W. Egan, state director of Federal Writer's Projects.

Guide writers have been working on the mystery and have discovered that Malcolm M. Kelly, operator of a dude ranch on the Olympic Peninsula, believes he cashed checks for Booth in a bank in Enid, Oklahoma, long after the assassin is supposed to have been dead. Kelly says:

"I was cashier in 1905 in the Garfield Exchange Bank at Enid where I cashed several small checks for a little old man with reddish hair, who walked with a limp. He had an account with an eastern bank. When he died, the Enid undertaker announced the body was that of Booth.

"The stranger's hair had been dyed and was in reality gray", Kelly continues. Physically, in size and characteristics, he measured up to Booth. At any rate, the Enid undertaker exhibited the embalmed body as Booth. In view of the evidence, I believe the limping stranger was John Wilkes Booth all right."

Kelly's statement opens an interesting field for both research and conjecture, Guide writers believe. They are continuing the search for documents and interviews which will prove or disprove the story. This work is being done in connection with completion of Washington's section of the American Guide, a 25,000-word book now nearing completion.

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Seattle, Washington, February 2, 1937



Release for publication on receipt.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



PR-185

Transferral of Tacoma WPA Federal Theatre Project to Seattle where it will be combined with an already existing Seattle unit has been announced by Guy Williams, State Director of the Federal Theatre Projects.

The Tacoma unit has been operating for almost a year as an experimental theatre for the purpose of giving original plays by northwest authors. Occasion for the move grew out of the lack of sufficient talent in Tacoma and the need in Seattle for a white dramatic stock company to augment the Negro and Variety Theatres. The move will also provide a broader field of experience and training for the actors, it is announced.

The original Tacoma group had 15 members, including actors, technicians, and supervisory personnel under the direction of Clarence Talbot. Talbot will become assistant manager-director of the Seattle unit, which will be made up from the Tacoma group and selected members from the Variety Cast. All removals are purely voluntary, Williams explained.

During its regime, the Tacoma group produced eight plays by northwest authors plus a major production of the controversial, "It Can't Happen Here", by Sinclair Lewis. Talent displayed in the Lewis satire was in some ways responsible for the move to the bigger city.

At present the new group is at work on "Blind Alley", a modern mystery "mellerdrammer" of particularly blood-chilling type. The production is scheduled to open soon at a downtown Seattle theatre.

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Seattle, Washington, February 2, 1937



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



Approximately 50 percent of the Works Progress Administration's labor load in the State of Washington is in rural areas and in small towns where common labor past middle age predominates, Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator, states. For this reason there is little fluctuation because of seasonal employment. Road projects are best adapted to the labor load, he stated. Large zone-wide road maintenance projects are admirably suited to this labor, requiring a minimum of material and supervision and being readily adaptable to all weather conditions.

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Of the 4,300 women now employed by the Works Progress Administration in the State of Washington, approximately 50 percent are given work in sewing rooms. Other projects other than sewing rooms, however, Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator, states, are being expanded, particularly the school lunch and library projects. In connection with the school lunch undertakings, 152 projects are now operating throughout the state, employing 200 women and serving more than 14,000 children. The average cost of the hot dish at noon is placed at five cents. Excellent community cooperation in furnishing foodstuffs has greatly aided the development of the hot lunch project. Abel stated.

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In one of the Works Progress Administration's numerous tap dancing classes operated by the Educational and Recreational division, a 11-year-old girl, who was stricken with infantile paralysis at age nine, has learned two full dance routines. Wheeled to classes to watch other children dance, she insisted on trying, soon mastering the initial steps. The training received at the classes, her instructor reports, has been the major factor in furthering her rapid recovery.

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Seattle, Washington, February 2, 1937



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
State Administrative Office

Alaska Building      Seattle, Washington



Summoned to Chicago by telegraphic order from Harry L. Hopkins, chief of the Works Progress Administration, Don G. Abel, state administrator for the state of Washington, left Seattle Tuesday evening for a two-day conference to be attended by all state administrators.

Plans for the conduct of the works program for the next five months will be discussed at the Chicago meeting.

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Recreation is taking on a new significance in Washington, it is pointed out by Don G. Abel, state administrator of the Works Progress Administration. New recreational centers are springing to life all over the state in vacant churches, store buildings, laundries. Park boards, civic organizations and others interested are cooperating heartily in many communities to inaugurate programs.

In many cases the buildings must be rehabilitated to some degree, and into this work local citizens are putting their volunteer efforts. Much equipment has also been donated.

In scores of communities these new centers now ring out with the shouts of boys and girls playing basketball, volley ball, badminton and other competitive sports, while in quieter rooms classes are going on in handicraft, model building, and other pursuits which capture the fancy of the younger generation.

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Seattle, Washington, February 9, 1937



Release for publication on receipt.

PR-189

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



The Safety Education division of the Educational and Recreational Department of the Works Progress Administration as of February 1 had certified 550 persons who have completed the first aid training course, Don G. Abel, State Administrator, reports. Classes are being conducted in the various larger cities of the state, WPA instructors working with coordinating councils and committees chosen to carry on the work. An automobile safe driving school, under WPA supervision, is to be inaugurated in the CCC camps in the neighborhood of Spokane, at once, it is stated.

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A naturalization manual, compiled by WPA teachers in collaboration with the state supervisor of Americanization and naturalization, has been placed in the hands of the teachers, and the material contained in the completed work is being used at teachers' meetings in correlation with Part Three of the Federal textbook.

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Correspondence work on the college level in Russian language, literature and history, afforded by the Educational and Recreational Division of the Works Progress Administration, is open free to any adult financially unable to take advantage of the work offered by the established colleges of the state. Interested persons may apply for further particulars and make application for enrollment at the state administrative offices in the Alaska Building, Seattle.

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Seattle, Washington, February 16, 1937.



Release for publication on receipt.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



PR-190

"An infinite variety of subjects and courses of study is now being offered to the public at large by the Educational and Recreational Division of the Works Progress Administration," Don G. Abel, State Administrator, reports.

Classes in adult education, Abel stated, now being conducted on a state-wide basis for the benefit of citizens, 16 years and over, include arithmetic, arts and crafts, beauty culture, book reviews, business training, child care and homemaking, first aid, China decorating, choir work, current events, economics for workers, food and nutrition, languages, pattern drafting, parent problems, public speaking, shorthand and numerous other subjects.

These classes, instructed by qualified WPA teachers, are held throughout the six districts of the state in schools, halls, fire stations, and similar centers.

Activities along recreational lines are also stressed by the Educational and Recreational Division, Abel pointed out. Literally thousands of Washington citizens are availing themselves of the opportunity to study dramatics, learn handicraft and enjoy outdoor and indoor sports, including boxing, fencing, soccer, badminton, basketball, volley ball and many other games and exercises.

Catalogues explaining the various courses and classes may be obtained at the state office of the WPA in the Alaska Building, Seattle.

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Seattle, Washington, February 16, 1937



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Olympia's old city dump now is the graveyard of 75,000 rats. With labor furnished by WPA, it is reported by Don G. Abel, state administrator of the Works Progress Administration, three tons of bait were placed, the dump leveled, and a generous layer of hogged fuel distributed on top.

The U. S. Biological Survey supervised the project under the sponsorship of the county, city and state health departments. A health menace has been removed.

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Julius Twohy, 34-year-old Ute Indian, discovered by Joseph A. Danysh, regional advisor for the Federal Art project, is painting a 72-foot mural in native form on the dining-room wall at Tacoma U. S. hospital for Indians.

Twohy is working under the direction of R. B. Inverarity, state director of Federal Art project, under auspices of WPA.

Using the traditional symbols of the northwest Indians as the basis for his designs, Twohy weaves into them an entirely individual pattern in which he interprets the progress of the Thunderbird legend, which is found in one form or another in hundreds of North American Indian tribes, from the extreme north coast, down through Oregon and Washington and across the Rockies to the Plains Indians.

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E. G. Barry, airport engineer, Works Progress Administration, for the state of Washington since September 18, 1935, has received an appointment as associate airport engineer, from the Bureau of Air Commerce Regional Office, 1101 Bedell Building, Portland, Oregon. He will work under Earl C. Popp, regional supervisor.

Barry's work will keep him in the northern part of the regional district, which comprises Washington, Northern Idaho and Montana. His office will be in the Alaska Building, Seattle, in connection with the Works Progress Administration.

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Seattle, Washington, March 2, 1937



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PR-193

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building      Seattle, Washington



The rip-roaring days of journalism in Washington, when editors backed up their caustic, vitriolic editorials with six-guns are being recorded by the Federal Writers' Project, Works Progress Administration, which is compiling a history of the early days in newspaper publishing in this state, announces James W. Egan, state director of Federal Writers' Project.

Prepared by newspapermen and some of the state's most capable writers, the history will portray the hectic as well as modern days in journalism, beginning with the first paper, the Columbian, published at Olympia on an old Ramage hand press brought from California. Community, country and city dailies will all be treated, together with chapters on the University of Washington School of Journalism and the Washington State Press Association.

Advertising will come in for its share of treatment, as will biographical sketches of prominent editors and publishers. In a chapter headed "Echoes of Another Day" will be colorful excerpts from early newspapers, showing the handicaps borne by early editors and recording the state's history through quaint news stories. It is expected the volume will exceed 100,000 words in length.

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Seattle, Washington, March 2, 1937

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Release for publication on receipt.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



PR-194

Stating that 3,426 women taken from relief rolls are now employed by the Works Progress Administration on various projects, Don G. Abel, State Administrator, points out that women's work accounts for only approximately 11 percent of the work load in the state of Washington, whereas the national average is 18 percent.

At present, Abel stated, 2,374 females are employed in 74 sewing-room units, while hot lunch projects, housekeeping aid projects and readers' projects account for the bulk of the others.

The housekeeping aid project, which calls for placing skilled household help in the homes of sick and confined mothers, motherless homes, and in homes where the need is dire, although not accounting for a large number of women, has met with splendid response and appreciation, Abel reports.

Many letters of commendation extolling the humane value of this type of project are daily received in the state office of the WPA, these letters bringing out tragedies that have been averted or minimized with the assistance afforded by the project worker.

An excerpt from a letter received from the president of the Lay Section, Washington State Organization for Public Health Nursing, supplied by Abel's office, follows:

"It has been brought to my attention in several instances that the type of work being done certainly tends to build, not bridges or roads, but human lives and homes. In other words, it makes life worth living for many of our unfortunate people. We certainly approve and appreciate this type of work and hope it can be extended to other parts of the country. It is certainly worth while."

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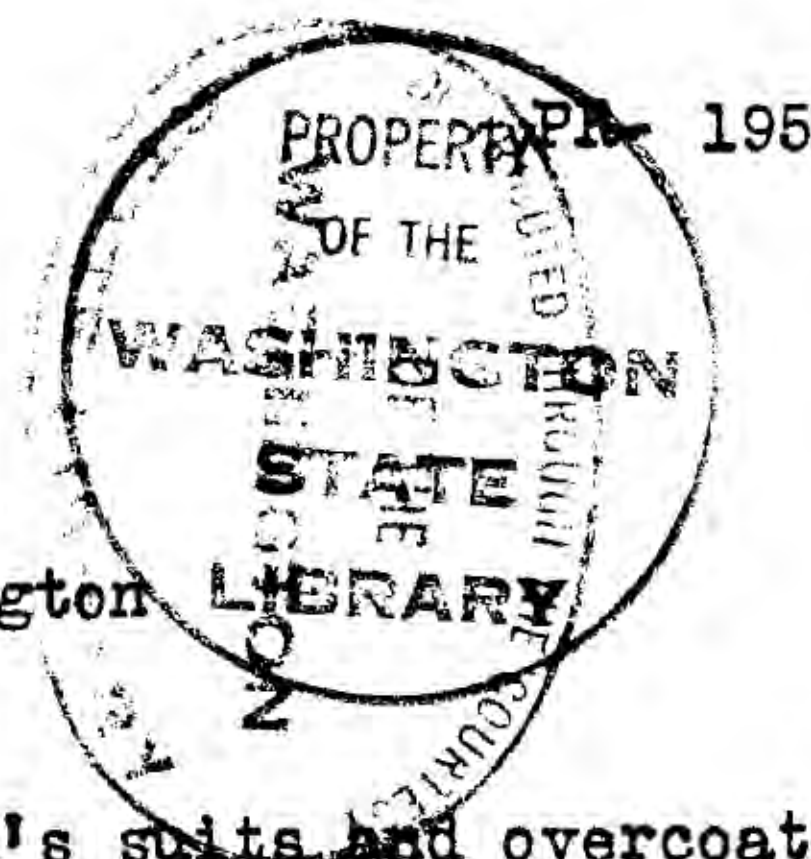
Seattle, Washington, March 2, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Approximately 250 items of clothing, including men's suits and overcoats, underwear, dresses, sweaters and children's garments were renovated in the sewing rooms conducted by the WPA in Everett and dispatched to flood sufferers in the middle west. A second consignment of similar items, it is stated, is being worked on at this time. The work is being done at the request of the Red Cross under the direction of Mrs. Ruth Taylor, Supervisor of Women's and Professional Projects, District No. 3.

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Until its fall a few years ago, the steeple of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Tacoma was known to thousands of Washington residents and tourists as the oldest bell tower in America, according to a writer of the Historical Records Survey, conducted under WPA auspices.

For the past 50 years, this writer states, tourists and world travelers passing through Tacoma stopped to view the old landmark, a venerable Douglas fir tree, snapping views of the historic tower. Ivy planted at the base of the tree hastened its demise, the rank growth encouraging dampness and ultimate decay.

St. Peter's Church had its beginning in midsummer, 1873. Tacoma was then a town of 200 people.

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Seattle, Washington, March 9, 1937



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

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A 1937 version of the ever popular blood and thunder melodrama is "Blind Alley," a Federal Theatre Players' production playing at the Moore Theatre on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights of this week.

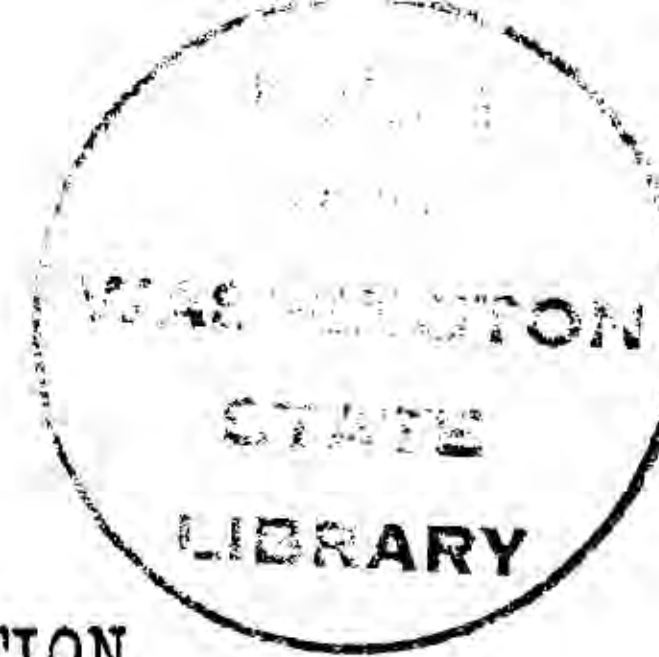
One of the major hits last season on Broadway, "Blind Alley" was written by James Warwick as a modern indictment against crime and 'public enemies.' The hero in his story, rather than a brawny two-fisted Nick Carter, is a mild-mannered professor of psychology who uses mental suggestion to fight off the gangster who threatens his home. An unusual ending, even for a mystery play, adds a final fillip to the exciting action.

Usual low price rates of the Federal Theatre will be in effect. Reservations can be made by calling the Moore box-office.

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Seattle, Washington, March 9, 1937





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English One and Two, bookkeeping, accounting, and commercial and business law have brought the largest enrollment in the classes being conducted by the College Correspondence and Extension project of the Works Progress Administration, Wallace W. Kelso, state director, states. This project, operated on a state-wide basis, has developed over 130 courses on the college level.

Subjects recently worked out and which have won favor, according to Kelso, include introduction to poetry, Shakespeare, the American and English novel, American and English literature, drama, the technique of fiction, news writing, three Bible courses and English translations of Greek, Roman, Spanish, French, German, Italian, Scandinavian and Russian literature.

"The quality of the work being done on the various courses," Kelso stated, "is most gratifying and the earnestness with which the students undertake the tasks inspire our teachers to greater effort."

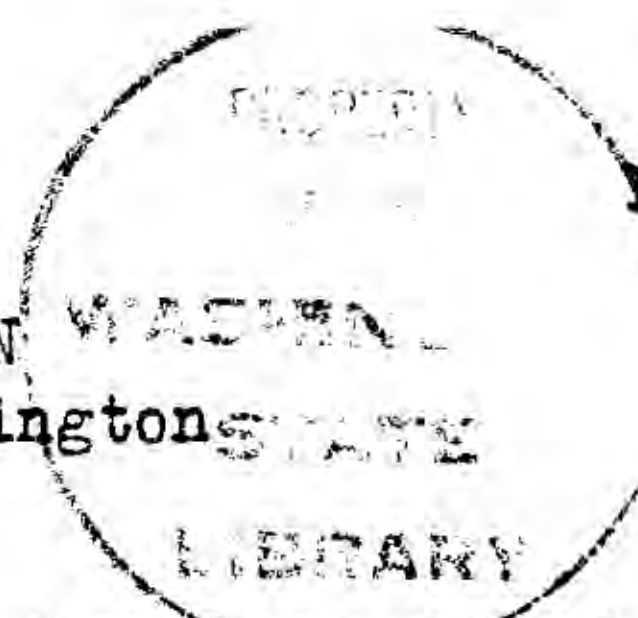
All of the courses are free to adults financially unable to take advantage of the work offered by the established institutions of higher learning. Application blanks and lists of the courses are obtainable at the state office, division of education, Alaska Building, Seattle.

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Seattle, Washington, March 9, 1937



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



What type of unemployment relief program should be developed for the 1938 fiscal year? Should WPA pay rolls be reduced? A conference last week between governors of six industrial states and President Roosevelt once more brought to the fore these questions, according to a United States News dispatch from Washington by David Lawrence, staff correspondent. The conference was requested by the governors after they had met in the home of Governor Herbert H. Lehman in New York earlier this week. Governor Lehman explained that he had invited only those governors who had expressed to him at some time a desire to sit down in a conference to discuss the relief situation.

In view of the importance of the problem, the United States News telegraphed mayors and secretaries of chambers of commerce in industrial cities in six states, Minnesota, Rhode Island, Illinois, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, and New York, asking the following questions:

1. What would be the situation in your community if the Federal government curtailed the work relief program?
2. Do you think WPA rolls can be reduced in your community without undue hardship, and, if so, how much?
3. What do you regard as the local proportion of responsibility for relief which should be borne by the Federal government, by the state government, by the municipality?
4. Do you think the relief problem is permanent?

The replies gathered up to date from 33 states, mostly from mayors, indicate that any serious curtailment of WPA program will place an unbearable burden on the cities.

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Seattle, Washington, March 16, 1937

(The above release may be made of local interest if the above questions were asked in your particular locale.)



Release for publication on receipt.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building      Seattle, Washington



PR-199

How sacred is the American constitution? Can we get the New Deal without waiting for an amendment, or must we go back to the Old Deal? These and similar questions are treated in a new correspondence course announced by the College Extension Division of the Works Progress Administration. It is called "Significances of American Constitutional Development." This course covers the political growth of the country from the Mayflower pilgrimage to the President's fight for liberal courts. While it is planned especially for teachers in Americanization classes, it is open to anyone free of charge.

Another course attracting current interest is "Contemporary Political Thought." It takes up communism, fascism, and other philosophies of social and economic life developed during the last seventy-five years.

Other courses in this field are: "Comparative Government," "Principles of Politics," "History of Political Thought," and "Introduction to Modern Thought."

The courses are presented purely on a factual basis. Inquiries should be directed to Division of Education, Works Progress Administration, 1301 Alaska Building, Seattle.

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Seattle, Washington, March 16, 1937



Release for publication on receipt.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building      Seattle, Washington



A hobby shop for boys was opened at the Interlake School in the Wallingford District, Seattle, under the direction of the WPA educational program, WPA instructors are being furnished, as well as some material. Local business houses have been asked to contribute wooden boxes, and lumber yards and factories to give small scraps. Similar projects are expected to be started by the Educational Division throughout the state.

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Remains of a prehistoric fish, probably four feet long and 20 inches thick, with large head and tapering, flat tail, was unearthed Thursday in a sandstone quarry near Lewiston, Idaho, by WPA workers. According to R. E. Clouse, quarry superintendent, the fish was imbedded about 35 feet deep in the sandstone, and in the blast the fossil was partly destroyed. Mr. Clouse sent a specimen, believed to be the heart or some other organ of the fossil, to the University of Idaho.

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With the flood hazard in eastern Washington presumably over, a check of WPA flood control projects throughout District No. 1 and District No. 2 shows that in every case the work accomplished by the WPA has served its purpose and eliminated the usual seasonal damages suffered in the run-off of spring thaws. At Colfax, Washington, in Walla Walla, Washington, and in Yakima, the spring run-off of water has already reached the diminishing stage with the deepened and cleared channels at all times well able to accommodate the flow. Much favorable comment has been received from the citizens of these communities regarding the worthiness of these projects.

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Seattle, Washington, March 16, 1937

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