



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

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The cost of compensation and medical care for injured WPA workers during the first 18 months of the Works Progress Administration program was \$10,000,000 or \$70,000,000 less than the cost of insuring workers through private companies, it was disclosed at a two-day conference of state safety consultants of the WPA at Hotel Edison in New York. With a total national pay roll of two billion dollars for the WPA, accident policies issued by private companies would have cost \$80,000,000.

The saving was effected by using the United States Employees Compensation Commission which insures regular government employees. A 25 million dollar appropriation was credited to the Commission for WPA employees, but only ten million of this sum has been used up. These facts were made known by W. O. Wheary, Federal Director of Safety for the WPA, who presided at the conference.

Quoting from figures received from the WPA State Compensation Department, Don G. Abel, State Administrator, said there have been 24,576 injury reports received since the inauguration of the program, in the state of Washington, and of this number 5,657 resulted in the payment of compensation for time lost or for medical expense. There have been only six fatalities, Abel pointed out.

During the period, it was also stated, the total amount of compensation paid out to the workers by local authority amounted to \$12,067. Hospital, doctor's and other medical expense submitted to Washington, D. C., for payment amounted to \$69,768.12.

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Seattle, Washington, March 23, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



The first building of its kind to be established by the federal government, the opening of the Music-Art Center in New York City on March 10 is believed by citizens interested in the development of the cultural arts to be the forerunner of more endeavors along similar lines. The Center is one of the projects of the Federal Arts program of the WPA. Projects in art, music, writing, and the theatre have operated in the State of Washington for the past year with considerable success.

Forty farmers in the Odessa district, Lincoln County, District No. 1, WPA, took advantage of the Diesel tractor school conducted evenings for two weeks under WPA supervision.

Daily hot lunches have been served to 3,118 school children by WPA women during the winter in the ten central Washington counties, comprising District No. 2, Works Progress Administration.

Signs of better times were read between the lines of the brief message inscribed on a postcard received this week by WPA Director Robert Thorne of District No. 5, Tacoma. It read, "Gentlemen, I couldn't wait for a job, I have another. Thank you."

Foreign-born fishermen sailing out of the Ballard district in Seattle are studying during off-season periods in a free WPA Americanization class in preparation for naturalization as citizens. The class was established at the request of the men.

As of March 1, according to figures released by Don G. Abel, State Administrator, the WPA Educational and Recreational Division, under the directorship of Wallace W. Kelso, is conducting 579 Americanization and naturalization classes throughout the state. Sixty-one teachers are being given employment and 5,789 persons are enrolled.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building
Seattle, Washington



A comprehensive catalog covering the history of the College Correspondence and Extension Project, operated by the Works Progress Administration, has just come off the press, Wallace W. Kelso, State Director of Education and Recreation, reports. This booklet lists the faculty of 44 members and in excess of 100 courses covering a range of subjects beginning with agriculture and art and ending with social administration and sociology. The majority of the instructors have M. A. degrees and many have Ph. D.'s.

In excess of 2,000 students have registered for these courses, Kelso states, students who are financially unable to take advantage of work offered by established colleges of the state. Extension classes may be organized in any community with the consent and cooperation of a local college, it was pointed out. The grades earned are tentative credits, subject to matriculation and proof of ability to carry the work in the college of one's choice.

Application blanks and all information may be secured at the State Headquarters of the WPA, Division of Education, Alaska Building, Seattle.

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Seattle, Washington, March 23, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Selection of man power for field crews employed by the state-wide mineral survey project operated by the Works Progress Administration is well under way and survey camps will be established early in April. This announcement was made by Don G. Abel, State Administrator, who pointed out this division of WPA has again assumed the task of inventorying the quality, quantity and extent of all mineral deposits in the state. This project was operated in several Washington counties last year, including Spokane, Ferry, Stevens, Kittitas, Whatcom, Snohomish, King, Pierce, and Clark counties. Activity this year, it was stated, will be confined to different locations in these and other counties.

Information from the state-wide survey, Abel said, is intended to aid in the industrial absorption of excess power to be generated at the Grand Coulee and Bonneville developments. The project will also cooperate with army engineers in an effort to develop production of minerals that would be useful for national defense.

Claude S. Fowler is superintendent and Amos Slater project engineer of the project. Offices are maintained in the Alaska Building, Seattle.

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Seattle, Washington, March 30, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Jumbo gooseberries the size of ping pong balls is a hoped-for Washington product if the experimental bush planted last week at the Arboretum and Botanical Gardens by WPA workers fulfills the expectations of Dean Hugo Winkenwarder, of the University of Washington, which institution is sponsoring the project.

The Arboretum project is one of the largest WPA projects operating in King County. Some 800 workers are now engaged in the seeding and planting of the propagation plots.

The Jumbo Gooseberry bush was imported from the Siskiyou mountain country, and, if it responds to Puget Sound soil and climate as have other floral species, the Paul Bunyan yarns of this district may gain authentic proof in the form of 'one-gooseberry' pies.

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Seattle, Washington, March 30, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

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There can be no deviating from the present WPA regulation covering contributions by the sponsors of WPA projects, State Administrator Don G. Abel announced today with reference to Governor Clarence D. Martin's veto of the two million dollar state fund for state and county assistance to sponsored WPA projects.

Sponsor contributions may take the form of cash, labor, equipment, material, rental of buildings or other facilities, Mr. Abel stated, but some form of supplemented contribution to Federal funds will be required.

No WPA projects now operating will be affected, however, as all sponsor funds are pledged at time of project approval.

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Seattle, Washington, March 30, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Rescuing foreign-born Seattle residents from exile enforced from lack of knowledge of the English language is the task the WPA has assumed. Under the sponsorship of the Seattle public school system, the Educational and Recreational Division of the WPA is conducting approximately 200 classes in Americanization and literacy with in excess of 1,800 adults enrolled, Wallace W. Kelso, state director of the division, reports.

Examples of appreciation of the WPA, expressed in written statements by the students in the Washington School who have progressed to the reading and writing stages, include the following:

A Jewish woman: "I never went down town before. What was the good? I could hear nothing, say nothing, buy nothing, do nothing. Now I can."

An Austrian woman: "I got a telegram from my son. I could read it myself this time. Now the neighbors haven't got to know it all."

An Italian woman: "I'm not a deaf and dumb one any more. I got neighbors now."

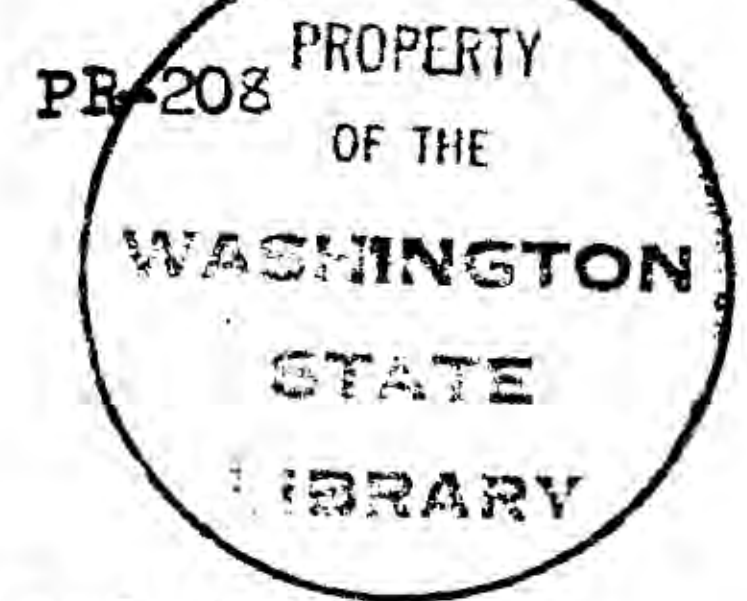
A Turkish woman: "It used to cost two carfares to go anywhere, for I always had to take someone along. Now I save that."

A Chinese woman: "It is like living again, after being dead."

Another Jewish woman: "I had some business down town yesterday. Always before I signed with a cross. This time I signed my name. When they asked 'How come?', I said, 'WPA.'"

A Russian woman: "I used to buy a newspaper to hold in the street car, so as to look like the rest. But now I can read it."

Seattle, Washington, March 30, 1937



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

~~TOKELAND~~—Hauling water to a boat may sound like something for Ripley, but to U. S. Coast Guardsmen who tie up to the Tokeland dock it is a fact and a nuisance. With the help of WPA the Coast Guard will now carry out its plan to drill a well, erect a windmill and water tower, thereby eliminating the present inconvenient arrangement. A WPA crew was scheduled to start on the job April 5.

A school achievement survey, sponsored by the University of Washington, and carried on as one of the professional projects of the WPA, is under way among approximately 100,000 grade school children in 26 counties of the state, Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, reports. Its purpose is to determine the individual strength and weakness of each pupil in every subject studied in the eight grades by means of scientifically prepared tests uniformly administered in the schools. Its ultimate result, according to Professor August Dvorak, in charge of the survey for the University of Washington, will be remedial instruction for retarded pupils and higher standards of efficiency for pupils, teachers, and schools.

Forty-three readers, carefully chosen for their knowledge and qualifications, are being employed by the Women's and Professional Division of the WPA on a readers' project serving patients in county hospitals and old people's homes as well as shut-ins and the blind. The project is operating in five of the six districts of the state, Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, reports. The Bible is the book most favored, it was stated.

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Seattle, Washington, April 6, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Private employment continues its draft upon the ranks of WPA employees in the State of Washington, State Administrator Don G. Abel announced today. The week ending February 6 saw the peak of the WPA labor load with 32,575 men and women assigned to WPA pay rolls. This load remained reasonably constant until the middle of March when 31,766 appeared upon the rolls. Since that date over 500 workers per week have found places in private employment with the April 1st roll showing 30,710 employed.

"We are already within our quota for the month of April," Abel stated, "and while the quota for May will be lower, every indication is that the flow of WPA workers into private employment will continue to make this reduction possible. Skilled and semi-skilled men make up the greater part of the group leaving our ranks, but with better weather and the opening of seasonal work we expect an increased demand for the common labor classification."

"While no specific records are available," Abel said, "a number of cases have been brought to our attention where men have left the WPA ranks to go in business for themselves. This applies mostly to the professional and technical classification, ranging from the starting of a community newspaper by two workers formerly upon the Writers' Project, to the opening of a watch repair shop by a worker skilled in that trade. The percentage of cases such as these in which the worker is permanently removed from the need of WPA employment is constantly increasing."

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Seattle, Washington, April 6, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Newly constructed roads and streets sufficient to reach around the world at the equator, is one of the year's accomplishments of the WPA, according to a summarized report released today by Works Progress Administrator Harry L. Hopkins.

"Our primary concern has been the workers themselves," Administrator Hopkins states, "but while maintaining their morale and skills we have tried to make their labor as useful as possible to the nation as a whole and most of the benefits have been permanent in character."

Outstanding features of the summarized report compiled as of September 15, 1936, or at the close of approximately one year of WPA operations, are as follows:

New highways and streets built, 25,486 miles
Roads and streets repaired, 117,499 miles
Bridges built or repaired, 20,586 with combined length of 130 miles
Sidewalks and paths built or repaired, 4,512 miles
Drainage ditches, new or improved, 9,200 square miles
Storm sewers, 3,357 miles
Reforestation--4,780,824 trees planted
Wild life conservation--22,968,393 fish planted
Irrigation, new installation--772,080 acres served
Erosions terraces aggregated 185,231,470 square feet
Athletic fields, new--1,415; repaired--1,535
Parks and fairgrounds, 425 new; 1,058 improved
Swimming pools, 248
Airports, 45 new; 67 reconditioned
Public buildings, 4,140 new; repaired, 12,255
Educational buildings, 1,099 new; 7,176 improved
Surplus commodities distributed--31,441,541 garments;
272,948 tons food-stuffs.
Hot lunches to undernourished children, 72,437,606
Garments produced in WPA sewing rooms, 60,839,800
Visits or treatment in medical, dental, or nursing
assistance, 9,110,287

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Seattle, Washington, April 6, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



A correspondence course in interior decorating emphasizing the factors comprising all art, such as line, shape, color, intensity, texture and the like, is being offered free by the Educational and Recreational Division of the WPA, Don G. Abel, State Administrator, announces.

This division of the WPA is also offering a correspondence course in the selection and designing of clothing for women, and also one in nutrition and personal hygiene, both courses being especially adapted for the housewife.

Interested women are invited to call or write the state educational office of the WPA, Alaska Building, Seattle.

Under a recently inaugurated WPA setup, visiting housekeepers employed on the housekeeping aide project are now engaged in spring house-cleaning in various motherless homes throughout the state. Repeated instances of homes kept together by fathers, who serve not only as wage earners but also as housekeepers and substitute mothers, called the WPA's attention to the need for the project, Don G. Abel, State Administrator, stated.

"These aides," he stated, "not only do temporary emergency work but also perform the more constructive service of teaching the children how to prepare and serve food as well as keeping the house in order."

Only families recognized as worthy by welfare agencies are eligible for the housekeeping aide service, Abel pointed out.

Americanization and naturalization classes conducted by the Educational Division of the WPA throughout the state are being well received and deeply appreciated in the hinterlands, Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, reports. The little town of Oyout, a Finnish settlement on the Pacific Ocean, south of Ocean City, where numerous Finns earn their right to an existence by digging clams, provides a noteworthy instance, Abel stated.

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Seattle, Washington, April 13, 1937

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Release for publication on receipt

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
ALASKA BUILDING
Seattle, Washington



First publication of statistics gathered by the state-wide historical records survey project in its survey of Washington churches will appear in the current issue of the Northwest Historical Quarterly, a publication of the University of Washington, State Administrator Don G. Abel, announced today. The survey tabulates the records of 378 churches in Seattle, dating back to the founding of the Church of Our Lady of Good Help in 1861 by Father Prefontaine. This is Seattle's oldest church.

Of the other churches, the Presbyterians head the list with 39, the Lutherans come next with 28, then the Methodists with 27, and the Roman Catholics with 26. Thirty-two denominations in all are listed, with the Buddhists ending the list with two places of worship.

The survey reveals the number, dates, and location of all the volumes preserved by the various faiths, concerning records of births, marriages, deaths, registrations and other historical records. The statistics being gathered by the survey throughout the state will prove of great value to genealogists and welfare agencies in their quest for data unobtainable in other records.

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Seattle, Washington, April 13, 1937.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Ripley's "Believe It Or Not" column might well benefit from some of the unusual facts unearthed by the WPA Federal Historical Records Survey project in operation throughout the state. Workers on the project, digging through the vaults and records of the various counties, have brought to light some interesting facts.

Port Angeles, Washington, in the furthestmost western corner of the United States, shares with Washington, D. C., the distinction of being the only city laid out under government direction. It was promoted as a military outpost by authority of President Lincoln and was not incorporated under the state laws until 1890, almost 30 years later.

The only town in the United States, so far as available records are concerned, named after a Chinese is Chesaw in Stevens County, Washington. Attracted by placer gold-mining operations, many Chinese settled in this district in the early days. To avoid a poll tax placed upon them, the Chinese took to crossing the Spokane River every time the tax collector arrived. The small settlement which sprang up at this point became known as Chesaw, the name of one of the Chinese.

The only case on record where a board of county commissioners declared a law passed by the state legislature unconstitutional also comes from Stevens County. Directed by law to move the county seat to Spokane Falls, the board of county commissioners declared the law unconstitutional and ignored the order.

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Seattle, Washington, April 13, 1937

Release for publication on receipt

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
ALASKA BUILDING
Seattle, Washington



Washington and Florida climates are being put to a comparison test at the University of Washington Arboretum, now being developed by the WPA, Dean Hugo Winkenwerder of the University of Washington at Seattle made known today.

A variety of tropical and semi-tropical plants, native species of the State of Florida, has been transplanted by the Arboretum workers in an experimental test as to whether or not they will survive Washington's climate.

A similar experiment was conducted by the Arnold Arboretum in Boston, Massachusetts, last year, with most discouraging results. However, similar species of plant life, such as failed in the Boston experiment, have in almost every case shown signs of taking root and surviving in the Washington test.

With the completion of the WPA work at the University Arboretum, the 260-acre area will be second only in size to the arboretum in Boston, Massachusetts. This experiment with tropical and semi-tropical plant life may prove the University Arboretum surpassing even the Boston station, due to milder climatic conditions more inviting to transplanting plant life.

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Seattle, Washington, April 13, 1937.

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The following is forwarded to your attention as having appeared in the Newark Evening News.

PR-216

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



"PERMANENT PLAN FOR WPA UNDERGOES WIDE REVISION"
"ROOSEVELT IS DEFLATING IT TO A BASIS WHERE
BOONDOGLING WILL BE ELIMINATED -- SPENDING IS REDUCED"

Walter Karig, Washington correspondent, wires the Newark Evening News of April 2 --

"The ultimate form in which the 'new WPA' will be presented to Congress, when President Roosevelt asks for the 1937-1938 relief appropriation, is nearing shape. It is forecast that the program will be something of a shock to the United States Conference of Mayors which has consistently fought contraction of payrolls and has just asked that the appropriations be kited to \$2,200,000,000.

"As a long step toward perpetuation of WPA, plans for which were first reported in The News March 3, the spending program is now proposed to be put on an annual basis, with abandonment of the prevailing wage system, the 'means test,' and an effort to give work to everybody on relief rolls.

"WPA's future has already been radically replanned since Harry Hopkins held his seminars with key members of Congress. It may be further altered after the President has finished discussing the semifinal Hopkins-Roosevelt draft of the program with Congressional leaders. The administration's intent is revealed, however, as measuring the work relief program by the financial, rather than the unemployed, yardstick.

"As the plan is shaped now, subject to final changes, the switch from a month-to-month schedule of disbursements to an annual basis means in effect that WPA will say to the municipalities: 'This is the amount we can allot to you for the year. How much can you kick in? What projects have you in mind? Let's get together and figure out what can be done with the money we can pool.'

"Emphasis will be placed on higher class projects than were the rule when WPA's main objective was to get any sort of work for 3,500,000 persons. It is the government's aim to have the municipalities and other governmental subdivisions furnish the sites and materials while WPA supplies the wages. Complete federalization of WPA is still the objective. Putting the payments on an annual basis is designed to give the government more control over the types of work projects, and the less the cities contribute the more will be the federal authority.

"The more federal authority that is exerted, the greater will be the turn-back of employables to the municipal relief rolls. Hopkins and Roosevelt are both anxious to have an end to all sorts of jobs that can be remotely branded as boondoggling and by the same token to purge the payrolls of political hangers-on and district leaders entrenched as straw bosses. The maximum number of workers they envision is reported to be about 2,500,000 with 1,700,000 as the more desirable figure.

"Abandonment of the prevailing wage schedule, forced upon WPA by the labor lobby, is designed to remedy a problem approaching mildly scandalous proportions caused by skilled workers putting in their quota on a WPA job at the union wage rate and then working the rest of the day on private employment. Some labor leaders are said to have admitted the prevailing wage rule to have been a mistake for two reasons: It enables men already receiving a subsistence wage on WPA jobs to displace workers not on relief in private employment; it disrupts the work of those depending upon the master crafts-

"PERMANENT PLAN FOR WPA UNDERGOES WIDE REVISION" (Continued)

men who knock off when their allotted hours are consumed, leaving the hod-carrier without his bricklayer, for instance.

"Elimination of the means test, which has already been reported in detail, fits in with the foregoing. It enables the WPA to hire men who are unemployed but who have managed to keep off relief, thus eliminating a lot of local politics on jobs, keeping the ranks of the highly skilled workmen more nearly full and, in sequence, making it possible to fulfill the other ambition to create more worth-while WPA construction.

"The whole program is believed likely to act as an automatic 'purge' of the WPA payrolls, especially as the announced policy will be to get as much actual work out of each man as in private employment.

"As it stands now, the new WPA program is conspicuously conservative compared either with first operations of the system or the plan discussed by Hopkins, Aubrey Williams and the select Congressional group which envisioned an annual expenditure of \$2,500,000,000 to keep 3,000,000 men at work all over the country. Roosevelt was the deflator of that scheme.

"In January, forecasting a balanced budget by 1938-1939 (the federal year begins July 1, financially) the President estimated a relief appropriation of \$1,537,123,000, which is about two-thirds of what the mayors' conference demands. Failure of revenue to meet expectations by \$200,000,000 on the basis of income tax returns March 15 throws the balanced budget expectation down hard. The President is in sympathy with the plan for a permanent WPA under more rigid federal control and with long-range planning, but his wish to balance his budget is given considerable impetus by louder talk of retrenchment in the Democratic ranks of Congress.

"Expectations are that Roosevelt will ask for something very like his January estimate, while reserving the privilege he has exercised annually to come back with a deficiency appropriation. The size of the initial appropriation and of the ultimate amount, if an increase is necessary, depends upon how firmly the demands of the mayors and Governors and county units can be resisted and how widespread the increasingly vocal sentiment for economy in the tax-conscious Congress actually is."

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Seattle, Washington, April 13, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Building for the future, with American aviation, civil, commercial, and military benefitting, is the nation-wide objective of the WPA in its airport program now embracing some 794 airports completed or in the process of construction throughout the United States, at an expenditure of over eighty million dollars. 1963 airport projects have been approved by the WPA in this program, carrying an estimated cost of \$140,000,000.

The American public has ever been ready to adopt more rapid means of transportation, and, while past expenditures may appear large in comparison with the air traffic, the rising curve of that traffic over the past few years justifies this airport program of building for the future, Administrator Harry L. Hopkins announced with the issuance of the Physical Accomplishment Report covering the WPA work up until December 31, 1936.

In the state of Washington, 20 airports are now completed or in the active stage of construction, signifying an expenditure of \$1,600,000, State Administrator Don G. Abel observed in connection with the Report. "Our objective is to make available in this state suitable airports for all types of air traffic, both commercial and private. In locating our fields, we have selected sites along both established and proposed routes. Commercial airlines progress along the lines of established and recognized landing facilities, and our aim has been to locate new fields so that they may not only serve for emergency purpose but may encourage the establishment of regular runs capable of serving new territories.

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Seattle, Washington, April 17, 1937

Release for publication on receipt.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

Gnarled, moss-stained, weather-scarred, striving like a true veteran, to still tower erect, the last of the long, stately file of maple trees that once, sentinel-like, flanked the parade grounds at Fort Lawton today bowed and toppled to the ripping saws of a WPA crew.

The Army is no place for sentiment, but a hush, mindful as the lamenting fade of taps, settled across the parade grounds as the last veteran fell. For 32 years the rank it dressed has stood faithfully by. Thirty-two years ago the rows upon rows of maples were planted about the fort reservation in a program of beautification sponsored by the War Department. Many might be the tales their shading branches could tell. Like the veterans of today, the world war saw them in their prime. And, like the veterans of today, the last few years have counted the heaviest.

Bark stripped by wind and weather, trunks twisted by age, they were recently condemned as a hazard. Grubbed, and sawed into fire logs by WPA workmen, their places will be taken by young maple saplings planted by the same crew.

There is no room for sentiment in the Army, but even the jaws of the commanding officer, Colonel H. A. Finch, seemed to set a bit more sternly as, with the wind still murmuring through its naked boughs, the last of the stately file sighed and toppled.

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Soattlo, Washington, April 17, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Foreign-born students in the 593 WPA Americanization and naturalization classes now under way throughout the state demonstrate the fact that people of other nationalities acquire new languages much more rapidly than Americans do, as a rule, their teachers report. It might be supposed that such diverse pronunciation as bough and cough and dough would make English pretty tough to learn, but these newcomers make rapid strides.

After only four lessons in English a new student in one class, entering without any previous knowledge of the language, was able to read aloud with understanding a paragraph from the Federal text-book prepared for the use of students.

A group of beginners was recently asked to use the word 'woman' in an original sentence. A Japanese student went to the head of the class with the following example of conciseness and clear thinking: "Woman is too much talk." Among other instances of original sentences written by beginning Japanese students were the following:

"It is to pass by Europe when I go to Japan."
"Japanese flag is very clean." (Simple)
"You must to do the American flag." (Salute)

The word 'salami' stumped an entire class. As no one could spell it, the teacher assigned it for the next lesson. One woman had the bright idea of asking her butcher, but he explained that he didn't spell it, he sold it. A college professor was next contacted, who had to look the word up in the dictionary.

An Italian woman who never before in her life had been in any schoolroom until she entered a WPA class a year ago in February, since which time she has become naturalized, recently turned in the following composition.

"In the morning I get up at six o'clock. I put on my clothes quickly. I wash my face and I comb my hair and prepare breakfast for my family. Then after breakfast I bid my children goodbye and start to clean house till noon. I have a bite to eat, then continue with my work, when through I clean myself and do a little shopping, something for dinner. Then come home and prepare dinner and after dinner I sit and listen to the radio with my family."

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Seattle, Washington, April 17, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



World War veterans are assured of a burial place alongside the graves of departed comrades with the starting of a WPA project to rehabilitate the Washington Veterans Home cemetery at Retsil. A large number of state and local officials of the Veterans of Foreign Wars participated in the ground-breaking ceremonies.

Approximately 8,500 foreign-born residents of the State of Washington are receiving instruction in 593 WPA-conducted Americanization and naturalization classes held in various sections of the state, Don G. Abel, State Administrator, reports. Carried on under the auspices of the WPA Educational and Recreational Division, the classes afford employment for 61 qualified teachers.

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Seattle, Washington, April 17, 1937

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been released to any daily paper in your vicinity

PR-221

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Two hundred and fifteen women, taken from the state's relief rolls, who are trained not only in housework and incidental duties of the home, but who also are capable of bedside care of the sick and distressed, are employed on the WPA housekeeping aide project.

King County, Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, reports, is employing 47 aides, the remaining 168 being allocated to the other five WPA districts.

Homes served by these aides, Abel points out, are selected by the State Department of Public Welfare or some recognized relief agency on the basis of dire need. The aides are paid with federal funds expressly allocated for the purpose.

Cases particularly favored, Abel said, are the fatherless or motherless homes, where the father or mother is confined to a sick-bed, or where the children are too numerous for an under-privileged mother to give them the deserved care.

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Seattle, Washington, April 21, 1937

This release is furnished for possible use at
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PR-222

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



'Ditch Digger's Fracture,' a depression ailment that really is a pain in the neck, is the newest illness to be discovered among WPA workers, according to Drs. W. C. Tuefel, senior surgeon, and M. P. Topping, assistant surgeon, at the Marine Hospital at Seattle, Washington. Four cases are on record at the hospital, two of which are identified as WPA workers.

According to the doctors, it is possible to classify the cases they have examined as 'a distinct clinical entity' which differs from other better known types of fracture. Without exception the fracture occurs in laborers engaged in digging ditches or similar work which requires swinging to an elevated position some heavy material on a pitchfork or shovel and places a sudden strain on the structures attached to the shoulder girdle.

X-ray examinations indicate that a person unaccustomed to swinging a shovel is apt to relax his neck muscles after he starts to heave. If the dirt clears his shovel easily, all is well, but should it stick, a wrench is possible. In severe cases the strain may fracture bones in the spine, causing the new ailment 'Ditch Digger's Fracture.' Rest in bed for approximately four weeks usually results in a cure for most cases, the doctors stated, but if pain continues it may be necessary to remove the ununited portion of the bones.

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Seattle, Washington, April 21, 1937

This release is furnished for possible use at your nearest press date and the contents has not been released to any daily paper in your vicinity.

PR-223



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

The study of religions of primitive people, a course now available in the WPA College Correspondence and Extension project, and which affords the student nine credits acceptable in any of the 22 institutions of higher learning in the state of Washington, is attracting marked attention, Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, reports.

The course includes the history of religion inclusive of the great state religions of antiquity in the Euphrates Valley, Egypt, Persia, Greece and Rome, as well as the Aztecs, the Mayas, and the Incas. A survey of Judaism, Christianity, and Mohammedanism is also covered in the course, it was stated.

Further information regarding this course and application for those who care to enroll may be secured at WPA state headquarters in the Alaska Building, Seattle.

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Seattle, Washington, April 21, 1937

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PR-224



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

The original article dictated by the Confederate General Joseph E. Johnson, surrendering his army to "War is Hell" General William Tecumseh Sherman, was recently unearthed in a tumbled-down shanty in Amite County, Mississippi, by a WPA field worker employed on the Historical Records Survey. This celebrated document, the New Orleans Item, issue of April 13, relates, was discovered in a pile of cast-off junk, including a bell-crowned hat, a high-wheeled bicycle, and a pair of dueling pistols.

In every state in the Union, Record Survey researchers, working under WPA auspices, are uncovering vast quantities of material of recognized historical value. The material thus uncovered is carefully noted, classified, and placed in museums and government archives. In the main, research is being conducted in court houses, city halls and other public buildings; however, private collections are searched for historical items of value providing the owner of the collection is willing.

The Washington State Historical Records Survey, employing 49 persons taken from relief rolls, is operating under the direction of Dr. Herman J. Deutsch of the Washington State College faculty.

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Seattle, Washington, April 21, 1937

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PR-225



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

A tome which has Anthony Adverse outweighed by several pounds, titled "Washington: City and Capitol," prepared by American Guide writers, working under the supervision of Henry G. Alsberg, director of the Federal Writers' Project, is off the press and ready for distribution.

This book, weighing approximately five and one half pounds, containing 1,141 pages of text and two large maps, is described by its sponsors as the most comprehensive volume yet published about the nation's capitol. As described, it is a record of Washington's dramatic history and human associations, an account of its varied cultural background and activities, as well as being a guide to its architecture, monuments, museums, galleries, and numerous historical places.

This book, Don G. Abel, Washington State WPA Administrator, suggests, should prove an interesting introduction to the American Guide for this state, which is now in the final stages of revision. Although hardly as exhaustive as the "Washington: City and Capitol" volume, the Washington State Guide will contain some 300,000 words dealing with like subject matter pertinent to this state.

Approximately 60 persons, including free lance writers, newspapermen, and authors of considerable note, have been engaged in the preparation of this state's Guide, it was stated.

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Seattle, Washington, April 21, 1937

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PR-226

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



May sixth is the second anniversary of WPA's birthday.

"When the President, under authority of the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1935, signed the executive order creating the Works Progress Administration on May 6, 1935," Don G. Abel, State Administrator, said today, "the event marked the inauguration of a dual effort, to bring about recovery in business and to bring about recovery of morale and skills to millions of workers."

The long record of physical accomplishments flowing from the crew of 30,000 to 45,000 WPA workers in this state during the past two years is self-evident in hundreds of communities throughout Washington, Abel pointed out. These range from the building of several miles of trunk sewer lines to the repairing of a few dozens of library books, from the fashioning of an 18-hole golf course out of wild stump land to the serving of a score of hot lunches to youngsters in some remote rural school.

Paying tribute to the hundreds of sponsoring officials representing cities, towns, counties, school districts, port districts, and other sub-divisions of government who have developed projects to be carried out with WPA labor, Abel said, "These men and women have given splendid cooperation and have surmounted many unusual and difficult problems in bringing worker and job together."

"They have readily visualized the needed public improvements that could be carried out in their respective communities, utilizing the available relief labor. They deserve the whole-hearted support of the citizenry for the lasting benefits they have brought into being in the form of improved roads, school houses, recreational grounds, etc., which will be used by the entire population for many years to come."

Abel also expressed appreciation to civic and other organizations which in countless cases have acted as unofficial sponsors. "Behind nearly every project," Abel said, "there is nearly always some organization of citizens taking an active interest, frequently digging down into their own funds to furnish some item not provided for by either local or federal funds. To the membership of these organizations we are duly grateful for their helpfulness."

Many civic organizations, Abel declared, are planning to give some local significance to the WPA "birthday" by reviewing the purpose and benefits of the Works Program in their meetings falling on or near May 6. This participation will in many cases include speakers familiar with the operation of WPA and a review or tour of local projects.

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Seattle, Washington, April 27, 1937

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PR-227

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Increasing interest in new courses offered by the College Correspondence and Extension Project of the WPA, these involving the English and American novel, histories of English and American literature, and "groundwork" courses in English I and II, is being shown by students who cannot afford the time or money to attend established institutions of higher learning, Don G. Abel, State Administrator of WPA, announces.

In the English and American novel course, Abel stated, recent works studied included James Joyce, Aldous Huxley, Rose Macaulay, Ernest Hemmingway, Elizabeth Roberts, and J. B. Priestly.

A course in poetry, prepared by Robert Baskerville, a member of the faculty of the WPA College Correspondence and Extension project, is also attracting wide-spread attention, it was stated. Baskerville, a graduate of Princeton, has made a special study in the field of twentieth century poetry.

Interested students are urged to contact the WPA Division of Education for information regarding these courses. Headquarters are maintained in the Alaska Building, Seattle.

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Seattle, Washington, April 30, 1937

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PR-228

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Special commendation is being received daily by the Women's and Professional Division of the WPA in connection with the excellent work being done by readers on the project which serves the blind, shut-ins, and convalescent patients in hospitals in the larger cities of the state.

At the present time, Don G. Abel, State Administrator for WPA, reports, approximately 50 readers, with literary background and trained in the work, are reading to the aged, ill, and infirm. This project is now operating in Seattle, Tacoma, Everett, and Spokane. Later, it was stated, it possibly may be extended to other large centers in the state.

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Seattle, Washington, April 30, 1937

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PR-229

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

More than 100 men taken from the relief rolls are now employed in the state-wide WPA mineral survey project sponsored by the State Department of Conservation and Development and the State Land Commission, and operating in five counties of the state, State Administrator Don G. Abel announced yesterday.

The object of the survey, for which an allotment of some \$280,000 of WPA funds is available, is to measure the extent of the mineral deposits throughout the state, take samples of ore for analysis, and determine the average content. The sponsors have appropriated some \$35,000 to cover the cost of tools and materials.

At the present time 18 men are making a survey of the nickel deposits in Skagit County, 15 men are sampling sulphide ores in Snohomish County, 21 men are investigating coal and clay deposits in Lewis County, and 11 men are working on magnesite deposits in Grays Harbor County. Thirty-five men are also working on magnesite deposits in Clallam County. Surveys for various metals will be started shortly in Pierce, King, Yakima, Chelan, Okanogan, Ferry, Walla Walla, and Whitman counties, Mr. Abel stated.

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Seattle, Washington, May 7, 1937

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PR-230

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Experiments conducted by WPA chemists working under sponsorship of the Western Washington Experimental Station of Washington State College and the Frozen Pack Laboratory of the United States Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, show that peas, spinach, bush and pole snap beans, and early maturing sweet corn are promising crops for commercial culture and for subsequent frozen pack preservation.

This information was disclosed in a preliminary report for 1936 titled, "Vegetable Variety Trials in Relation to Freezing Preservation," submitted to Don G. Abel, State Administrator for WPA, who stated that a joint experimental project was begun in the summer of 1936 and that results attained to date were extremely satisfactory.

In the Pacific Northwest, Abel pointed out, the frozen pack vegetable industry is confined at present largely to the region west of the Cascade Mountains. The experiments, made with vegetables grown in the Puyallup Valley, were conducted at the frozen pack laboratory in the Spokane Street Terminal. C. D. Schwartze of the State College and H. C. Diehl of the U. S. Bureau of Chemistry, directed the experiments.

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Seattle, Washington, May 7, 1937

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PR-231

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



WPA workers offered private jobs under reasonably favorable working conditions and at wages in excess of the security earnings being paid, will automatically be removed from the WPA pay roll as no longer eligible for WPA work, State Administrator Don G. Abel stated this morning in announcing the policy of the Works Progress Administration to cooperate with private industry in filling its employment requirements.

"Both the State Department of Social Security and the NRS are checking with us closely on all new certifications, and all WPA workers are required to register with the NRS for private employment, even though they are now employed with the WPA," Mr. Abel stated.

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Seattle, Washington, May 7, 1937

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PR-232



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

"Gimme" smiles beamed in the WPA state offices when an express package labeled 'Washington Delicious Apples' was delivered to State Administrator Don G. Abel. However, the smiles soon faded when one supposed apple fell from the box to land on the floor with a sound like a dropping 2x4. Wooden apples was the answer.

Under direction of the WPA Division of Education, apple packing schools are being arranged for Wapato, Ahtamum, Selah, and Yakima. With WPA instructors using wooden apples painted and shaped identically with the genuine variety, students are given a complete course in apple-wrapping and packing. Last year more than 500 attended these courses, with almost every student landing a job during the packing season.

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Seattle, Washington, May 7, 1937

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PR-236



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

The WPA game fish conservation program is rapidly proving its worth not only as a program but also as to popular approval by citizens and tax-payers alike in every community, according to State Administrator Don G. Abel. Sponsored by the Washington State Department of Game and Fish, some 10 projects have been started or completed in the various counties, calling for expenditure of over a quarter of a million dollars in the building of fish hatcheries, improving game farms, construction of fish-protecting screens in streams and irrigation ditches, and the creating of natural rearing ponds.

Eighty-five per cent complete is the largest of these hatcheries, located at Issaquah, with a capacity of handling better than fifteen million fry a year. Other practically completed hatcheries are located at Seward Park, King County; Griffith Springs, Spokane County; and the White River Hatchery in Pierce County. Presidential approval on an \$18,000 proposed hatchery near Yakima has just been received, and other hatcheries are being planned for WPA work by the State Department, to begin shortly.

During the course of the next few years, these conservation improvements should make a marked difference in the game fish conditions of our many lakes and streams.

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Seattle, Washington, May 21, 1937

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PR-237

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

With private employment still drawing on the WPA ranks at the rate of 1,000 persons per week, the mid-month check of workers on WPA projects shows 29,688 employed as of May 15 as against 30,497 employed on May 1, State Administrator Don G. Abel made known today.

Since May 1, 710 men and women are known to have found jobs in private industry, while 1,467 failed to report for work, signifying they had found other means of livelihood than WPA. In the same period, 756 persons were certified by the State Department of Social Security as in need of relief and eligible for WPA work. However, reassignments of those certified by the State Department of Social Security are only being made in cases where persons have left the WPA rolls for private employment and such employment has terminated.

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Seattle, Washington, May 21, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

The WPA Columbia Gorge surveying and mapping project has reached a stage of 50 per cent completion, State Administrator Don G. Abel announced today. The mapping and surveying for recreational and industrial facilities of the Columbia River from Vancouver to The Dalles is expected to reveal considerable valuable data for use by chambers of commerce and industrial research workers. The project is under the co-sponsorship of the Regional Planning Council, which supervised the survey on the Oregon side of the Columbia River, and the Washington State Planning Council for the state of Washington. A ten-man crew is now employed on the project.

A 130-man crew is now employed on the WPA mineral survey project sponsored by the State Department of Conservation and Development, and operating in ten counties of the state, State WPA Administrator Don G. Abel stated. Numerous test holes and trenches have been sunk at the Castle Rock site in Cowlitz County and the Morton site in Lewis County. Testing is also being carried on in Grays Harbor County, Jefferson County, Skagit County, and Snohomish County. Samples of the ore gathered are being forwarded to Olympia for analysis in the laboratories of the Department of Conservation and Development. This project is scheduled to continue until next fall.

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Seattle, Washington, May 21, 1937

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PR-239

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



"By their pet superstitions you shall know them." At least, that's one way of identifying the average run of humanity, according to facts unearthed by the WPA Federal Writers' Project, with 4,500 writers throughout the United States winding up the two years' task of compiling guide books of each state, containing as incidental information strange bits of folk lore.

If an owl hoots at night and your guest grabs for the salt celler to counteract the evil omen by sprinkling salt across his palm, he or she is from the Far South. If your guest, after retiring, wakens the household by dragging his bed away from the window and offers as explanation that the moon shown across it, he's from the west. Another western superstition is that three lights in a room assures bad luck. If a baseball player meets a cross-eyed girl, he keeps walking until he passes a white horse. Spitting on the bait for the first cast is considered a good luck omen by fishermen.

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Seattle, Washington, May 28, 1937

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PR-240



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

Better than five per cent of the total of illiterate adults in the state of Washington are now enrolled in the literacy classes being conducted throughout the state by the WPA through its Division of Education, State Administrator Don G. Abel announced. The last available figures on literacy for the state of Washington give 13,000 as the approximate census. More than 600 men and women are now enrolled in the WPA literacy classes throughout the state being conducted by some 50 teachers.

Not only are these people being taught their ABC's, but incorporated into the study is a course fitting them for citizenship. One of the major objectives of this WPA course, Mr. Abel stated, is to reduce adult illiteracy in the state and to open the doors of adult opportunity to those who have been denied the usual privilege of a public school education.

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Seattle, Washington, May 28, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Cooperating with the sponsors of the All-American Soap-box Derby in the state of Washington, the WPA Division of Recreation has arranged with its field personnel in the state to make available detailed instructions to all youngsters desiring to enter the contest and to interpret for them regulations and rules covering their entries. Any boy, according to WPA State Administrator Don G. Abel, eligible to enter the contest, may secure technical advice or advice as to interpretation of the rules and regulations by consulting the WPA recreational director in his community.

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WPA adult education classes are expected to continue throughout the summer in almost all communities throughout the state, State Administrator Don G. Abel stated. "Interest in the classes in Americanization and naturalization is holding up remarkably well, and as long as attendance warrants we hope to continue. In a number of cases it will be necessary to transfer the educational teacher from the educational to the recreational branch of the program, but classes holding up in attendance throughout the summer will not be discontinued.

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An attempt will be made by the WPA to furnish instructors and supervisors at the various playfields and outdoor swimming pools with which the WPA has during the past year been directly or indirectly connected. Officials may, by contacting the WPA district office and making their desires known to the district supervisor of recreation, request instructors or supervisors for these various recreational facilities and, if such are available, they will be assigned to the task, stated State Administrator Don G. Abel.

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Seattle, Washington, June 4, 1936

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PR-243



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

The WPA has many types and varieties of projects in its vast scheme of supplying work relief, but none is more unique in the state of Washington than the visiting housekeeper project under the direction of the Women's and Professional Projects Division. In this project women are taken from the relief rolls and assigned to the task of aiding families less fortunate--families in which age or illness has added to the burdens of life.

How an assigned WPA visiting housekeeper passes her day may be shown from this extract from a worker's diary.

"Case 1. Arrived 9 a.m. on diabetic case--gangrene of the foot--most of toes gone--others going for want of insulin. Gave insulin hypodermically. Cheered patient.

"Case 2. Arrived at 9:30 a.m. Mother a heart case from the flu--five children--two under school age. Aired the rooms, made the beds, swept and dusted. Saw mother taken to County Hospital in serious condition. Left ten loaves of bread for Dad to bake when he returned from WPA work. Gathered up children and took them with me to Case 3, family of 10.

"Case 3. Mother pregnant and suffering from anemia. Did big washing.

"Returned to Case 1. Again gave insulin. Dressed foot. Stopped at Case 2 to remind Dad bread was waiting to be baked. Left children with him. Seriously he said, 'I'd hate to go back and live the old way--dirt, bakers' bread, and everything. You certainly have made our place shine.'

"Comment: What a day--seven hours, but was it worth it!"

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Seattle, Washington, June 4, 1936

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PR-244

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Blue Gum trees from the jungles of Australia, Deodar trees from the high plateaus of India, Oriental Rhododendrons from the far interior of China; living, growing specimens--that is what the future botany student may expect with the completion of the University of Washington Arboretum now under construction by the WPA, to be rated the second largest in the United States.

What is an arboretum? According to Dean Hugo Winkenwerder, Dean, College Faculty, University of Washington, an arboretum is both a scientific garden and a beautiful park. The City of Seattle, has turned over Washington Park for that purpose, and to the WPA has been allotted the task of transforming the huge 265-acre plot bordering the shores of Lake Washington into a scientific laboratory of living plant life.

Completed, the University of Washington Arboretum will be a great living museum of trees, shrubs, and plants taken from the world over. Labeled and scientifically arranged, it will be possible for plant lovers to learn to recognize the plants and identify them by their true names.

The famous Kew Gardens in London comprise 288 acres and the Arnold Arboretum near Boston, the present largest in the United States, contains 266 acres. The University of Washington Arboretum, with its 265 acres and 24 miles of pathway, will be one of the wonder-spots of the world.

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Seattle, Washington, June 4, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



The WPA air-marking program, calling for the painting, lettering, and labeling with code emblems conspicuous roofs, highways, and points easily observed from the air, is now nearing completion in four districts of the state and operating or scheduled to operate in the remaining two, announced State Administrator Don G. Abel.

The huge orange and black signs decorating many roof-tops throughout the state give the name of the town adjacent or surrounding and with code emblems give the type, class, distance, and direction to the nearest landing field. In addition, a marker called a meridian is used, the meridian arrow pointing to true north instead of magnetic north, in the event the aviator or pilot wishes to check his compass. These air-marking signs are a part of a national air-marking program sponsored by the State Highway Department and supervised by the Federal Department of Air Commerce.

In the Eastern Washington District, comprising the 10 eastern Washington counties, some 40 of the huge signs, ranging from 100-foot down, with letters averaging 12 foot high, are completed, and additional signs are still being painted. In the Central Washington District, made up of the 10 central Washington counties, 86 signs have been constructed and the work will continue throughout the summer. Northwestern Washington counties have some 30 markers, and the Puget Sound area south and west of Tacoma, some 40. The program is just getting under way in southwestern Washington, and work is expected to start in the Seattle area soon.

Sites approved for the markers are the flat tops of roofs of schools or other public buildings so located in the community that they are easily visible from the air and easily identified. In some locations, however, the roofs of barns and private buildings have been used, as well as placing the signs on the concrete highways at intersection or junction points. Aviators and various transportation officials have been high in their praise of the value of the work.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

While illiteracy reduction has long been a government effort, even before the creation of the Works Progress Administration, according to statistics just made available, it is the WPA that has speeded up the work. According to records now on hand, 700,000 adult Americans have been taught to read and write during the past four years in which the education programs of the various Federal relief agencies have been operating, with March of this year showing an enrollment in the WPA literacy classes of 241,048 men and women. Throughout the United States 22,799 literacy classes are being conducted by 5,785 assigned instructors, qualified teachers taken mostly from the relief rolls.

According to WPA Administrator Harry L. Hopkins, illiteracy in the United States has been reduced one-sixth through the adult educational program of the Federal relief agencies. "If these relief classes were discontinued today they would have made a permanent reduction in the illiteracy ranks of the United States," Mr. Hopkins said. "Immigration restrictions now bar foreign illiterates from entering this country, and expansion of the school system, especially in the rural districts, insures further favorable effects on future illiteracy."

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Seattle, Washington, June 11, 1937

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PR-248

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

WPA DEER GET STATE COPPER'S GOAT

The daily mail of WPA State Administrator Don G. Abel contains a variety of criticism, complaints, and praise as to the operation of the WPA work in this state, but the prize complaint was received recently from a state patrolman stationed near Puyallup.

State game officers have released a number of young deer in the woods near Puyallup. The animals began venturing closer and closer to town until they met up with a WPA road crew working there. The herd soon found out that WPA workmen on the project were more than willing to share the sandwiches, cake, and pie from their lunches. The result was that a Puyallup citizen called the state patrol office the other day and complained that a deer was sniffing around the icebox on his back porch.

Patrolman Joe Sladek of Puyallup jumped into the state "paddy" wagon and rushed to the citizen's home. He put the nosy deer in the back compartment of the patrol and headed back for the woods where the young fellow was turned loose.

Returning to Puyallup, Patrolman Sladek stepped from his machine only to find the young deer trailing him as faithfully as a pampered hound. "Something's got to be done about this," Patrolman Sladek complained to State Administrator Abel. "First thing you know these cake-eating deer will be wanting me to taxi them around the valley."

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Seattle, Washington, June 18, 1937

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PR-249

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



RAIN SAVES WPA MONEY

Even Mother Nature is lending a helping hand in cutting down operative costs on WPA projects. At the WPA airport job in Yakima, water wagons were requisitioned and drivers assigned by WPA District Director O. R. Young for the purpose of watering down the heavy dust on the field hampering the graveling and stock pile work being carried on at the port. Hardly had drivers and wagons appeared on the field when the skies opened up and gave the field and workings a drenching such as the WPA never could have hoped for by artificial means.

19 SAFE DRIVING SCHOOLS OPENED IN THE STATE

There are now 19 safe driving schools being conducted in the state of Washington under the supervision of WPA instructors, State Administrator Don G. Abel, announced. More than 10,000 men and women have attended these schools and courses. At the last school opened in Wenatchee this month, a registration of better than a thousand was attained.

Up to June 1 of this year highway fatalities increased 25 per cent over last year, B. F. Snook, State Supervisor of Safety Education, stated, "In the face of this record the necessity of an organized educational campaign to curb the rising death rate cannot be denied."

WPA AND AMERICAN RED CROSS COOPERATE

The department of visual education is working in close cooperation with the American Red Cross and other safety organizations throughout the state in a campaign to educate the public in life-saving and the rudiments of first aid, according to State Administrator Don G. Abel. In the past two years more than 10,000 persons in this state have been certified for first aid work through the efforts of the WPA safety education division under the supervision of B.F. Snook.

Seattle, Washington, June 18, 1937---00000-----

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PR-250

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

WRITERS' PROJECT DISCLOSES ORGINATION OF SCOTCH HEATHER IN NORTHWEST

According to records disclosed by research workers on the WPA Federal Writers' project, agricultural and botanical experiment fields were established in Whatcom County as early as 1860 by John Bennett. Bennett arrived in the Puget Sound district in 1858 bringing with him a veritable treasure house of roots, bulbs and seeds which he had collected in the course of his world-wide travel. Among the various species of fruits and plants credited as having originated from Mr. Bennett's experiments are the Bennett pear and the Bennett Champion plum.

The Scotch heather and the holly tree now becoming so prevalent on the roadside areas throughout the Coast were also brought to the northwest by Mr. Bennett.

A WPA project being conducted at the University of Washington to attempt to find a solution for the surplus small fruits and sour cherry crops of Western Washington is rapidly nearing completion, WPA State Administrator Don G. Abel stated today. According to the records, fresh fruit sales take care of but a small percentage of the fruit. Canning cares for another portion, and placing in barrels for fountain syrups and jams aids still further for the consumption of the crop. The plan being experimented with at the University of Washington, with the aid of WPA research workers, is for a cold pack method and the method for the making of winos. It is hoped that from the survey a satisfactory method of wine-making from fruits and sour chorries will be derived, making possible the consumption of whatever surplus crop may present itself each year.

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Seattle, Washington, June 18, 1937

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PR-251

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

WPA SURVEYS SCHOOL CHILDREN

According to WPA State Administrator Don G. Abel, WPA workers on the Survey of Grade School Achievements being conducted state-wide, will within the coming year have completed a graph of every public school child in the state of Washington between the fifth and eighth grades, showing his or her strong and weak points in each particular study within the grade school curriculum. The purpose of these neutral tests made into graph form is to aid both teacher and parent in finding the child's capacity for learning and searching out his or her weakness in any particular subject.

Through legislative action during the past year the remedial system of teaching has been approved. Children whose neutral test graph shows them especially weak in one subject will be given special tutoring in that particular subject. Not only will these graph records show the capacity of the pupil, but they will also serve as a pointer of the ability of the teacher of that particular class. The United States Department of Education and the State Department of Education are anxious to have these results known and incorporate them into their future plans.

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Because of the fact that most all early records of the Washington and Oregon territory were furnished by the early Catholic missionaries and written largely in French, it has become necessary for the Works Progress Administration to assign a French translator to aid the research workers now assigned to the WPA project making an extensive survey of the history of education in the early northwest, WPA State Administrator Don G. Abel made known today.

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Seattle, Washington, June 18, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



PR-252

PR-D-11

Numerous possible changes in WPA procedure after July 1st were indicated today with announcement by WPA State Administrator Don G. Abel that after June 28 all WPA pay checks would be mailed directly to the worker by the Treasury Department at Seattle, and the present system of distribution by WPA paymasters abolished.

Timekeepers on all WPA projects throughout the state are being instructed to contact the workers and secure the correct mailing address of each. In the future, pay rolls originating on the jobs will bear the address as well as the name of the worker and it will be the responsibility of the worker to keep the timekeeper informed of any change of address before the termination of a pay roll period. The customary five-day period now necessary for auditing of pay rolls and making of checks will still be in effect. Checks will be mailed directly to the address as given by the worker on his time sheet, and if not called for in five days will be returned to the Treasury Department in Seattle.

This change in procedure, State Administrator Don G. Abel announced, will mean the elimination of WPA paymasters and relieve the WPA of the responsibility of pay check distribution.

According to Treasury Department officials, this change in WPA procedure will necessitate the mailing of some 65,000 checks a month. The move is considered one of economy and is being placed in effect throughout the United States. The use of open-faced Treasury envelopes will necessitate only the additional typing of the address of the worker upon the face of the check. In the east where this system has been in effect for some time, it has proved most satisfactory.

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Seattle, Washington, June 25, 1937

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This release is furnished for possible use at your nearest press date, and the contents have not been released to any daily paper in your vicinity.



PR-253

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

President Franklin D. Roosevelt's ancestral home at Hyde Park; the international rowing regatta course at Poughkeepsie; Vassar College;--not current events headlines but sections of Dutchess County, New York, as covered by the Dutchess County Guide compiled by the WPA American Guidebook Project and now appearing in a limited edition sponsored by the Women's City and County Club of Dutchess County, New York.

The book, a volume containing 166 pages, with numerous photographs, drawings, and maps, also deals with the geographical, geological, and historical annals of Dutchess County. The city of Poughkeepsie, where University of Washington recently proclaimed its supremacy over the rowing world, is fully covered as to its industrial activities, points of interest, and historical background surrounding the first rowing regatta as staged on the Hudson in 1837.

Vassar College, with its beautiful buildings and campus, and historical background, is described and pictured. The historical village of Fishkill, the oldest spot in Dutchess County, with its ancient buildings and homes; the town of Beacon, second largest in Dutchess County; tours through the middle Hudson valley, claimed to be one of the most beautiful spots in the world; all are covered with special maps and guide prints clearly showing highway markings and points of interest along each tour.

The Dutchess County Guide is published by the William Penn Association of Philadelphia, 130 South 15th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and is listed at a price of \$1.25.

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Seattle, Washington, June 25, 1937

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This release is furnished for possible use at your nearest press date, and the contents have not been released to any daily paper in your vicinity.



PR-254

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

More than 9,000 men and women in the state of Washington have taken the first aid course offered by the WPA Department of Safety Education during the two years the course has been available, State Administrator Don G. Abel stated today.

The course, adapted by the WPA from the United States Department of Interior Bureau of Mines Manual, covers the seven fundamentals of first aid. Fifteen hours of instruction are required before those taking the course are given their certification card. During these 15 hours of instruction the student is not only given the theory of first aid but is made to actually perform the first aid work prescribed for each type of accident.

In artificial respiration, control of bleeding, and treatment for shock, the student, using a fellow student as his patient, goes through all the motions, locates all pressure points, and applies the treatment necessary.

In the section of caring for wounds, caring for fractures, and caring for burns, the student gets actual experience in bandaging wounds and learns the type of bandage more adaptable for each section of the body.

Three hours of this course is given over to a study of the transportation of the wounded or injured. In this the student also gets actual experience in preparing an injured person for transportation and learns ways and methods of moving the injured without danger of additional injury.

Not only are foremen of construction, citizens, and workers applying for this course, but even nurses and some hospital attendants have applied. According to State Supervisor of Safety Education B. F. Snook, this type of adult education is receiving hearty approval wherever classes are opened.

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Seattle, Washington, July 2, 1937

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This release is furnished for possible use at your nearest press date, and the contents have not been released to any daily paper in your vicinity.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

BEE STING PROVES FATAL

A bee sting received while working on a WPA project near Wapato Lake, Pierce County, was indirectly the cause of the death of Earl McClintock, age 40, a WPA workman.

McClintock received the sting in the morning but thought nothing of it until noon when he complained of pains about his chest. He was driven to Tacoma for medical attention and later taken to his home. At his home he suddenly collapsed and died almost instantly.

Coronary thrombosis, a clot in the heart, was given as the direct cause of death, but the bee sting was believed to have been indirectly responsible.

SEAGULLS FLY INLAND

Hundreds of seagulls, crows and ravens have joined the ranks of the 60 WPA workers battling the Mormon cricket infestation near Pasco where, according to Arthur Chase, Washington State College entomologist, the plague is the worst in the history of the district.

The seagulls, crows and ravens began appearing about ten days ago and show absolutely no fear of the various WPA workers assigned to dusting and spraying poison along the various ditches encircling infested fields in an effort to stem migration. The poison being sprayed within the ditches seeming to have no effect upon the birds, they feed on live and poisoned crickets alike.

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Seattle, Washington, July 2, 1937

This release is furnished for possible use at your nearest press date, and the contents have not been released to any daily paper in your vicinity.



PR-256

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

YOUNG DEER STAYS FRIENDLY

WPA workmen near Locke, Eastern Washington, discovered a young fawn in the trail some two weeks ago, its one front leg badly broken. The workmen carried the fawn to their truck and brought it into Spokane where Dr. Ralph F. Canfield of the Spokane Veterinary Hospital set the leg and dressed it in splints.

For several weeks the young deer has been the backyard pet of Charles McAllister, a WPA workman, whose junior son and daughter have fed the young deer with a bottle and christened it Woopa.

Yesterday McAllister received a visit from the state game warden and was notified that it was unlawful to keep a deer in captivity. Today Woopa is back in his native haunts above Locke but refuses to take to the woods country, preferring the timekeeper's shack at the WPA project instead.

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Seattle, Washington, July 2, 1937

This release is furnished for possible use at your nearest press date, and the contents have not been released to any daily paper in your vicinity.



PR-257

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

Buried pirate treasures may have their lure, but the state of Idaho, according to the recently published Idaho Guidebook, compiled by writers from the WPA Federal Writers' Project, also has its treasures of buried gold.

In the 1860's and 70's the Clan of the Robbers' Roost was functioning most efficiently. Gold being freighted from the various diggings by pack trains was the lure. From the Jackson Hole, Wyoming country, to the Salmon River country, gold shipments running into hundreds of thousands of dollars per shipment, were not unfamiliar sights. However, the Vigilantes were on their toes. In the Idaho Guidebook a dozen various robberies are detailed and described, in which the Vigilantes caught up with the highwayman, only to find that his loot had been buried some place in the wilderness.

Treasure-hunting for these long-buried gold shipments has not as yet reached the point of becoming a popular pastime. However, with the advent of better roads and transportation, some tourist of the future may scratch the ground beneath a barren cliff to build his evening fire and thereupon discover his fortune, the buried loot of some highwayman of the Old West.

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Seattle, Washington, July 9, 1937

This release is furnished for possible use at your nearest press date, and the contents have not been released to any daily paper in your vicinity.



PR-258

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

The WPA recreational program, swinging into full operation at the close of school, has already established 640 recreational centers serving young and old in supervised recreation within 257 communities of the state, WPA State Administrator Don G. Abel announced today.

During the month of June approximately 150,000 children and grownups participated in the sports and recreational activities carried on at the various centers, with an additional estimated 100,000 persons as spectators. Some 500 WPA instructors have been assigned to the full-time supervision of the various playfields and recreational centers, and with the aid of some 40 supervisors furnished by the sponsors, the various cities and communities of the state, supervised recreation is being given a thorough test.

In the past, with the close of school and the trooping of the children to the streets, playfields, and vacant lots, parents' worries started. With the introduction of supervised recreation under WPA recreational supervisors, the picture is changing. Every form of game and sport event from fly-casting to archery is taught, contests arranged, and tournaments scheduled. Not only is the child taught the sport he seems to enjoy most, but a certain amount of character-building work is instilled along with the game. City and park board officials are cooperating whole-heartedly with the program, and the attendance at the recreational centers is increasing daily.

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Seattle, Washington, July 9, 1937

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This release is furnished for possible use at your nearest press date, and the contents have not been released to any daily paper in your vicinity.



PR-259

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

Ten WPA zone offices, each managed by a zone engineer and carrying a staff according to relief load of assignment officer, inspecting engineer, and supervising timekeeper, will be established in Spokane, Yakima, Bellingham, Everett, Seattle, Port Angeles, Tacoma, Hoquiam, Chehalis, and Vancouver, replacing the present six district WPA offices now in operation. State Administrator Don G. Abel stated.

The Spokane zone office, formerly district No. 1, will supervise the work in the eastern counties. The zone office at Yakima will supervise WPA work in the central counties. In northwestern Washington the former district No. 3 is being broken up into two zones with a zone engineer at Bellingham for Whatcom and San Juan counties, and a zone engineer at Everett for Skagit, Snohomish and Island counties.

King County will have a zone office independent of the state administrative office, which will also handle Kitsap County. The zone office to be established at Port Angeles will care for Clallam and Jefferson counties. The Tacoma zone office will supervise Mason, Thurston, and Pierce counties, while the former district office at Longview will be disbanded entirely and a zone office established at Chehalis to care for Lewis, Cowlitz and Pacific counties. The zone office already in operation at Vancouver will remain, and in addition a zone office will be established at Hoquiam to supervise Grays Harbor county.

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Seattle, Washington, July 16, 1937

This release is furnished for possible use at your nearest press date, and the contents have not been released to any daily paper in your vicinity.



PR-260

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

The recent reorganization of the WPA administrative force, calling for abandonment of the six WPA district offices and replacement by ten zone offices, will have little effect on the established procedure between sponsors and WPA administrative officials, State Administrator Don G. Abel announced.

In the past, relationship between the local sponsor and the WPA has been mostly with regard to engineering or project supervision. Under the new set-up, the sponsors will continue to take such matters up with the zone engineer, who in turn will contact the state officials. The same procedure holds true with the sponsoring of new projects. Projects will be submitted to the zone engineer for inspection and, meeting with his approval, will be forwarded on to the state office for final approval before sending to Washington, D. C.

"As to the WPA worker," Mr. Abel said, "the assignment office in each former district will be continued with reduced personnel and the work of assigning men to the job will be in the hands of the zone assignment officer. A supervising timekeeper will be assigned to each zone, but all pay rolls will be forwarded direct to the state office in Seattle for audit. All finance and accounting necessary to the projects will be done in Seattle. This will eliminate entirely the finance division as formerly operated in each district. In transferring this work to the state office finance division, little additional personnel will be necessary."

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Seattle, Washington, July 16, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Volumes ranging from modest paper-backed booklets to elaborately bound tomes, produced by the Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration for the American Guide Series, are coming off the presses of the country in an increasing number. This is the word received here by James W. Egan, Washington state director of the Writers' Project.

With the exception of the monumental District of Columbia Guide issued under the title of "Washington: City and Capital," the work of the Government Printing Office, most of the American Guide publications are being sponsored by public and private agencies, including states, cities, chambers of commerce and historical societies.

The "Idaho State Guide" was placed on sale early last spring. The Massachusetts Guide is on the press and will be followed by five other New England state guides.

Local Guides have been issued by Dubuque and Des Moines, Iowa; Savannah, Georgia; New Castle, Delaware, and other communities. Special volumes include "Cape Cod Pilot," a colorful 400-page Guide to this colorful section of Massachusetts; "Who's Who in the Zoo"; "Tales of Pioneer Pittsburgh"; "The Harmony Society of Pennsylvania"; and the "Duchess County Guide," dealing with the home country of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. An unusual volume is the "Flora of Puerto Rico," printed in Spanish.

Material for the Washington State Guide and special guides to the cities of Seattle, Tacoma and Spokane will soon be available for public or private sponsorship, according to State Director Egan. Information concerning any publication of the Federal Writers' Project can be secured by writing to Room 200 of the Alaska Building.

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Seattle, Washington, July 28, 1937

BH



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

The first cargo of lumber sent from the Pacific Northwest to the Orient was shipped in 1860 by Isaac Parker, later a pioneer city treasurer of Seattle and father of Curtiss Parker, engineer in the Smith Tower, according to information gathered this week by a research worker on the WPA Historical records Survey.

Hoisting canvas on the schooner Leonidas, the doughty pioneer, who had been trained in the east as a master mechanic and not as a sea captain, steered his course from Puget Sound to China, determined to find a market for lumber he had received as wages and could not sell at home.

Success of that bold adventure is established in the fact that Parker sent another cargo of lumber to Shanghai three years later. Among the cherished possessions of his son has been found a bill of lading, yellowed with age, but still legible, recording this second voyage. The little document, scrawled in ink in a small hand, is made out to Isaac Parker and dated July 2, 1863. It calls for 1,277 packages of machinery in addition to a boiler and lumber. Freight charges on the cargo were \$852. According to an itemized account on the back of the paper, Parker and his party took 11,057 feet of lumber and 48 bundles of shingles. They embarked on the U. S. cutter Jeff Davis for San Francisco and transferred to the bark Catalina.

Parker was an outstanding figure in the early history of Puget Sound, and was elected city treasurer in 1888. He died in 1914. As a master mechanic Parker came from Boston to San Francisco, and then to Washington Territory in 1853 where, under contract with Martin and Felt, he built the second sawmill on Puget Sound at Apple Tree Cove, now Kingston. Four years later he erected another mill at Utsalady, and in 1860 was paid in lumber for which there was no local market. After his first successful voyage to China he returned to form a small shipping syndicate.

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Seattle, Washington, August 4, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



High praise is given the Works Progress Administration and WPA workers by Editor C. B. Lafromboise in his Enumclaw Courier-Herald column "Once a Week," of August 6, for the work done on the Enumclaw grade school.

"I have seen many WPA projects but I have yet to see one that is being done any better than that at the Enumclaw Grade School," Editor Lafromboise writes. "In fact it is hard to find one that is done any better whether by WPA or private contract.

"We all hear about the inefficiency of the WPA and its men but if you want to see something revealing go up to the grade school and inspect that job. If all WPA jobs were run as well and all WPA workers performed as they have on this project, public reaction toward the WPA would be much more favorable."

Throughout the state, schools have been repaired, reconditioned, reconstructed with labor from WPA rolls and other WPA supervision and assistance. As a result the school children of the state will have clean, improved quarters in which to pursue their studies. Overcrowding and poor lighting, in a great many instances, have been overcome. Among the WPA projects recently reported completed in addition to that in Enumclaw is the new grade school at Harrah, near Toppenish, and improvements at the Summer high school and the Meridian high school in Kent. A new grade school will be erected at Arletta, the work beginning next week .

August 11, 1937

MC

A third gate lodge for the University of Washington Arboretum at the north entrance, to be erected with WPA labor, has been sketched by architects. Two other gate lodges are about complete. All three will be of solid stone construction, Enumclaw sandstone being used.

Washougal's new Boy Scout cabin, erected with WPA labor, was opened Sunday.

Spokane city commissioners have asked Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, to approve plans for construction of a wing of one-story buildings to enlarge the municipal airport administration offices.

Everett has made application ~~for a WPA investment~~ to assist in a \$390,000 school building program. The Building Trades Council has protested use of WPA labor.

Edmonds high school is building a new athletic field with WPA labor.

Cle Elum's city council is drafting plans for a South Cle Elum reservoir project calling for WPA labor.

Forks high school will have an adequate football field this fall as a result of WPA labor.

The new school house at Toppenish has been completed by WPA labor, representing an investment of \$25,000.

A new livestock barn for the Stevens County Grange fairgrounds is to be constructed as a WPA project as soon as plans are approved in Washington, D. C.

Reconstruction of the Clallam County Auditorium in Port Angeles has been approved as a WPA project by Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator. The investment will total \$9,868.

Yakima County's new \$80,495 airport constructed with WPA labor two miles southwest of Yakima, was opened with daily plane service by Northwest Airlines this week.

"WPA crews working in the Spokane area report their work has been hampered by poison ivy and rattlesnakes. That is really something new, as in this region it has been politics and politicians that interfered with most of the WPA projects during recent years."---Davenport Times-Tribune.

August 11, 1937

MC

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Duck hunters of both eastern and western Washington have cause for celebration in work emanating from the White House that President Roosevelt has placed his official okeh on the long sought for game refuge and breeding ground to be constructed with WPA funds and materials at Turnbull Slough, three miles east of Cheney, Washington, for migratory water fowl.

The home of thousands of ducks and other water fowl, Turnbull Slough, with its 12,744 acres of swampland is hailed as a natural game reserve. More than 5,000 ducks have been known to rise at one time in single flight.

An earthen dam will probably be erected by WPA labor to reflood the land drained some thirty years ago for farming purposes and abandon when found unsuitable, and a breeding ground constructed.

The announcement is the forerunner of definite action on a proposal which has been hanging fire for more than three years, according to Dr. W. R. Bernard of Cheney, Chairman of the State Game Commission, who stated he and Thomas Lally, former chairman of the commission had urged the government to take over the tract as one of a series of refuges planned for migratory fowl throughout the nation.

August 12, 1937



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
200 Alaska Building
Seattle, Washington

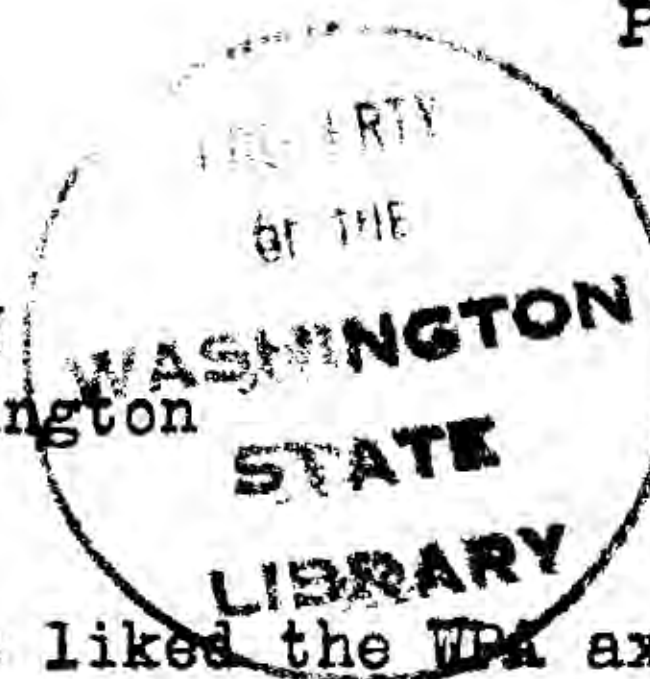
Government estimates of total 1937 fruit production, placing Washington almost six million bushels of apples ahead of the second highest state and next to the top in pears, drew attention to the early commercial attempts as revealed in information gathered by a WPA field writer on the American Guide, a federal writers project.

According to historic records Sebastian Lauber and Charles and Joseph Schanno, who first began the tide of immigration to the Yakima Valley, inaugurated Washington's first steps toward apple supremacy when they dug a small ditch to divert water from Wide Hollow Creek to their fields and gardens.

From these first crude attempts grow the great irrigation projects of today such as the Yakima Valley and the Roza reclamation. The Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture August 10, estimated Washington's total apple crop at 29,400,000 bushels which is 840,000 bushels less than the July estimate but almost a million and a half bushels more than the final crop figures for last year. Estimated total production for the second highest state, New York is 23,800,000. Washington pear production is set at an estimated 5,840,000 bushels, exceeded only by the California production.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



One Bremerton WPA worker on a park project liked the WPA axe so well he hid it in the brush and told the foreman it was lost. Imagine his surprise next payday when \$5 was deducted from his check. He could have bought the same axe at a hardware store for \$2, the worker said.

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Clark County's WPA employment rolls listed only about 800 men and women in the week of August 9 to 14.

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Work on the Whatcom County airport near Bellingham is to be resumed immediately with WPA labor, there being about \$100,000 available.

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Farmers in the Pasco and Riverview roads districts have asked the county commissioners to apply for WPA aid in setting out trees for wind breaks.

--2--

King County Commissioner Tom Smith has announced 12 projects in which \$400,000 in federal WPA funds is being invested, adding: "It is a fact that if WPA labor was not available it would be impossible to go forward with the work."

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Practically all available WPA workers in Port Angeles are working on the new road to Ediz Hook, and on a sewer project. Federal WPA funds up to \$122,099 have been made available through negotiations with Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator, and local property is to be bonded for \$50,755. Labor will get \$115,849.

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Kittitas County is in such good financial condition the commissioners doubt if they can get WPA aid for their \$150,000 new court house project.

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Vancouver Barracks are to be remodeled, wooded areas are to be cleared, and the Union high school gymnasium repaired with a \$40,000 WPA investment.

BH

-2-

Longview citizens, aroused by the danger of Lake Sacajawea becoming a private lake through foreclosures, have started a movement to publicly buy lakeshore tracts, and to improve the shores with WPA labor.

--2--

Skagit County Commissioners have abandoned WPA aid and will build a school farm shop out of tax funds.

--2--

"DEAR WPA."

"Please do not go out of existence for a while yet, for there are many things Puyallup still needs, like the widening of South Meridian south of the park, and East Main, and a sewer system, and a community swimming pool, and public picnic grounds and a civic orchestra. Yours, reaching for the Stars,"--
Puyallup Valley Tribune.

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WPA WORKER MISSING

Yakima WPA officials are searching for Edward Garratson, aged WPA recreational worker, who disappeared several weeks ago. He was last seen leaving the swimming pool in anger because children had teased him. He has no relatives or other means of support and fears are felt for his safety. He is 5 feet 3 inches tall, gray hair and moustache, round shouldered, weight about 120 pounds. He wore blue trousers and a blue denim shirt.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

Are you an unrecognized playwright?

If you are, if no play of yours has had more than three weeks run in New York or more than 28 performances on the road, you are eligible for the national play contest announced by the Dramatists' Guild through the Federal Theatre Projects of the Works Progress Administration.

First prize is \$250, plus a run of not less than two weeks in New York at Federal Theatre rental prices and possible later showings in other parts of the United States. Plays not receiving the money prize may also be produced, if the judges so decide, and regular contract rates will be paid.

Scripts must be submitted to the Play Policy Board, Federal Theatre Projects, 122 East 42nd Street, New York City on or before September 31, 1937, and should be marked "Federal Theatre Contest for Dramatists' Guild Prize". Plays must be the work of residents of the United States. Subject matter is not limited, but plays based on American life will receive special attention.

Scripts should bear the author's name on the title page only, this will be removed for judging. No return postage is necessary. Judges will be Richard Lockridge, Drama Critic of the New York Sun, Lloyd Lewis, Drama Critic of the Chicago Daily News and W. E. Oliver, Drama Critic of the Los Angeles Herald Express. Further information regarding contest rules may be obtained from the Seattle Federal Theatre Project - 1106 3rd Ave., Seattle, Washington.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



For the first time in the annals of American education a method has been evolved whereby the deficiencies of teachers may be infallibly detected, according to a report from the WPA professional and Service project to Don G. Abel, Works Progress Administrator.

The system soon will be inaugurated in the education departments in five states of the Pacific northwest.

The discovery resulted largely by accident when examiners were surveying averages in the thousands of test papers received on the work of pupils in the fifth to eighth grades. Whereas the intention of the tests was to trace the relative aptness or backwardness of pupils in various studies, the cumulative reports reflected in fact the teachers' work.

An average stage of progress was established for pupils in each study at any given time. When it appeared that a majority of pupils in a particular class fell below their proper stage in any or all studies, the fault clearly was checked against the teacher.

The test papers are designed entirely outside the knowledge of teachers, and the tests are supervised by project examiners.

High schools of this state will receive the test system beginning this fall.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

The transition of workers from the Works Progress Administration into private employment has shown an encouraging gain during the last several months, according to reports made to Don G. Abel, State W.P.A. Administrator.

The number of such departures has not been great, but a sufficient gradual increase to indicate a recovery tendency in some activities has been noted.

Eighteen men took their leave at different times since July 9 from the Land Use Survey project in Seattle. This was the most important evidence of rehabilitation shown by any project.

These workers were nearly all rodmen, chainmen, observers or other secondary workers in the engineering department and their new jobs are in similar fields of work. Several others in the group were technical engineers who found employment in their chosen callings.

The episode is regarded by WPA officials as indication that a pickup is occurring in engineering-construction work.

The sanitary department lost two supervisors within the last week. These were well-trained technicians. One went into the planning division of the King County engineer's office at a salary of \$250 a month. The other passed a civil service examination and obtained a place in the traffic division of the Seattle police department at \$160 a month.

Six men left the cast of the Federal Theatre Project early this summer for employment on ships. The occurrence reflected only the seasonal pickup in the shipping industry.

Two supervisors of the library department of the professional and service project obtained positions a few days ago in the Seattle Public Library. Two translators employed by the historical research division of the same project were engaged by the University of Washington in their calling. These four cases figure as distinct examples of rehabilitation wrought by the WPA, because all of those involved obtained their opportunity directly through ability shown in WPA work.

-2-

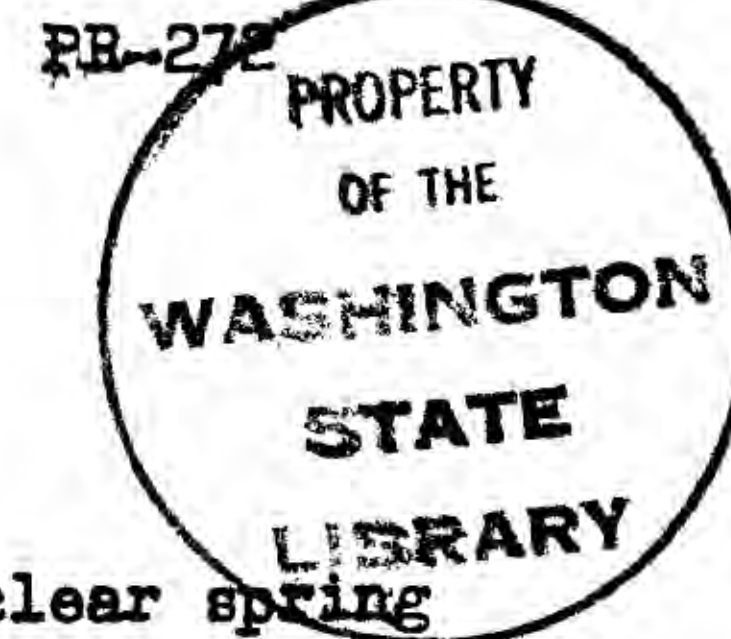
The brightest record of rehabilitation appears in a report from the Writers' Project. Twenty-eight persons from an average quota of 50 to 60 have been reinstated during the last year into private industry. About 18 of these were restored either to their actual writing profession or into work of a related character. Others who went into unrelated fields were brought to their opportunity by the WPA connection.

Here is the list: Four writers have entered private newspaper work, and three writers have entered publicity work. Seven writers have returned voluntarily to private free lancing. Two writers have taken radio jobs. One writer has gone into union organizational work. One has opened a private advertising agency. Two women writers have been appointed postmistresses. One writer has gone into educational work; another accepted the pastorate of an Oregon church. The only Indian worker ever employed by the project is now assistant in a hospital. Seven workers have received jobs in various branches of private industry ranging from office management, clerking and real estate activity to selling jobs.

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NEWS FILLERS

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
200 Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Kent now boasts of a three million gallon water supply, crystal clear spring water, which has been improved with the aid of WPA labor. The 1937 peak consumption was two million gallons.

WPA crews have been put to work extending the water system at Sultan where about two-thirds of a mile of mains are being installed.

The town of Tolt has perfected its water rights on the Tolt River and is negotiating with Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator, for WPA labor and funds.

Senator Homer T. Bone is cooperating with Tacoma and Pierce county officials in hastening WPA work on a new bridge over Hylebos Creek at Tacoma's eastern city limits which will wipe out a three mile detour now necessary to reach suburban beach settlements. Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator, is speeding the negotiations.

The salmon fishing industry of the Puget Sound basin has been materially aided by WPA labor and funds, according to reports by Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator. New fishing boat havens have been established at Marysville and Blaine.

Twenty miles of Asotin Creek roads near Clarkston are being improved with WPA labor. Asotin, Garfield and Columbia county projects are being speeded up according to reports to Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator.

Five new WPA projects have been ordered by Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator. These include a \$20,000 sewer project in Seattle, and renovating the Luther Burbank school on Mercer Island.

BH

A. S. Hillyer, editor-publisher of the Sunnyside Sun, has returned from a 10,000 mile trip through the south and middle west and reports that the Works Progress Administration is responsible for most of the improvements he saw on the trip.

"Good crops, harvest crews busy, private employers seeking men from the WPA, home and business improvements, new buildings, busy carpenters and painters; these are just a few good signs of the times to be found on Whidby Island. Men are at work! ---Oak Harbor News.

One of the least known and yet most important WPA projects is that handled by the tool men in every community where WPA work is under way. In Seattle approximately \$300,000 worth of tools and materials have passed through the toolhouse.

Automobile drivers in Yakima Valley are quicker thinking than their city slicker" cousins in Seattle, State Highway Patrol and WPA tests have revealed. The Yakima drivers rated .60 on reactions to the Seattleites .70, the clam-diggers being .1 slower than the "apple-knockers."

Marysville is cleaning house on obsolete and outmoded civic regulations as a WPA codifying crew weeds out the old and puts the towns ordinances in modern loose leaf form.

The Marysville Globe editorially praises the WPA Department of Safety Education and the Red Cross for training 9,000 men and women in first aid treatment of automobile traffic accidents.

Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, has approved and forwarded to Washington, D. C., the application of Bremerton for \$440,000 street and alley projects.

-3-

Bothell sidewalks laid with WPA labor, an investment of \$16,000, have been obtained at much less than private labor contract prices, Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator, has been informed.

Kent has been awarded \$64,800 in WPA funds for its \$144,000 school project.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Room 200 Alaska Building
Seattle, Washington



Specially designed chemical processing equipment arrived this week at the miniature pulp mill of the WPA "white collar" aids to industry project in the new University of Washington chemistry building. This marks another step in the solution of the problem of converting Douglas fir waste into fine wood pulp.

Chemists and mill technicians engaged in the installation have reported to Don G. Abel, state administrator for the Works Progress Administration, that the mill almost certainly will conquer its baffling task within a year. Prof. H. K. Benson of the University department of chemistry who is in charge of the operation, asserts that the hitherto scorned logging waste will be converted into pure white pulp suitable for newsprint, all grades of fine paper, and even cellophane.

Included in the equipment is the first pulp digester ever made with a two-way circulating system. The cooking liquor will travel continuously through this machine effecting a double-digestion of wood fibres. A four-plate die-frame screen, one-third the size of standard screen in regular pulp mills also figures in the process, with 17 other devices intended to perform every operation from the wood chip stage to the screened, washed and bleached product. The mill, occupying a space about 20 by 40 feet, will be geared for operation in two or three months.

Dr. Benson estimates the plant will handle 30 pounds of pulp at one charge and could, if desired, produce enough newsprint to satisfy the needs of the U. of W. Daily.

Conversion of Douglas fir waste into a commercial by-product has hitherto baffled all experimenters on account of the excessive length and other peculiarities of its fibres. When the process is perfected for commercial application, a tremendous new industry will arrive in this state to utilize logging waste now estimated at 10 million tons a year. The cellulose division of dePont de Nemours & Co., Inc., is especially interested, and has offered to take a percentage of the output.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Workers in WPA canning centers throughout the state are turning out thousands of cans of vegetables and fruit for distribution to relief rolls this coming winter.

Since the beginning of WPA canning in August, production has ranged from 250 cans a day to as high as 10,000 cans a day in larger canning centers.

Due to the widespread public interest it will be necessary to provide additional space and equipment according to reports to Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator. The project is part of the federal program urging families on relief rolls to plant gardens, where possible, and to assist them in making themselves more self sustaining.

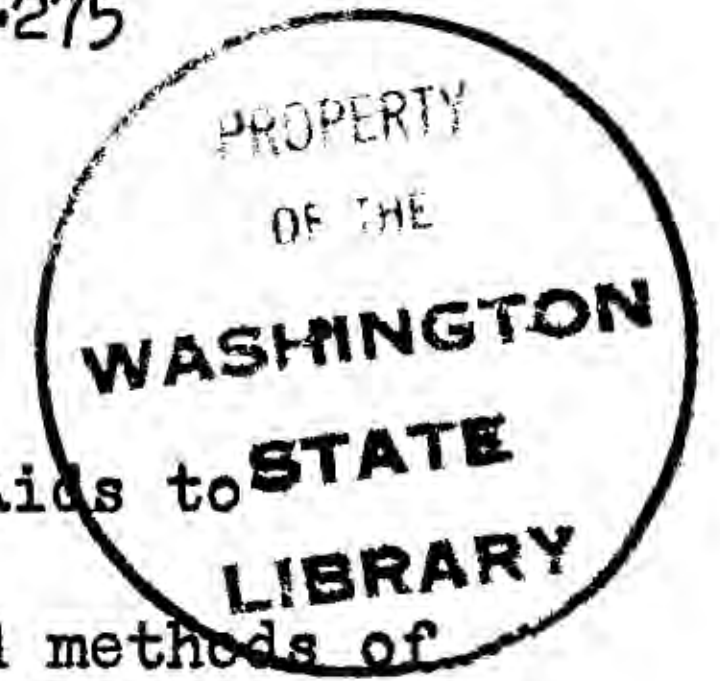
Canning at the rate of more than 10,000 cans per day and gaining daily is the record at Kirkland. In six weeks nearly 50,000 cans have been processed.

Additional canning facilities are needed in Toppenish due to the abundant yield from eastern Washington gardens. At Wapato a night shift is being started to take care of the vegetables which the day crew is unable to handle. Reports from Kent state that orders for canning are more than a week in advance, and additional equipment is being installed.

These projects are free to those without canning facilities, and each has an experienced WPA food expert to supervise the work. Arrangements are being made for the canning of meats and fish, which has not been attempted heretofore in these projects.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Chemists of the University of Washington assisted by the Aids to Industry project of the Works Progress Administration have perfected methods of obtaining pectin in commercial quantities from all manner of berries and leaves grown in the state.

Reports to Don G. Abel, State Administrator this week indicate that in the near future the production of jellies and jams of high quality at low cost will appear on a large scale. The pectin discovery will provide a new commercial outlet for berries and fruits and will greatly increase the acreage of cultivation of these products.

Pectin is the substance which imparts body and flavor to jelly and jam. Housewives buying the product now in small bottles have to pay at the rate of \$7.00 to \$10.00 a pound. The Washington product will be available at \$1.00 a pound.

The U. W. chemists have learned that pectin can be obtained from the "press cake" or residue of berries used in wine making. It is also obtained from alder, maple and ash leaves. It is easily obtained from the skins of Washington apples, but is unavailable at present due to the fact that arsenate of lead is used as an insecticide on the fruit in this state.



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

Who was Seattle's first ice man? All jokes aside, the answer has been found.

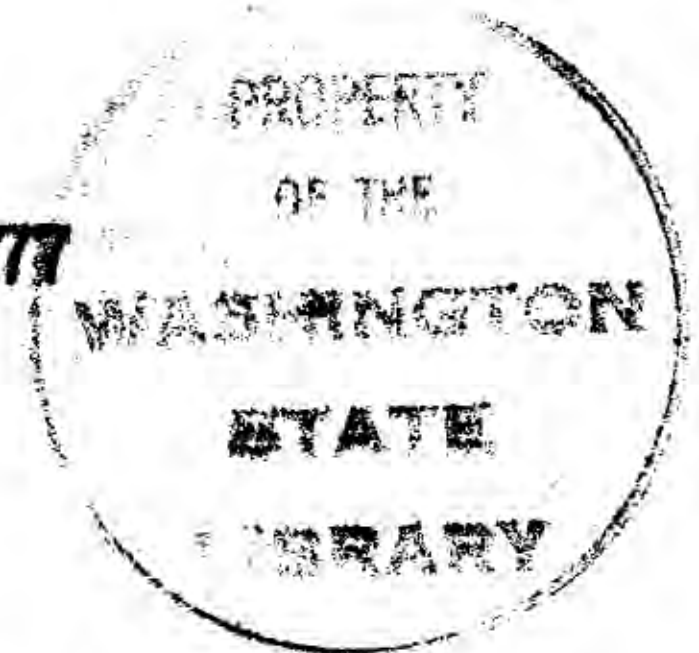
Captain Marshal Blinn of this port found out in 1872 that ice could be harvested from the Truckee river in Nevada and shipped by train to San Francisco, whence it could be brought up here on lumber boats. And that's how Seattle obtained its first ice, according to research workers of the WPA federal writers projects.

But San Franciscans really started the cold proposition. Back in the early 1850's, when the thirsty miners were feeling the flush of gold prosperity, some of the town's high livers conceived the idea of getting ice from Puget Sound, "way up north", for their mint juleps. Spirited promoters sent an ice boat up here expecting to load it with what mint juleps need most. The crew was astounded to learn that there wasn't an ice cube to be had. Undaunted they set sail for Sitka, but even in Alaska waters they found no ice available or of undesirable quality.

The exploit failed of its objective but served to reverse the process by giving Captain Blinn the idea of bringing ice from San Francisco to the shores of Puget Sound.

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NEWS FILLERS

PR-277



WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
200 Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

Canning centers established over the state under Works Progress Administration supervision, are proving so popular it has been necessary to work night shifts at Wapato, and at Toppenish the demands are so great, additional quarters and materials have been requested, according to a report to Don G. Abel, WPA Administrator for the State.

A school for training waitresses under WPA supervision has been established in Yakima in cooperation with the culinary unions and the Yakima Restaurant Men's Association, according to reports to Don G. Abel, state WPA Administrator.

The Works Progress Administration has approved an investment of \$121,500 to be matched by \$148,500 to be raised by Wenatchee for additions and improvements to the city's school houses. Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator and Senator Lewis. B. Schwellenbach cooperated in obtaining the federal allotments.

Works Progress Administration safety and first aid groups in Spokane have been given an automobile for use in their work in recognition of valuable services. The automobile was donated by the Inland Chevrolet Company, according to reports to Don G. Abel, state WPA Administrator.

Application for WPA funds for establishment of a Kitsap County airport near Bremerton has been made to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. Land has been acquired and funds voted by the county commissioners.

A scarcity of carpenters is holding up greater progress on the Cle Elum swimming pool, the Cle Elum Miner-Echo reports, and as a result the WPA project has been delayed. Only two carpenters have been available, and use of the pool awaits completion of the bath house.

Charles F. Ernst, state welfare administrator, has informed officials of Yakima, Benton, Kittitas and Klickitat Counties that he will negotiate with Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, for aid in the proposed 100-bed tuberculosis hospital for joint use by those counties. The project entails an investment of \$175,000, and the counties can raise but \$60,000 or \$70,000. The Works Progress Administration will be asked to supply approximately \$105,000.

The Tacoma Times editorially urges citizens of that metropolis to publish the Tacoma Guide as prepared by the Federal Writers Project of which James W. Egan is state director.

Fred A. Smith, Pierce County assessor, has requested the WPA to assign draftsmen and mapmakers to prepare tax-guide maps for his office.

Wenatchee voters will be called upon to authorize a 17-mill tax levy to provide \$148,000 to match \$121,500 WPA funds for school building.

Monroe will probably ask Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, for funds and labor in overhauling the towns water supply system.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



City officials of Vancouver, Washington, have been instructed to ask the Works Progress Administration for a \$326,264 water main project covering development in the next five years. Use of \$172,125 worth of WPA labor is requested. The city has just been authorized to set up a WPA traffic survey project, according to reports to Don G Abel, state WPA administrator.

Marion F Davis, 20, a WPA Leverich Park, Vancouver, Wash., nightwatchman, was slugged, bound and left lying in the mud when he attempted to investigate a disturbance in the steel and cement shed. Nothing was stolen.

Paul Hayden, a blind man of North Bonneville, has been given a limited number of the Works Progress Administration's "Talking Books". These are in the form of phonograph records which bring education, fiction, plays, poetry, bible stories and lectures to the blind. They are obtainable through the Seattle Public Library.

When Ballard, the busy Seattle suburb, holds its first annual Fishermen's Festival Sept., 17 and 18, the new concrete net shed erected at the Port of Seattle fishing fleet terminal with WPA labor will be formally taken over by the port. The Federal Theatre Project will give a special show each day in the new building.

Beacon Rock State Park on the Columbia River is being hailed as one of the finest examples of WPA park projects in the state, according to reports to Don G Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

Underprivileged children in Spokane County's schools are to be served hot meals again this year under arrangements with Don G Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. Twenty-five women will be employed in 16 rural schools to feed the children.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

Airports now under construction in Western Washington under Works Progress Administration projects, coupled with great increases in United States Army and Navy fighting planes and anti-aircraft guns, will give the state an almost impregnable defense against foreign aeronautical invasion, according to reports to Don G Abel, state WPA administrator.

At the Everett airport extra haste was displayed this week in the construction of an emergency landing runway 1,500 feet long and 900 feet wide. A 95-ton "bulldozer" was put into action to level the runway, which will be ready for use in about two months.

Airports now under construction reach from Bellingham through Mount Vernon, Everett, Sand Point, Boeing Field, Fort Lewis and thence south to Vancouver Barracks. Other airports are projected or under way at Bremerton, Grays Harbor, Port Angeles. A similar chain is projected across the Cascades to Yakima where an \$80,000 WPA-aid airport is nearing completion.

While war planes are raining sudden death on Shanghai and Chinese are preparing to send a "suicide" squadron of bombers to attack Tokyo, development of Washington aerial defense is being pressed in all districts.

The Everett airport will be the only Class A airport in the State. It covers 1,000 acres and its main north-south runway will extend for one mile and be 1,000 feet wide. There will be a main east-west runway, and several diagonal runways. Two steam shovels, a 20-ton locomotive and 16 cars, and 260 WPA workers are moving from 2,500 to 3,000 yards of earth a day. More than 400,000 yards of a total of 700,000 yards has been excavated. The federal investment will be \$461,000 of which \$246,000 has been expended and \$215,000 made available for immediate use. Snohomish County, sponsor of the project will contribute \$81,000.

The field was selected by American military defense engineers because of its freedom from fog, telephone poles, high tension wires and other hazards. It is but 30 minutes from Seattle by automobile.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Three new volumes have been added to the growing list of publications prepared by members of the Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration, according to announcement made this week by James W. Egan, director of the project for Washington State.

"American Stuff," an anthology of prose, verse and American folklore selections, contains examples of creative work contributed by writers in the 48 states during "off hours." The names of writers known and unknown appear in the index. The Federal Art Project has supplied 16 prints to illustrate the volume, which was issued as an artistic and commercial venture by Viking Press of New York.

Latest state guide in the American Guide series is "Massachusetts, A Guide to Its Places and People." The volume contains 675 pages of factual and colorful data and already is reported a "best-seller" in New England. It is well illustrated and mapped. Sponsored by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the book is published by Houghton-Mifflin.

Smaller in size is a guide to Galena, Illinois, sponsored by the city of Galena. In its 80 pages, however, is much interesting material and numerous illustrations portraying this interesting coal mining center.

All volumes prepared by the Federal Writers' Project--now reaching a total of nearly 6,000,000 words--may be readily secured through the office of the national director, Henry G. Alsberg, 1500 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Room 200 Alaska Building
Seattle, Washington



Under orders from Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, approximately 2,800 WPA workers in Yakima County have been dropped from the WPA with instructions to help the farmers and orchardists harvest their crops, and in other seasonal private industry.

Robert Thorne, state director of WPA employment, in transmitting the order to the Yakima zone officers, in effect said:

"Projects which are in a position to be closed down temporarily or on which there is no immediate necessity of continuous operation, have been closed,

as of this date, in Yakima County, in order to assist the hop-growers in securing the necessary help for picking of hops. This is directly in line with the WPA policy of insisting that its workers accept private employment wherever and whenever that employment may be offered, and more particularly, to facilitate agricultural districts in securing necessary workers during their seasonal activities."

As a result of the order picks and shovels were laid aside on many projects, and other workers laid down their tools. Men are being sent out by the truckload almost daily from the National Reemployment Service headquarters, 309 Columbia Street, to help swell the ranks of the harvest workers.

It is expected that the curtailment of WPA crews will continue in force for the next two months during the hops, peaches, pears and apples harvest. Similar conditions will prevail in other communities where farmers are in need of men to gather the crops.

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FOR STATEWIDE RELEASE
SEPT. 15, 1937



PR-282

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
STATE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

Notice has been received here that the National Play Contest of the Dramatist's Guild has been extended for another month, with closing date on October 31st instead of September 30, as previously announced.

The contest, which is being co-sponsored by the Federal Theatre Project of the Works Progress Administration, is open only to playwrights, who have not yet had a Broadway run of their production.

\$250.00 in cash, plus a New York run and later runs on the road is the prize offered. Plays taking secondary place may also be given production, at regular royalty rates.

Further information on entrance requirements may be obtained by writing the Seattle Federal Theatre Project, 1319 Rainier Ave., Seattle.

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Auburn city officials have sent a program of WPA projects calling for use of \$174,883.40 to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, for approval. Sidewalks, street paving, alleys and other civic improvements are listed.

The Port of Camas-Washougal has requested a WPA industrial survey.

Practically no employables are receiving aid from the Puyallup offices of the Pierce County welfare department, says the Puyallup Valley Tribune, due largely to WPA projects and seasonal work. WPA projects were kept at a minimum to help supply seasonal labor.

The Burlington Journal editorially praises the community and the Lions Club for local financing for the new Burlington civic park, saying that WPA has been called on for only a small amount for preliminary rough clearing and labor. "Most gratifying feature of all, perhaps, is that Burlington will retain her independence from the universal (these days) temptation for dipping into the public treasury for local needs," writes the editor, Mr. Archie Dingwall.

Everything from a shawl worn at Queen Victoria's coronation to a newspaper published on wall paper during the Civil War have been found in Toppenish by WPA workers on the County Records Survey. The newspaper is a copy of the Daily Citizen of Vicksburg, Miss., which went to press July 4, 1863.

Richard Barban, a WPA worker on the Grand Coulee Dam, has done a colored terrazzo face of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, which has been sent to Mrs. Roosevelt as a gift from the workers.

The \$17,000 WPA project for improvement of the Greenacres Irrigation District near Spokane has practically been completed. Five miles of lateral ditches have been dug and cemented, and the workmen are completing the important diking job at Newman Lake. The Opportunity Spokane Valley Herald says the WPA workmen did an efficient job.

Night school classes for adults are being started at Vancouver, Wash., by the WPA adult education teachers.

Illahee State Park, three miles from East Bremerton, is being cleared, graded and improved by WPA workmen on a \$17,000 project so as to preserve the natural wooded beauty.

Asotin County commissioners and WPA officials have gotten under way a \$15,000 road improvement project from Cottonwood Creek to the Grande Ronde River. A winter camp will be maintained.

Whatcom county commissioners have prepared two county road projects calling for an investment of \$63,605 which they will ask to have approved by Don G. Abel, Works Progress Administrator for Washington state.

New pectin discoveries by chemists at the University of Washington working on WPA "white collar" projects has evoked such nation-wide interest that Don G. Abel, state Works Progress administrator, has been requested to supply information for national dissemination.

Lynden's modern sewage disposal system and plant constructed with WPA labor and materials is 95 per cent complete, and will serve as a model for other sanitation projects throughout the state whereby the lives of hundreds of thousands of citizens will be safeguarded, it has been announced by the office of Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Room 200 Alaska Building
Seattle, Washington



Fresh impetus was given the "frosted" fruit and vegetable industry this week when it was announced by the office of Don G. Abel, Works Progress Administrator, that more funds were available to promote the WPA project that has brought more than \$800,000 in commercial orders into the Pacific Northwest.

While only \$3,732 has been made available to employ seven men for six months following a two-year \$20,000 WERA-WPA allotment, it will nevertheless help to strengthen the cumulative effect of the campaign by the United States Department of Agriculture to promote industry, commerce and agriculture in the Northwest.

H. C. Diehl, department of agriculture, has found a valuable aid in H. C. Sampson, field supervisor of the WPA professional and service "white collar" projects. Sampson is seeking to publicly demonstrate that not all WPA workers wield picks and shovels; that his white collar projects, although employing few men, are helping to increase trade and private employment.

"The men now going to work will aid Diehl at the Frozen Pack Laboratories at the Port of Seattle Spokane Street terminal, and three will be assigned to the Western Washington Experiment Station at Puyallup," said Sampson. "On the basis of their research in the field processing plant they will be able to advise the farmers how, when and what to plant and harvest, and to best handle their produce."

"Already more than \$800,000 worth of frosted peas, asparagus, green corn, green beans, brocolli, spinach and strawberries have been delivered from the Northwest to New York tables in four days by fast express without losing any of their original garden texture, color or flavor."

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

200 ALASKA BLDG.

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Steps to establish a permanent system of periodical tests for pupils throughout the state along the lines of the experimental tests conducted recently by the Works Progress Administration will be made by a steering committee of educators Friday morning at the office of Dr. August Dvorak, professor of education at the University of Washington.

Considerable interest has developed among county superintendents and teachers concerning the WPA test methods, and there is a prospect that the process may become standard practice among members of the Inland Empire Teachers' Association covering five states.

The test system is shaped with the objective of detecting quickly the merits or demerits of any given formula of instruction in any given grade or subject. Correct averages indicating stages of progress among the pupils are obtained, and incidentally the tests reflect the proficiency or shortcomings of teachers. Dr. Dvorak recently addressed a gathering of 300 educators and teachers at the Plymouth Congregational Church on the subject. The consensus was that the test system should be perpetuated beyond the period of WPA assistance.

Among those who will attend the steering committee session Friday will be Dr. Ray Hawk, of the Cheney Normal school, Harvey Hurd, superintendent of schools for Lewis County and E. H. Kennedy, representing the State School Superintendent.

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Seattle, Washington, September 21, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

Do you want a job? - If you do, take the advice of Chris Wyatt, hero of "Help Yourself" and just walk in and take one. At least that is what this engaging young man does in the play by that name coming to the WPA Federal Theatre on Rainier and Atlantic Street beginning with Tuesday evening - September 28.

The author, Paul Vulpus, takes a mixture composed of an absent minded bank president, a penniless promoter, a romantic secretary, a parsimonious accountant, a beautiful girl, and a few bank directors - mixes them up and turns out a comedy that was the hit of Vienna and New York. The FTP production is the first in the Northwest.

The play will run for the entire week beginning Sept. 28. Performances will be in the evening only.

Seattle, Washington, September 23, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
200 Alaska Building
Seattle, Washington

Working with the determination to see that no school children shall go hungry this winter in Washington, the WPA hot lunches project has been renewed with additional WPA funds to cover more districts this year, under arrangements being worked out by the office of Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

Undernourished children of families on relief in several counties are already being served free warm noon meals, and other counties are scheduled to start this week.

The program will be extended to still other counties as rapidly as arrangements can be made with local school district authorities and Parent-Teacher groups whereby WPA women cooks are provided with room space, equipment and food supplies. This cooperation permits the preparing of hot noon lunches in school districts which have not been able to staff cafeterias of their own.

Among the counties already set up or in the process of being provided with this WPA service are Snohomish, Benton, Whatcom, Klickitat, Spokane, Cowlitz and King. First of those sections have extended their projects to county-wide proportions. Within a few days similar WPA arrangements for the preparation of hot lunches in schools will be completed in Skagit, Pacific, Mason, Kitsap and Grays Harbor counties.

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Seattle, Washington, September 23, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Alaska Building Seattle, Washington

WPA - Pierce County employment files show an increase of 67 per cent in placement of unemployed persons in private employment over the month of August.

Approval of a \$16,890 playfield project for the Sheridan school in Tacoma to start immediately was announced by WPA officials.

Recreation buildings and playfields totaling \$10,894 are to be erected at Maltby and Lake Stevens according to word released from the Works Progress Administration.

Snohomish County WPA workers welcomed the first airplane to land on their super airport which is still under construction. It is not yet ready for use, Don G. Abel, warned aviators.

City officials of Vancouver, Washington, have filed application to the Works Progress Administration for approval of a \$326,264 water system project.

NYA officials of Vancouver, Washington, announced that they now have 47 youths enrolled on various projects with room for ten more. Applications are received at the WPA zone office in Vancouver.

Improvements calling for investment of \$7,000 is slated for the State Game farm at Colville, Washington.

Final approval has been given by Don G. Abel, state works progress administrator to the \$48,656 project calling for improving the streets of Issaquah.

A request has been filed with the Works Progress Administration for the sum

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of \$5,000 to fight the Mormon Cricket infestation on grazing lands adjacent to Pasco.

The Works Progress Administration may erect recreational assembly halls at Camp Murray in Western Washington it was announced by Adj. General Maurice J. Thompson.

The Greenacres Irrigation project has just received a \$6,288 allotment from WPA funds to carry on the Spokane project.

Approval for the continuation of the WPA museum project, now in progress has been granted by the Spokane City Council.

Seattle, Washington, September 24, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

200 Alaska Bldg. Seattle, Washington

STATE
LIBRARY

City Light cooperating with the Federal Art project of WPA is "bringing the mountain to mahomet" in the form of a magnificent model of the Skagit-Diablo dam and power plant.

The model will be on view Wednesday in the main showroom of the City Light building at Third Ave. and Madison St. in time to meet the gaze of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, according to an announcement from the office of Don G. Abel, State Administrator.

All kinds of artists and craftsmen of the Federal Art project took part in creating the model, which is of great size and probably unique in that it actually operates like a mechanical toy. Someone engaged on the project christened the object "The Charlie McCarthy of hydroelectric science". For the model does the kind of "talking" that the real dam and power plant does. It works.

A tumbling double pair of cataracts pours down from a lake cupped in the imitation hills into turbines of the imitation power plant. A miniature incline railroad seems to be operating in perfect imitation of the real thing at the Skagit scene.

Every effort was exerted by City Light and the art workers to arrange the exhibit in time for the President's visit. Mr. Roosevelt's present tour includes visits to the Bonneville and Grand Coulee projects, but he will be unable to visit Seattle's proud spectacle on the Skagit River. The exhibition of the model was deemed an appropriate occasion method of giving him an impression of the power project he is compelled to miss.

The model is five feet eight inches in width, eight feet three inches in length and three feet in height above the base. The base which is being especially constructed to serve for the model's sojourn at City Light will be about three feet in height. Worker's in City Lights shop are constructing a steel frame and plate

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glass case to enclose the model.

Engineers, draftsmen, carpenters and scenic painters had a hand in constructing the replica, and consumed about a year in the undertaking. They declare that not a single detail of the original project has been omitted in the model with the exception of sea gulls in flight and shifting clouds.

An infinite variety of materials went into the construction, including plywood, metal laths, texture compound--a surfacing substance--glue, thread, wire nails, cement, wax, tar and waterproof concrete.

There are 1500 miniature fir trees scattered profusely over the make-believe hills. The coloring and lighting effects are done in exact accordance with the natural conditions of midsummer.

The builders had to work a kind of magic in contriving the waterfalls in such fashion as to correctly achieve the noisy and turbulent habits of the real falls. An unassisted down-flow of water of such small volume as occurs here would have lacked a lot. The builders therefore placed tiny copper pipes with needle-hole bores behind the miniature falls propelling streams upward and downward against the falling water. The result is a continuous flash of spray and a lively agitation in the downpour.

Seattle, Washington, September 24, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
200 Alaska Building
Seattle, Washington

PROPERTY
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Rural recreation will be expanded and emphasized this fall under plans formulated by the Division of Education and Recreation of the Works Progress Administration, it was announced today at the office of Don G. Abel, state administrator.

WPA zone supervisors are "sitting in" with recreation councils, comprising representatives from local social and civic groups, to formulate plans for the fall and winter programs. Value of the recreational activities, in the opinion of local communities, is evidenced by the fact that several during the past year have incorporated their councils into permanent groups.

WPA recreational leaders are undergoing intensive service training by supervisors and experienced volunteer instructors, says W.W. Kelso, State WPA Director of Education and Recreation.

More adult recreation and greater emphasis on child safety, particularly in the more populated districts subject to traffic hazards, will be included. Significance is attached to the improved accident figures among children coincident with the expanded WPA recreational program during the past summer. In Seattle it was pointed out there were 23 fewer children of school age injured in traffic accidents during June, July and August than for the same period last year.

While last year the WPA worked independently of the Seattle Park Board, this summer both agencies were able to greatly expand and spread activities, thus keeping three field houses and more playfields open during the summer.

Seattle, Washington, September 25, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Room 200 Alaska Building
Seattle, Washington

WASHINGTON
STATE
LIBRARY

Giant dahlias for President Roosevelt, tomato juice for the children at Seattle's Orthopedic Hospital, and Gooseberries for Paul Bunyan at the University of Washington Arboretum are just a few of the unusual things that keep the life of Don G. Abel, state administrator of the Works Progress Administration, from being dull these days.

Herbert P. Wolff, 2605 Spring St., Seattle, brought in the giant dahlias as a token of esteem and to show Abel what he and his children's recreation class would present to President Roosevelt on his Seattle visit. Wolff, instructor in boxing, wrestling and athletics under the WPA recreational project, was given some bulbs by William Knouse. With the aid of the children he planted them at No. 6 fire station, 23rd and Yesler, and when the children tired of athletics during the summer, teacher and pupils joined in caring for the flowers. They grew so many they soon were providing daily bouquet for shut-ins and Seattle hospitals.

It was the Ladies Aid of the McKinley District, Toppenish, who supplied the tomato juice. After setting a record for canning fruits and vegetables for themselves and needy of Toppenish, they had such a surplus of fine ripe tomatoes they canned and sent 412 large cans of juice to the crippled children.

And the Arboretum is to supply the gooseberries for Paul Bunyan, Dean Hugo Winkenwerder of the University and Arboretum, reported to Abel. Gooseberries the size of ping pong balls are to be grown on a Jumbo bush imported for the Arboretum from the Siskiyou Mountains. The Arboretum is one of the largest WPA operations in King County.

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Seattle, Washington, September 28, 1937

Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator, has made \$26,627 available to carry out the modern sidewalk and curb street work in the town of Bothell, which will add \$4,856 to the fund. This WPA project will give practically the entire town modern walks and street drainage.

Two schools in Lewis County are to be improved as a result of negotiations concluded with Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator. Recreational facilities at the Doty grade school and the Boisfort High School will be provided with WPA labor under grants of more than \$7,500.

Approximately \$14,000 of WPA funds has been allotted for improving sanitary conditions throughout Snohomish County where trained WPA crews will erect comfort stations and do other necessary work.

The city of Everett has been allotted \$7,667 for street work, and another \$3,146 has been made available for clearing drainage ditches near Lake Thomas as a result of negotiations with Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator.

The Washington State Custodial School grounds near Buckley is due for an extensive "face lift" as the result of an announcement by Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator, that \$24,899 has been made available for that purpose.

Tacoma streets and alleys are to be improved as the result of a \$57,373 WPA fund grant announced by Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator.

Following announcement that the Works Progress Administration had made \$90,000 available for completion of the West Seattle golf course, where Park Commissioner Archie Phelps celebrated by teeing off the first ball, Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator, has announced that \$70,626 has been made available for other parks in the south end of Seattle.

Cle Elum's new WPA swimming pool and recreational grounds will be adequately fenced off under an allotment of \$2,459 for that purpose by Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator.

Residents of Vashon Heights on the bluff overlooking Puget Sound are to have footpaths, bridges and other improvements to open a safe way down to the ferry land. Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator has made \$3,650 available.

The State Law Library at Olympia will be overhauled, books put in condition and necessary clerical work done to bring the library up to date, as a result of apportionment of WPA funds by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

Port Orchard city park is to be cleared and generally improved as a result of an order by Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator, making more than \$1,200 available for that purpose.

Richmond Beach, north of Seattle, will benefit by school recreational facilities and other improvements in a \$10,545 investment approved by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator, has made \$7,005 of WPA funds available to help the Town of Tolt install a modern water system. The entire investment will be \$13,620.

New residence buildings are to be constructed at the Minter Creek salmon hatchery and biological station under a \$5,850 WPA grant made available by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

Stanley Atwood, state superintendent of schools, was so proud of the WPA-built Belfair log schoolhouse that he specially invited President Roosevelt to visit it on his Olympic Peninsula tour. At the same time Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator announced that an additional \$4,465 of WPA funds had been made available for further work there.

Streets in Camas, Clark County, are to be improved to the extent of \$4,600 in WPA funds, it has been announced by Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator.

Cooperating with the town of Washougal in Clark County, Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator, has announced that \$49,991 will be advanced by the Works Progress Administration to add to Washougal's \$14,260 in a city-wide improvement of streets.

The Pasadena Park in Spokane, irrigational canal is to be practically rebuilt by WPA labor, it has been announced by Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator, who has made \$19,107 WPA funds available to tear out the old wood flumes and build a concrete lined canal.

Those who attend the Washington state fair at Yakima next year will find a new roof on the grand stand as the result of action by Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator, in making \$6,543 available for the work.

To provide employment for needy professional (white collar) persons throughout the state, Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator, has approved a grant of \$8,496 to provide help for the state planning council and other planning councils in gathering data necessary for long-range planning for Washington's future development.

Home sites for the needy will be prepared in the vicinity of Lake Goodwin on the Skagit delta, it has been announced by Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator. A fund of \$22,408 has been made available for clearing land and other necessary preliminary work for settlement.

Tennis courts are to be provided by WPA labor for the city of Clarkston under an order by Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator, setting aside the necessary funds.

Puyallup is to have a new recreation center near Maplewood Springs for which \$22,000 in WPA funds has been made available.

A box of dynamite and fuses were stolen from the WPA project at Valleyford, the Spokane Sheriff has been advised.

WPA projects in Tacoma have benefitted by an allotment of \$20,000, according to an announcement made by Senator Homer T. Bone.

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Drilling of a well at the new WPA built class "A" airport near Everett is under way. Sunk to a depth of 227 feet, insufficient water was found, so the well will be put down to the 475-foot level.

Editors over the state are eagerly watching the WPA stump clearing in Thurston County to provide 15 families with farms.

The Sumner Bulb Growers Association has announced the gift of one and one-half tons of narcissi bulbs for planting in the new WPA-built University of Washington Arboretum.

Paul Bunyan gooseberries, the size of ping pong balls, are to be grown in the new WPA-built University of Washington Arboretum, on bushes from the Siskiyou mountains.

Seattle, Washington, September 30, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
200 Alaska Building
Seattle, Wash.



Information gathered by WPA white collar workers to determine conditions and causes of child delinquency in King County, "shows beyond a shadow of a doubt" that preventative measures are community problems, in the staunch opinion of Judge William G. Long of the Juvenile Court.

"With the weapons and ammunition put into our hands by the professional and service workers of the Works Progress Administration, after nearly 15 months of strenuous fact finding efforts throughout the county, we are able to direct communities in constructive programs against juvenile delinquency, for years to come," says Judge Long. "Into the hands of the nine Coordinating Councils, organized for the purpose, will be fed the valuable data obtained to guide vigorous programs for the reduction of both child and adult crimes on a scale never before possible. These Coordinating Councils comprise representatives in the community from various commercial, church, service, school and PTA organizations as well as the Juvenile Court and other county and city officials."

"From this survey a street index of Seattle by permanent census tracts, as well as similar systems for seven of the largest incorporated towns in King County, were made for the first time in this part of the nation. This job alone by the WPA staff is an outstanding piece of work, giving finger-tip information, not only to agencies interested in reducing juvenile delinquency but for all forms of sociological improvement work and other statistical purposes."

When the WPA project is completed, in about six weeks the tabulated and classified information will be available to any person or company having legitimate social or commercial use for the data, it was stated yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. The survey was made at the urgent request of Judge Long and with the guidance and suggestions of Dr. Norman S. Hayner, professor of sociology at the University of Washington, the two men serving as co-agents for King County, sponsor of the project. From information gathered in the survey, WPA workers just

completed a base map of Seattle, featuring legend charting important data. From this key map, according to Judge Long, 40 individual large scale maps of Seattle are now being prepared for distribution to Coordinating Councils and other agencies to aid in charting causes and corrective measures for child delinquency.

"Accuracy has been emphasized from ~~start~~ to finish by the 18 WPA workers on this project, and every figure and fact has been checked and double checked," declares Judge Long.

"When the tax payers of this county learn that in eight years there was an average of 2,000 cases of juvenile delinquency, and when they realize the huge bill in crime that society will later pay based on the known fact that two-thirds of adult criminals originate from child delinquents, it will be seen why we need to get the important tools and ammunition which these WPA workers have furnished us. We can now carry on intelligent preventative campaigns, and in this connection we must remember that the big preventative job is now up to efficient Coordinating Councils in every community."

A study of the history of "positive and negative" factors of more than 5,000 delinquency cases in King County, during the past year has been a part of the program of this WPA project, Abel declares. Already, the methods and forms of this survey have been asked for by other states contemplating similar important surveys. Tacoma WPA workers are now busy obtaining data about conditions surrounding child delinquency in the city and Pierce county.

The Y.M.C.A., the Boy Scouts of America and other agencies active in child training in King County are now making use of the information from the WPA survey to revamp or enlarge their work in certain districts heretofore thought amply covered.

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Seattle, Washington, October 7, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
200 Alaska Building
Seattle, Washington



With the transplanting of over 100,000 tree and shrub seedlings and cuttings the first season's output of the new greenhouse and nursery at the Washington Park Arboretum has been completed.

Over two hundred men are at work on one of the largest WPA projects in the northwest, preparing the grounds for the fall season of planting and building trails and roads, according to Don G. Abel, State Director of the Works Progress Administration.

Since the completion of the greenhouse, work has been rushed on the shade and propagating houses. Extension of the automatic thermostatic control heating unit to these two additional units is being completed.

The \$32,000 overhead watering system covers nine acres of testing gardens where are transplanted from the greenhouse such trees as pine, fir, hemlock, mountain hemlock and heather, the latter being brought to this country from prize winning stock of the English Horticulture shows. Completely new is the "weeping spruce" or "picea breweriana" which has taken hold in the testing gardens and is grown in no other known country than a small portion of Southern Oregon.

Nine miles of trails and roads have been completed and two gate lodges are in the final stages of construction, besides considerable landscaping and grading necessary for the output of the greenhouse.

The \$371,115 Arboretum-WPA project is slated for completion the latter part of June 1938, according to R. C. Lecture, WPA landscape architect in charge of the gardens and landscaping.

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Seattle, Washington, October 8, 1937

IMMEDIATE
RELEASE

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
200 Alaska Building
Seattle, Washington



PR-295

A survey, the first of its kind in the State if not in the entire west, of the loaning experience of a Farm Credit Administration District will begin this week in Spokane, according to word received today from the office of Don G. Abel, State Administrator of the Works Progress Administration.

Complete tabulation of more than 35,000 loans made between 1917 and 1925 by the Federal Land Bank, Welch Building, Spokane, will form the basis of a thorough analysis which will undoubtedly influence future FCA policies. A more scientific long-term credit plan is expected to evolve from these studies and at the same time the debt-carrying capacity of the various localities in FCL District 12 will be indicative of such a statewide capacity.

Eleven men and women, experienced in the statistical field, will gather and compile the statistics covering these past activities of the bank. Loans to farmers will be classified as to number and experience by:- type of geographical region forming by year; size and type of farm; variety of irrigation district; soil type and land classes; taxes as a percentage of the appraised value; age of borrower; extent of foreclosures on value of building. This latter classification will represent the greater portion of security behind the loans and will largely serve as a factor in planning future lending.

In addition to these major classifications and their subdivisions, transcribing, cataloging, cross-indexing and preparing a new file of records will be undertaken. To eliminate any possibility of mistake, the latest methods and the most modern equipment will be utilized including the Hollerich punch card system.

Present employees of the Federal Land Bank will be free to carry on their regular work as file clerks, bookkeepers and statisticians through a WPA allotment of \$4,584, while \$1,929 from the funds of FCA is expected to be sufficient for new equipment needed to facilitate the compilation and to provide filing cabinets in which to store the records.

Loan folders issued by FCA Spokane District late next spring or early summer will carry the results of this survey, according to Dr. O. H. Maugh, Statistician for the Federal Land Bank, as April is set as the time for completion of the project.

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Seattle, Washington, October 14, 1937

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October 14, 1937

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
200 Alaska Building
Seattle, Washington

More than 4,100,083 apple trees, enough if planted 35 feet apart to reach around the world with sufficient left over to reach from the Pacific Coast to Chicago were growing on fruit farms in the State of Washington in 1936. This was recently revealed through a WPA survey, according to Don G. Abel, State Administrator.

The Port Townsend walk program is progressing rapidly with a total of 740 lineal feet of new concrete sidewalks completed to date under the direction of the Works Progress Administration, according to Don G. Abel, State Administrator.

Construction of sanitary comfort stations and the elimination of insanitary devices began recently in Snohomish County, according to an announcement by Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator.

Plans for an application requesting Works Progress Administration funds to give the Cle Elum Forest Ranger station an ample supply of fresh water are beginning to take form under the guidance of the Cle Elum City Council, stated Don G. Abel, State Administrator of the WPA, in a recent announcement.

Buckley wants clean streets. This was revealed recently by the town council's action in laying plans to apply for a Works Progress Administration grant of \$25,000 for such a project, according to word received by the office of Don G. Abel, State Administrator.

The recently created Northwest Prospectors and Miners Association of the Olympic Peninsula have asked that the Works Progress Administration mineral survey include the territory covered by the proposed Olympic National Park, according to word received by Don G. Abel, State Administrator.

A campaign is under way, headed by prominent business men of West Seattle, to have the Olympic tryouts of 1940 held in the West Seattle Stadium, which is now under construction by the Works Progress Administration, Don G. Abel, State Administrator, was recently informed.

More than 2,000,000 adults attend Works Progress Administration classes throughout the nation, it was revealed recently at the beginning of the third year of teaching undertaken by the WPA.

A chain of airports stretching from Bellingham to Vancouver, now under construction by the Works Progress Administration, are being pressed towards completion, according to reports to Don G. Abel, State Administrator.

More than 3 miles of concrete sidewalks have been completed in Bothell by the Works Progress Administration.

Two additional tennis courts are now in the process of construction at the Clarkston senior high school, according to a dispatch received by Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator.

Skagit County reports the recent completion of the Pacific Highway bridge spanning their "big ditch" Works Progress Administration project.

Klickitat, Yakima, Benton and Kittitas counties are planning to erect a 4-county tuberculosis hospital and have voted \$70,000 to match a requested similar amount from the Works Progress Administration, Don G. Abel, State Administrator, announced recently.

Charleston avenue in Bremerton will soon be the scene of a great deal of activity when a crew of Works Progress Administration employees begin the task of regrading and surfacing it.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
200 Alaska Building
Seattle, Washington

HONORING P.T.A. WOMEN



In harmony with Gov. Martin's idea to honor the Parent Teachers Association during the week Oct. 10th to 19th, Don G. Abel, State Administrator WPA desires to compliment this splendid group of women on the splendid cooperation they have given the Women's Division of the WPA in the establishment and maintainance of Hot Lunch Service for children in the public schools of the state.

Because of the large number of undernourished children found on the school rolls of the nation, the WPA was called in during the depression to assist the Parent Teacher groups to carry the large and increasing burden of caring for the health of school children during the impressionable period of development as future American citizens.

Parent Teacher Associations are paying particular attention today to the physical needs of growing children. Hot lunches for undernourished children was considered a real problem for solution by the school system even before the depression. During the depression period the Association was snowed under by the demand upon their finance and time. So great was the need that the WPA as a national agency stepped in with offers of help and assistance, bargaining with sponsors of Hot Lunch Programs to assume responsibility for the labor required to run the service.

Speaking nationally, during the first year and a half of the WPA, more than a million children in thousands of different schools were served hot lunches. Another eastern report: during the spring of 1937 more than 10,000 women were taken from relief rolls and employed on these projects. These hot lunches not only meet the urgent physical needs of children but they also provide the opportunity for children to learn to build up food habits necessary for maintaining good health and to create an understanding of self-help by permitting each child to help maintain the service.

The State of Washington under WPA has done its part in furthering this national program. In order not to interfere with PTA work already established certain areas are set aside for WPA development. In King County the work is sponsored by the office of the County Superintendent of Schools and County Commissioners.

The sponsors of these projects are responsible for furnishing the food; the WPA office supplies the labor. In some counties credit must be given to the County Board of Commissioners for salary payment of supervisors. The government cannot supply money for food. Cash distribution to the project is handled entirely by sponsor supervision. Quite often PTA women give their service gratis to the work during the noon hour. In some eastern states the school children plant summer gardens in local areas; vegetables so obtained are stored for winter use.

King County has five units now in operation; Kitsap Co. in the same zone together with Clallam County have respectively two and one units. More units are in process of beginning in all three counties. Don G. Abel, State administrator says, "projects will be set up as fast as sponsors who are willing, pledge themselves to underwrite the food expense and furnish suitable quarters. Sixteen other county units are scattered over the state; the latest to take active form is that in Gray's Harbor County, opening on October 19th; Mason and Thurston Counties had their opening of this very commendable project on October 9th followed by Pierce County on the 11th inst. Chelan, Wahkiakum, Skamania counties are now working out the details of organization. Word has just come to the writer that Yakima County will come into the Hot Lunch family on October 20th.

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Mrs Hazel W. Dwinnell, State Director, Women's Projects advises that in the State of Washington lunch is provided on these occasions for all children who desire it. This costs the sponsors a trifle more but provides against creating class lines among the children. Children may bring lunch from home and supplement this with hot soup or a glass of milk and dessert. Every child gets one hot dish in addition to a glass of milk; cocoa is furnished as a treat once a week and a light dessert is served at each meal,- all entirely free to the child.

The WPA engages the cook or cooks required to serve the number of children attending; one woman helper to each 50 children and a man helper for the heavy work..

What does all this do for children? The children are under constant supervision of PTA women who watch ever for improvement in the child's physical condition. A substantial increase in weight is shown in many cases after a few weeks at the lunch table.

A visit to one of the lunch sessions will convince parents of the delightful atmosphere surrounding the children at the noon hour, the good quality of the food served, the practical service and the educational value to the children derived through friendly companionship of other children and the cooperative spirit gendered in helping each other. The Nation through such projects as the one in our story is solving a major problem in an attempt to create happier homes and healthier children. Hats off to P.T.A. Women.

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Seattle, Washington, October 15, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
200 Alaska Building
Seattle, Washington



Asotin County reports the beginning of a \$15,000 WPA improvement project in the Grande Ronde River district. A winter camp for WPA employees will be maintained.

Initial steps towards the construction of Tenino's new water system began recently when a WPA crew of 20 men started work on the road leading to the reservoir site.

Winlock Cemetery association plans to submit a proposal for a WPA project to improve the Winlock Cemetery, according to word received by the office of Don G. Abel, Works Progress Administrator.

The proposed co-operative lumber mill at Camas, to be operated by workers from WPA rosters, expects to market kiln dried lumber and furniture squares to California manufacturers, reports the Twin City Producers, the name given the co-operative association.

More than 800 cans of vegetables and fruit, recently turned out by the Ridgefield P.T.A. canning project co-operating with the WPA, will be used in hot lunches for school children, according to word received at the office of Don G. Abel, Works Progress Administrator.

Land values will be boosted 80 per cent in the district west of Conway with the completion of a WPA Flood control project in the vicinity, is the opinion of district WPA officials.

American slang expressions -- straight-forward English -- which is the easiest to explain to foreigners? Good English, exclaim WPA instructors in one voice. Thus the consensus of opinion of teachers of classes in naturalization was expressed recently to Don G. Abel, Works Progress Administrator.

Public forums will be resumed in Seattle October 25, under the joint sponsorship of the United States department of education and the Seattle public school system with the Works Progress Administration supplying office and research workers.

Residents of Washington are becoming more musically inclined than formerly it would appear. This from the fact that the WPA reports the peak enrollment in the history of its music classes throughout the state.

More than 100,000 shrub seedlings and cuttings, the first season's output, was recently transplanted by the Washington Park Arboretum, from its nursery, one of the largest WPA projects in the northwest.

Washington airports, completed and under construction by the Works Progress Administration, were visited during the week ending October 23, by Corrington Gill, assistant WPA administrator of Washington, D. C., and Don G. Abel, State Administrator. They were accompanied by National Aeronautical Association officials.

A baby's "mama" is purely accidental, asserts D. J. O'Rouark, WPA instructor in speech correction. A muscular contraction produces a prolonged "A" and a reflex contraction adds the "m-m-m" that fond parents interpret as "mama".

Something new in the way of community halls is the boast of Mount Vernon residents with the completion of a rustic building constructed by the Works Progress Administration.

Residents of Bellingham find greater attraction at their Fairhaven Park since the final touches have been added by the WPA to the community building and clubhouse.

Improvement of the Cline Irrigation system near Sequim is in full swing under a WPA allotment of \$5,850 as advised by Don G. Abel, State Administrator. Water for irrigation will now be available to ranches not previously served.

An additional span of 26 feet to the WPA reconstruction work on the Thirteenth Avenue highway bridge over Mill creek near Spokane has been authorized.

WPA workers engaged in beautifying the Veterans Cemetery at Retsil, Bremerton, discovered the grave of a Civil War veteran who had had two wives both named "Mary." He lies there in peace a Mary on either side of him.

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Seattle, Washington, October 19, 1937

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
200 Alaska Building
Seattle, Washington



Work will be completed October 27 on the Yakima municipal sewage plant, under construction with the aid of \$163,787 in WPA funds and labor since November 1935, it was announced today by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

The plant, which is one of the most modern and efficient sewage disposal plants of its kind in the United States, as well as one of the largest west of the Mississippi river, represents a total investment of almost \$300,000. In addition to the WPA assistance, the city of Yakima, as sponsor of the project, has already provided \$116,986.23 and it is expected this figure will be increased to nearly \$140,000.

Located just outside the city limits, at the southeast corner of town, the system covers ten acres of a 20 acre plot purchased by the city for that purpose. During peak construction activity in December 1935, needed employment was provided for nearly 400 WPA workers on this project, stated Abel. The large crew was busy excavating and laying 3,800 feet of 48 inch sewer line leading into the plant. During the past summer two WPA shifts a day, of over 90 men each, have been employed in final construction work.

The entire plant, excepting the caretaker's house is of reinforced concrete. The system features four open-top clarifier tanks, 90 feet across, 15 feet deep, sunk 14 feet into the ground. Between the clarifiers is an administration building, housing laboratory, control panel, sludge pumps and chlorinating equipment. Nearby stand three cylinders, 40 feet across, 35 feet high, known as primary and secondary digesters and sludge storage tanks. There is a control house for these and adjacent is a huge drying bed. Heat for the digesters and for cooking and heating the caretaker's cottage comes from sewer gas collected in a huge dome device.

Although, actually, the plant has been under test operation almost a month, the system is officially completed with the finishing of the final stages of landscaping and construction of the caretaker's cottage. The plant is said to embody the Eminoff system of digestion and Door system of clarification.

Similar but smaller plants are nearing completion with the assistance of WPA labor and funds at Wapato and Zilla in the Yakima Valley. The Wapato plant represents a total investment of approximately \$25,000, while the Zillah system, expected to be ready, including sewer lines by the first of January, will cost an estimated \$90,000. It will be Zillah's first sewer system.

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Seattle, Washington, October 20, 1937

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
200 Alaska Building
Seattle, Washington

Delving into dusty, dark archives of the old Pierce County Courthouse a WPA worker on the Federal Writers Project, The American Guide, uncovered the architect's drawings of the building, which had been lost for more than 25 years. The writer, assigned to check on historical data, inquired of the County Engineer the date of construction of the building and was advised that due to the lost plans the information was not available.

Undaunted by the information that the plans had been lost for so long, that a thorough search had recently been made to no avail, even that in the opinion of some they might have been lost in the Tacoma fire, this WPA worker spent several days consulting with local architects, eventually finding one who expressed his belief that the plans were still in existence. Armed with this small amount of assurance, he set to work and for days carried on a systematic search that eventually rewarded him with the finding of the complete set of plans.

In 1880 the county seat of Pierce County was moved from Steilcoom to Tacoma and the court house built. Due to litigation the erection of the present building did not begin until in January 1891 and just when the building was completed the records do not show - even historians disagree as to the date.

Slightly over three years ago some of the floors and walls began to show signs of settling and in order to make the necessary repairs, the original plans would be required. Every facility at the command of the county officials were exhausted but to no avail. The original cost of these plans ran around \$2,000 and when the day arrived when repairs were necessary, their value had greatly enhanced. So the reward for the long tedious days of searching had a financial as well as historical value.

During the course of this WPA writer's search some very interesting facts were brought to light. When planning the interior of the building the contractor provided for a winding secret stairway with entrance concealed on each floor, connecting the jail with the judge's chamber on the third floor. Through this stairway a prisoner would be protected from the violence of a mob, and guarded against escape.

There is also a room with a window, but no door, entrance being made through a trap-door not easily located. In the event of a mob, or a jail delivery, the prisoner could be spirited away to this room without fear of discovery.

In another part of the building the floor under an entire department had been raised several feet, the present floor resting on trusses, here is a space sufficient to conceal several hundred men though not practical because of the lack of ventilation.

Room 506 is called "The Hanging Room" and here the first two men to be executed in Pierce County were hanged. The first hanging was that of Albert Michaud, accused of shooting his former wife, on September 1899. Within two weeks the murderer was brought to trial and found guilty. During the short time before the execution his black hair turned snow-white.

Eben L. Boyce an alleged drug addict and wandering musician was also accused of murdering his estranged wife Louise. The crime taking place shortly before Michaud's execution in February 1900. In August of that year he was hanged from the same scaffold as Michaud. Records do not show of any further hangings in this room.

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Seattle, Washington, October 22, 1937

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