

IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FEBRUARY 3, 1939

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Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, yesterday left by train for Chicago to confer with Colonel F. C. Harrington, national WPA Administrator, who called all state WPA administrators to the "windy city" for a series of conferences opening Monday morning.

Immediate and vital problems concerning the national work relief program will be discussed with the national administrator, said Abel. The state administrator will join other state administrators enroute, and he will later continue on to Washington, D. C., for further conferences, returning to Seattle near the end of the month.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

208 Alaska Building

Seattle, Washington



To continue the present WPA program at the Sand Point Naval Air Station, north of Seattle, Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, yesterday announced that \$599,917 in new allotments would be invested beginning February 21, for improvement of buildings, grounds and facilities. Abel said this huge allocation brought WPA funds for the air station to more than \$860,000 since last September.

Under the new allocation the largest item will be construction of an addition to the station's plane overhaul plant, requiring \$100,000. Other funds will be used on work already under way, including improvement in the drainage system, enlarging the sewer and water equipment, extending runways, enlarging the grounds by grading and surfacing, and installing electrical, plumbing and heating systems.

In addition to the WPA allotments, workers were assigned to the naval air station through facilities for meeting the payroll with \$1,031,000 available from earmarked work relief funds allotted to other federal agencies.

One of the previous WPA allocations, \$160,000 was used to complete two land plane hangars and an addition to a large storehouse. A \$103,000 allocation is being used for employing WPA workers in general improvement and extension of buildings and grounds facilities.

The Commandant of the Thirteenth Naval District, which includes the Bremerton Navy Yard and the Sand Point Air Station, will serve as sponsor of the project, pledging the navy department for \$151,902 additional funds for materials and supplies.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

208 ALASKA BUILDING, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

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Seven large WPA projects aggregating \$1,052,960 were announced today by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, for as many counties in Washington. Four allotments were for more than one-hundred thousand dollars each, and all are scheduled to begin before March 1.

Largest of the projects calls for installation of sewers in all portions of west Yakima which do not now have sewer service, with \$313,925 in WPA funds intended to provide more than 400 man employment approximately 12 months. The city has plodged \$61,227 additional funds for extensive material purchases required for the project.

County road reconstruction and improvements throughout Kittitas county will continue after February 13 with \$271,032 from WPA and \$102,360 from the county. An estimated 400 or more men will be provided with about a year's work under this allocation according to present plans, said Abel.

To conduct an engineering land survey, geodetic triangulation controlled, in King County, WPA funds totaling \$184,452 will be combined with \$46,890 from the county. Part of the county has been covered under a previous allocation. Work includes recovering or establishing and coordinating all essential section corners and marking them with permanent survey monuments.

Extension and improvement of the Spokane water system will be made with \$119,680 federal and \$105,920 city funds. A previous project will be continued with this new financial assistance from WPA. Anacortes water mains will be constructed with \$59,792 WPA and \$30,000 city funds. Marysville streets will be widened, graded and surfaced with \$54,204. The city is obligated for materials to \$19,949.

University of Washington grounds and roads, greatly improved under several other WPA projects, will further benefit from \$49,875. The university will give \$12,495 toward the work.

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Bellingham may be the cradle of future Olympic Skiers.

More than 150 winter sports novices at Bellingham are now packing the WPA free evening adult education classes in skiing, under sponsorship of local ski clubs, it was disclosed yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator

Theoretical instruction is combined with practical demonstration, Abel said. The instruction period is given to gymnastics for training skiing muscles, followed by a progressive course in the popular sport.

Pupils receive fundamental instruction on a "dry" course and enjoy practical instruction week-ends at Mount Baker. The Mount Baker Ski Club and the Mount Baker Hiking Club cooperate financially in obtaining movie films used for instruction purposes, said Abel. A noticeable large proportion of Bellingham business men compose the classes which are made up almost entirely of persons over 21 years of age.

"Heavy attendance and popularity of these classes confirms our previous belief that many Washington residents are eager to learn skiing but have neither the opportunity nor funds to obtain private instruction," said Abel. "Another purpose of these classes is to encourage the spirit of good fellowship among all outdoor sports enthusiasts."

Largest single attendance occurred recently when 300 persons heard a talk by Darroch Crookes, former Olympic Skier and viewed his movies of Sun Valley, Idaho. Other films have been obtained from the Washington State Progress Commission, U.S. Forest Service, Swiss Federal Railroads, Y.M.C.A. film bureau, National Parks of Canada, Yosemite Park Company and many private ski experts.

Abel said spring WPA classes at Bellingham are being planned on such subjects as the techniques of camping, camp cookery, methods of enjoying hiking, and studies of native trees, wild flowers and birds.

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Grandmother's fascinating, almost forgotten parlor pastime of gazing through the stereopticon, is reincarnated in two strange scientific instruments called Stero-Comparagraphs, which arrived today on the sixth floor of the county-city building. They will be used on the WPA topographical mapping project throughout King county, and according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, are the first instruments of their kind on any WPA project in the United States.

WPA is operating this project, throughout King County with federal allocations totaling \$95,500, under sponsorship of the county commissioners and the county engineer's office, to provide modern, scientifically accurate topographic maps.

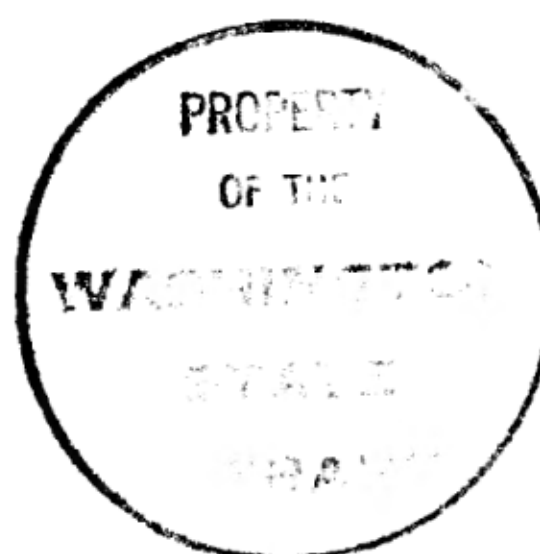
"The last complete topographical mapping of King county was done more than 25 years ago," said Abel. "This new project will not only provide the county with new map information but they will be made to scientific precision by the combined means of aerial photography and the use of Stero-Comparagraphs in transferring the photographic facts onto mapping paper."

Abel said the only equipment in the Pacific northwest of this type is used by the 29th Engineers U.S. Army at Portland, Oregon, and is the invention of Captain B. B. Talley of that organization. Each machine cost WPA less than \$400, said Abel, but does the work of some machines costing more than \$10,000.

Herbert G. Chickering, Jr., U. S. Army Reserve, and formerly with the 29th Engineers, has been appointed technical advisor on the mapping project, and will train WPA workers in the operation of the machines. Chickering declared that this equipment permits the making of topographical maps for less than one-tenth the cost of field methods.

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Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, today announced that every man and woman on WPA in Washington will be enlisted at once in a nationwide contest among all WPA state organizations for a monthly safety award trophy to be given by the national headquarters to stimulate greater interest in safety measures and accident prevention on the federal works program.

The award will be made each month to the state showing the greatest improvement in its cumulative accident experience and the greatest efficiency in its accident reporting procedure, said Abel.

"WPA in Washington has enjoyed one of the best records in safety of any state in the Union, since the work relief program began," said Abel, "and we look forward confidently to winning our share of the safety trophy awards during this interesting and worthwhile contest."

The state WPA organization winning the trophy will retain it until the winner of the next month's contest is announced.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

208 Alaska Building

Soattle, Washington





Eastern Washington farmers are slated to benefit directly through three WPA projects announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, to begin this week with federal funds totaling \$61,574. With \$46,316 of the allocations, work was resumed on construction of a State Experimental Station near Wenatchee.

Improvement of drainage facilities for irrigation land near Whitestrand will require \$7,654, and rehabilitation of the Kiona Irrigation district system near Benton City is slated to use \$7,559 from WPA.

The Washington State College, which is sponsoring the experimental station project, will provide \$8,579 for materials. Construction of the station to date has cost \$13,288 in WPA funds and \$17,500 from the College. The project ceased operation last fall until new funds could be made available. The new allocation will provide for planting more than 200 fruit trees, scraping trees, constructing a septic tank, storage pits, apple hopper, and bridge across a large canal. Workers will also remodel the administration building, field laboratory and machine shed.

First item on the new program is completion of the station's elaborate stationary spray system, which includes laying 2,000 feet of spray pipe, making a total to date of 5,000 feet. The only other place in the world with such an elaborate system is at a government station near London, England, according to Abel. About nine months will be required to complete the project, under present plans.

Excavation and clearing, to enlarge a drainage canal four miles northeast of Prosser, will take about four months, and WPA funds totaling \$7,654. The Benton county commissioners have pledged an additional \$2,152. Adjacent farms have been badly in need of drainage, according to Abel, and the new project will correct the condition. Twenty men will build the irrigation flumes near Benton City with \$7,559 from WPA and \$2,705 from the district. About 2,000 residents of the area will enjoy the benefits of a better water flow as a result of the project.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
ALASKA BUILDING, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



All patriotic organizations are invited to lay wreaths at the rededication of the George Washington Monument, February 22, at 11 A.M., on the University of Washington campus, 15th Avenue N.E., Seattle, near the Henry Art Gallery, according to Mrs. D. R. Swem, Regent of Rainier Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, and sponsors of the ceremony.

In the nature of a "kick-off" celebration for the year of observances of the Washington State Golden Jubilee, the ceremony is occasioned by the completion of the WPA built 24 foot stone monument base, which will be formally presented by Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator, and accepted by Dr. Lee Paul Slog, President of the University of Washington. The presentation will be followed by the unveiling of a bronze plaque by Mrs. Swem, to commemorate the original unveiling of the statue thirty years ago, which was made possible largely through the efforts of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The statue is the work of the late Lorado Taft, Chicago Sculptor.

The massive Wilkenson sandstone shaft represents a WPA investment of \$21,281 in Federal funds in addition to \$3,025 in sponsor contributions from the university, Abel said yesterday.

Eric Johnston, representing the Washington Progress Commission, will participate for the Golden Jubilee. The WPA symphonic band, under direction of John Spargur, will present an appropriate program featuring selections in observance of the Third Annual National Federal Music Project Festival, February 21, 22, and 23, to honor distinguished American Composers. R. H. Vivian, well known leader of community singing, will lead the assemblage in singing the Star Spangled Banner and America. Wreath laying by various patriotic organizations will conclude the ceremony, at 11:45 A.M.

The program will be radiocast throughout the state, through courtesy of KOL, Seattle, stations of the Mutual Broadcasting Company, and facilities of the Campus Studio, 11:30 to 11:45 A.M.

The new permanent location of the monument will mark the main entrance to the university when the future Memorial Way is cut through from Roosevelt Way.

IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FEBRUARY 17, 1939

PR-709



The Works Progress Administration of Washington will have no persons on the payrolls after March 5, who are not citizens of the United States, according to Don G. Abel, state WPA Administrator who announced yesterday that every employee would be required immediately to sign an affidavit before a notary to disclose whether that employee is now a citizen.

Abel said this action is required by the new supplemental relief appropriations act, recently passed by Congress, to provide money for continuing the WPA and other Federal work relief agencies until June 30. The act also provides that anyone who falsifies a statement of his citizenship status on the affidavit forms provided is liable upon conviction to \$1,000 fine or a year's imprisonment or both, and that no alien after March 5, is eligible for employment under the WPA program, even though he may have declared his intentions to become a citizen of the United States.

Affidavit forms are now being distributed to the 51,400 employees of WPA in the state for certifying their citizenship, said Abel.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

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Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, yesterday announced that an immediate investigation of all certified persons on the Washington WPA payrolls would be made to ascertain their present need for WPA employment with a view to replacing all who do not need the job for subsistence with those who do.

This action is taken, said Abel, under orders from Washington, D. C., to comply with a clause in the Congressional Act for additional appropriations to continue work relief until June 30.

The investigation will determine whether individual economic circumstances have changed since the time of their certification for jobs on WPA. Abel said that the last general review of WPA employees was made in November 1936, and that wherever hardships would not result, workers would be removed to make way for others who are desperately in need of jobs which they can not find in private industry.

"More than 16,000 persons already are certified in this state as being in need and who should and must be employed if it is within our power to do it," said Abel. He pointed out that it was mandatory upon him to redetermine eligibility as to need for all certified workers, not only on WPA but also on other Federal agency projects financed by transfer of WPA funds.

No reductions are anticipated on WPA during February and March resulting from the investigation of need, as replacements will be made from the certified relief rolls, according to the State WPA Administrator.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

208 Alaska Building

Seattle, Washington



FEBRUARY 23, 1939  
IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PR-711



Military facilities of Washington are slated for important improvements under WPA projects scheduled to begin before March 1, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, who said that \$16,568 in Federal funds have been allocated for modernizing and extending recreational facilities at Camp Murray, \$6,042 for improving the hospital at Fort George Wright, and \$2,842 to landscape and enlarge the National Guard Armory grounds at Bellingham.

Under sponsorship of the Military Department of the State of Washington with a pledge of \$6,219 toward the project, WPA will improve present recreational buildings and construct new buildings for the National Guard officers. The stables will be remodeled and the riding hall enlarged. Other jobs include constructing outdoor ranges, tennis courts, shelters and tables. Two previous projects for extending recreational facilities for enlisted personnel bring the total WPA allocations to \$43,774. The entire project, now 40 per cent complete will be ready July 1.

At the Fort George Wright hospital, Spokane county, the hospital will get a general brightening up with painting of both woodwork and wall interiors. The Commanding Officer will serve as sponsor through whom the United States Army will provide \$1,312 in material funds.

For ground improvements at the Bellingham Armory the state Military Department will furnish \$862 for grass seed, shrubs, tool rentals and other material costs. This WPA project is expected to be completed in a year, with the limited crew available for the work.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

208 ALASKA BUILDING

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

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FEBRUARY 23, 1939  
IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PR-712



A 34 by 72 foot, two-story and basement recreational building is scheduled for immediate erection at Bremerton, for the use of all girls' organizations, under \$12,009 of WPA assistance combined with \$7,127 from the city, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. Town-wide improvement of parks and beaches at Kirkland will be made with \$8,267 in Federal funds.

Abel said these two projects were typical of the hundreds of projects that have been operated in the state to improve recreational facilities and to provide a comprehensive use of the opportunities offered with a state-wide WPA recreational program.

A nation-wide survey to evaluate the WPA recreation program is now under way, said Abel, and in Washington WPA recreational leaders are concentrating on obtaining data on what extent Washington residents are participating in the program, what are the most popular types of activities and what are the general types of local agencies most interested in sponsoring the program.

The new building at Bremerton, to be erected at the Warren Avenue Playfield, between Ninth and 12th Streets on Warren Avenue will be of wood-frame construction, with concrete foundation, shake exterior, and plastered walls with knotty pine wainscoting interior. The large room will feature at least one huge fireplace.

An estimated four months will be required to build retaining walls, guard rails, tables, benches and make general beach improvements at Kirkland. Abel said the project would be rushed through as rapidly as possible for the benefit of summer outing enthusiasts of the community. The city has agreed to supply \$1,061 worth of materials for the work.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

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In a communication sent today by Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator to all administrative and supervisory employees of the WPA, it was stated that henceforth no persons will be employed on those classifications who hold positions in any political party organizations or are active as members, officers or committee members of any political club and that violations of this ruling would result in permanent dismissal of the offenders.

Abel said this action is being taken to meet provisions of the Supplemented Relief Appropriation Act just passed by Congress, to make additional appropriation for work relief and relief for the balance of the fiscal year ending June 30. In the letter to the affected personnel Abel said: "I call your attention specifically to Section four, subsection "A", which provides that it shall be unlawful for any person employed in any administrative or supervisory capacity in WPA to use his official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with an election or affecting the results thereof."

While all affected employees shall retain the right to vote as they please, and to express privately their opinions on all political subjects, Abel declared, the Act provides that they shall take no active part in political management or in political campaigns.

The same act also makes it unlawful for any person knowingly to solicit assessments or contributions for the campaign expenses of individuals or political parties from "any person entitled to or receiving compensation or employment provided for by the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1938 or this joint resolution." Offenders are termed guilty of a felony, subject to \$1,000 fine or a year in prison or both.

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FEBRUARY 27, 1939

PR-714

Two strange appearing floating camps, the only craft of their kind constructed by WPA in the United States, are rapidly nearing completion on the south bank of the Columbia River, near Lincoln, and will be launched within two weeks, according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. The craft will cost about \$5,000 each, completely equipped.

The floating camps will be used to transport and accommodate construction crews on the \$10,000,000 WPA clearing project for the future 151 mile Coulee Dam reservoir lake-bed, said Abel, to work in areas inaccessible by land. Measuring 65 x 24 feet, two stories, the camps will provide sleeping accommodations, galley, mess hall and lavatories for 65 to 70 men, and tool house and offices for the construction superintendent and staff. The unusual craft resemble twin, modernized "Noah's Arks," were started January 19, and are being rushed to completion for urgently needed service ahead of the steadily rising lake created by the progressive stages of the dam construction.

Immediately after launching, crews will be assigned and the floating camps will be taken in tow by the recently commissioned, diesel-powered boat "Paul Bunyan," to inaccessible points nearest the dam. From here, Abel said, the crews will work up the Columbia and adjacent waters of tributary streams clearing debris from the rising shoreline.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

208 Alaska Building      Seattle, Washington

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FEBRUARY 27, 1939

PR-715

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Work will begin on the laying of more than 100,000 feet of new sewer pipe in Spokane, March 31, with \$735,090 from WPA, according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, who announced seven other projects today for eastern Washington, bringing the total allocations in Federal funds to \$1,265,969.

Second largest of the projects announced by the WPA Administrator was \$396,098 for city-wide street improvements at Walla Walla, including construction of curbs, gutters and storm sewers. With a \$50,494 allocation WPA will continue construction of outdoor sanitary facilities in rural and suburban districts where sewer systems are impracticable, throughout Adams, Lincoln, Stevens, Whitman, Spokane and Pend Oreille Counties. This work will be done under a \$22,406 sponsorship contribution from the State Department of Public Health.

Seven miles of street improvements will begin immediately at Omak with \$34,464 from WPA and \$12,838 from the city. Work includes construction of 72,000 feet of wooden curbs and gutters, topping 500 trees and removal of 50 trees to reduce traffic hazards. Almost impassible, rough, muddy streets will be transformed into modern, well-drained city thoroughfares under this project, said Abel, and will take a year to complete. Roads throughout Garfield county will be improved with \$26,292 federal and \$10,158 county funds, on a six month work schedule. Mabton streets are slated for general grading, leveling and surfacing with WPA aid of \$14,728 to go with a city pledge of \$2,919. A WPA crew of about 15 men will begin at once on the demolishing of the old Stevens County courthouse and jail at Colville and the salvaging of material for other local projects. Federal funds totaling \$7,343 and \$700 county money will finance the work. At Deer Park completion of the new city hall and landscaping the grounds will take \$1,560 from WPA.

Spokane city authorities have pledged \$127,409 in sponsor funds to provide equipment rentals and materials for the big WPA sewer project, said Abel. There are several large sections of the city now without sewers which will directly benefit when the work is completed, about the middle of September.



Under the sponsorship of the commissioners of eight Washington counties, the women's division of the WPA is now directing 86 qualified workers for reading to the blind, near blind and shut-ins in homes, public institutions and hospitals, according to Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator, in announcing investment of \$50,000 in federal funds to carry on this humanitarian service in Washington.

At present these educational and recreational service projects are operating in Spokane, Snohomish, King, Pierce, Grays Harbor, Lewis and Clark counties. Clients are selected and referred to the WPA by the State Department of Social Security with a view to providing recreation and instruction for the blind, and rehabilitation for patients in hospitals and public institutions.

For students in public schools the main objective is to help blind students in research studies, make notes and dictate for their braille instruction. In hospitals and sanitariums workers are instructed to supply reading and conversation for convalescents, co-operating to the fullest extent with the desires of the patient in reading, study and recreation.

Readers' project workers employed in bringing educational and recreational advantages to shut-ins through this division of the Work Program of the WPA, said Abel, are selected for their personality, their sympathetic understanding of their patients and students and their educational background fitting them for this type of work.

Five additional projects for shut-ins have been approved for Washington counties, according to Abel. Two of these projects will continue work now being carried on in Snohomish and Pierce counties. Readers' projects for Skagit, Skamania and Klickitat counties can be placed in operation at any time conditions warrant their opening.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

208 ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

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More than 3,000 men from other WPA projects throughout the state will be pressed into service as rapidly as those projects are completed or discontinued, to clear approximately 400 miles of power line rights-of-way from Bonneville northwest to Grand Coulee Dam and northwest to Grays Harbor, with \$1,846,830 in WPA funds, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

Abel said about 350 men would begin the project March 6, probably most of which would operate in Cowlitz county. The western right-of-way will extend from Bonneville 127 miles. Widths will vary with crews cutting a strip 300 feet wide to Vancouver and 250 feet wide, north to Kelso and 150 wide west to Raymond. A strip about 150 feet wide will branch off near Kelso to Cathlamet. The western portion of the project will traverse Skamania, Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Pacific and Wahkiakum counties.

Enroute to Grand Coulee Dam the 240 mile right-of-way will average 250 feet wide northwest through Satus Pass, near Goldendale, then to Yakima and on to Grand Coulee, traversing Skamania, Klickitat, Yakima, Grant and Benton counties.

Work to be done under sponsorship of the United States Department of the Interior, Bonneville Project, with an additional \$427,728 for necessary materials and rentals of construction equipment. This is one of the largest sponsor contributions in the history of WPA operations in Washington.

Abel will be in Bonneville Monday to begin an inspection tour of the entire area to be cleared by WPA. He will be accompanied by Charles E. Carey, Acting Administrator of the Bonneville Power Project.

Part of the crews will work from a series of temporary camps and plans call for grubbing, clearing and constructing roadways with necessary culverts and bridges, to use in servicing the power line, together with many incidental jobs. Bids will be awarded by the Bonneville authorities to private contractors for the erection of the power line as rapidly as WPA clearing project prepares the right-of-way, Abel stated.

A previous project allocating \$825,076 from WPA, January 18, for Bonneville right-of-way clearance is operating with approximately 1,000 men to prepare the route for electrical lines to Condit and Vancouver in Klickitat, Skamania and Clark counties. WPA is also clearing the route for the No. 2 Transmission Line for the Seattle City Light Department, under construction from Diablo Dam, on the Skagit river, to the city. Through another project clearing is underway along Tacoma's transmission lines near Allyn, Union and Hoodspout in Mason County Abel said recently.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

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The first sewage disposal plant to be built by WPA in western Washington will be erected at Issaquah, starting Monday with a crew of more than 100 men, it was announced today by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. WPA allocations for the project total \$107,045. The system will be completed within 12 months.

About five miles of sewer line will be placed to all districts of the city, according to Abel, and a complete, latest type Imhoff system of sewage treatment will be installed at the plant, including digesters, sludge drying beds, trickle filter, secondary sedimentation tanks and water flow. City authorities are pledged to a sponsor contribution of \$33,820 for pipe, equipment and other materials. WPA engineers say the new plant will eliminate a major health menace to the community caused by present insanitary devices for elimination of sewage, and will benefit more than 2,000 persons. The plant will be erected in the northwest corner of the city on Issaquah creek.

Six other modern disposal plants have been built or are under construction by WPA in Washington, all east of the Cascade Mountains. Latest of these is the system now nearing completion at Ellensburg. The others are located at Yakima, Dryden, Dayton, Wapato and Zillah.

Abel also disclosed that his office had approved a project to construct 1.3 miles of water mains at Issaquah, and notified Mayor Wm. C. Mitchell that the plan, calling for \$14,055 in federal money, had been forwarded to Washington, D.C., for final approval by the President.

Four other WPA projects were announced to begin on or before Monday, in King County. An \$8,390 allocation has been made for immediate improvement and enlargement of the WPA King County cannery at Kirkland, which will take about four months to complete. King county will furnish \$1,997 for materials. A water supply system for Burien City will require \$5,661, from WPA and \$4,012 from the local water district. WPA will erect a warehouse for the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries at 2726 Montlake Boulevard, Seattle, with \$4,012, and a crew will install water mains just north of Seattle on 24th Avenue, N.W., West 90th Street and 25th Avenue N.W., with \$789.



IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MARCH 2, 1939

PR-719



Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator will formally present the completed Clark county two-story office building for various social welfare agencies at a dedication ceremony scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Monday, March 6, in the new WPA built structure at Fourth Plain Avenue and "T" street, Vancouver, Washington.

The building, 35 by 76 feet, with basement, as part of a county building project representing a WPA investment of \$26,825 with county matching funds totalling more than \$11,700, Abel said today.

Other details of the project include the construction of a 40 by 150 foot shop building to house maintenance equipment and machine shops for Clark county, and a two-story wing, 30 by 40 feet for a tool warehouse.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

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Three Seattle artists, Alf Bruseth, Clementine Fossek and William O. Fletcher, received national publication recognition this week through appearance of color plate reproductions of water color paintings in the March issue of Coronet, an artistic monthly. R. B. Inverarity, State Director of the WPA Federal Art Project, said the paintings were done in the project studio, in the Maritime Building, Seattle, as part of a national undertaking, the Index of American Design, to record pictorially native arts and crafts.

The pictures illustrate quaint and ingenious antique toy savings banks from the collection of C. K. Sturtevant, dealer in antiques at 9320 Waters street, Seattle. Sturtevant has more than 150 banks dating from about 1862, and were loaned to the Federal Art Project as they are all American, and only rare old trinkets originating in this country are sought for painting, said Inverarity yesterday.

"Tin banks came into use about 1862 while the cast iron and mechanical banks were popular beginning about six years later," said Sturtevant. "The toy banks are becoming more and more popular as collector's items and some collections are valued at more than \$10,000, where they are owned by large eastern banking houses, but my collection is relatively very small and worth only a few hundred dollars."

Artists on the Washington Federal Art Project will continue making pictorial records for the national Index as long as authentic objects of all kinds are made available from both individuals and professional collectors, said Inverarity. Painting for this project has been done of old cigar store Indians, at Tacoma and Spokane, of the old Ramage Press, at the University of Washington museum, and of pioneer tools, implements and wearing apparel. The Federal Art Project is made up of three main pursuits. One is the production of easel paintings, murals, sculpture and graphic arts, the work to be installed in tax-supported institutions, said the Federal Art State Director. The second purpose is the sponsoring and staffing of 56 art centers, including galleries of traveling exhibits and local exhibitions and in conjunction with each is a free art school. One of these centers recently opened at Spokane. The third division is the Index of American Design program.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



WPA allocations exceeding \$781,500 will be allocated before April 1, for three projects in Whatcom County, five in Snohomish County and one each in Skagit and Jefferson counties, Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, said today. More than a half million dollars of this amount has been ear-marked for Bellingham water system improvements and extension, to be completed within a year.

A WPA crew will start March 13 on improvement of the Lake Padden city water shed, under the Bellingham project. Work will include clearing five acres, grubbing five acres, excavating and filling and erecting 21,100 feet of fence. Later a total of 111,600 feet of trenching will be dug, 106,138 feet of cast iron pipe and 5,462 feet of wood pipe will be placed, Whatcom Creek will be straightened, and thorough cleaning of the entire Bellingham city water shed will be done. This item includes 166 acres around Lake Padden and 510 acres in the vicinity of Lake Whatcom. In a plea for this project Mayor B. E. Hanning of Bellingham told WPA Administrator Abel that the complete project would provide the city, its industries and citizens for the first time with an entirely adequate water supply and fire protection. The present water supply is now restricted during peak loads, is a menace to its consumers and fire protection insufficient, according to Hanning. The city has pledged \$133,808 for the project.

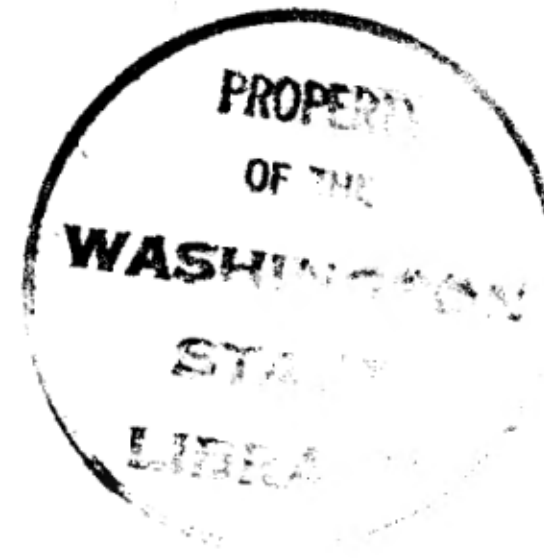
Lynden streets, street crossings, alley crossings, sidewalks and curbs will receive major attention under a \$75,603 WPA allotment, with work schedule to begin also March 13. Approximately 48,000 feet of sidewalks, 10,000 feet of curbs and 116,000 feet of street leveling are among principal items slated for the city. Materials up to the amount of \$25,744 will be purchased through city funds as the sponsor contribution.

Further improvements in the historic old Fairhaven Hotel building, Bellingham, will begin next week with \$9,374 from WPA and \$9,901 from the Whatcom county commissioners. Fire escapes and new room arrangements will be constructed as well as modern lighting equipment, to accommodate Bellingham and county recreational and public welfare activities. The building is now used for boys' and girls' recreational clubs, WPA Zone headquarters and a WPA sewing room. Conversion of the long vacant, condemned hostelry was made with a previous WPA investment of \$14,385.

La Connor streets will be improved and surfaced with \$15,381 WPA assistance and \$3,884 city funds. A year has been allotted to the work. Streets throughout Monroe will get long-needed grading, curbs, sidewalks and drainage with \$61,363 from WPA to go with \$28,418 city allocations, and similar work is scheduled for Sultan with \$72,443 federal and \$22,450 sponsor contributions.

Marysville city water improvements will begin late this month with \$18,452 WPA funds and \$8,758 goes to Edmonds for the same purpose. School District No. 46 buildings and grounds near Hartford get \$3,384. For Oak Bay Park improvements, near Chimacum, \$4,142 has been allocated.





One thousand WPA workers in Seattle and King county, selected at random from among all project employees who recently signed affidavits relating to family resources and income, will undergo an immediate intensive reexamination to determine the validity of their statements, it was announed today by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

Whenever it has been found that false statements have been sworn to on the affidavits, the signers will be rendered immediately ineligible for further WPA employment, said Abel. Moreover all who are not found to be in actual need will be released from the WPA program.

Seattle and King county comprise one of 24 urban areas in the United States which have been chosen by the national WPA administration for the purpose of this specimen study of the validity of signed statements, through the reexamination method on an intensive basis. A representative group of workers will be selected from all geographical areas in the city and county. Those picked for reexamination will be drawn from all types of projects, the State Administrator explained.

Abel announced the general reexamination of all WPA project workers in the state, February 19th. The purpose of the plan was to ascertain present need for WPA employment with a view to replacing all who do not need the job for subsistence with those who do. Affidavits of citizenship have been made by all employed on WPA. All aliens have been dismissed.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

208 Alaska Building

Seattle, Washington

BH

Eight white collar professional and clerical projects, totaling \$85,520, were 724  
announced yesterday by State Works Progress Administrator Don G. Abel, to start at  
once in various parts of Washington in widely divergent fields.

Sponsors of the projects include the city of Tacoma, the U. S. Railroad Retirement Board, the Farm Credit Administration, Secretary of State at Olympia, University of Washington, the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, the Lewis County Assessor, and the Pierce County Commissioners.

A project for Tacoma, which will operate in Pierce, King, Thurston, Lewis and Mason counties, will be set up to prepare and index a complete instrument abstract of all documents, records, contracts, deeds, easements, franchises and judgments pertaining or relating to all real property owned by or under the control of the city. Another Tacoma project with \$2,420 federal funds provides for transcribing data records on all property owned by Pierce County within the city limits, under sponsorship of the county commissioners.

With a WPA investment of \$13,415, workers will transcribe a statement of railroad service and compensation prior to January 1, 1937, from payroll records of railroad employees entitled to credit for prior service under the Railroad Retirement Act of that year. The U. S. Railroad Retirement Board has pledged \$760 assistance for the project, which will operate state-wide. A \$15,528 WPA project will operate at Spokane to arrange existing loan records for publication through the Farm Credit Administration. This sponsoring agency adds another \$6,851 to assure materials. To continue the folding, gathering and wrapping of state pamphlets for free distribution, WPA has allocated \$14,500 to the Secretary of State, who in turn is matching with another \$14,000.

WPA staff workers at the University of Washington will translate rare books and documents of scientific importance from seven foreign languages, including Chinese, during an entire year's program, with \$14,208 from WPA and \$2,652 from the university. A \$4,380 allotment from WPA will operate a project to recode, transcribe, tabulate and mimeograph a report on records of exports and imports of 1937 and 1938 for the Washington, Idaho, Montana and Alaska Customs Districts. The Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce sponsor's pledge amounts to \$11,334. To complete the Lewis county Assessor's records, a white collar crew will assist in surveying and mapping various tracts of land in the county, under \$5,496 from WPA and \$1,824 county funds.



Southwest Washington welcomed the announcement today by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, that twelve WPA projects would open immediately or continue to operate under federal allocations aggregating \$72,997.

Under sponsorship of the Metropolitan Park District, plants and shrubs will be propagated for Tacoma Parks. A \$13,129 WPA fund and \$3,400 in sponsor contributions will finance the work, including replanting where necessary, and pest control at the city conservatory and greenhouses.

Improvements to the Minter Creek Salmon hatchery, near Elgin, will be made with \$4,707 in WPA money. The State Department of Fisheries is providing \$1,486. Playground improvements will be made at the Wollochet Grade School near Wollochet, including a new play shed. The project will take \$2,235 from WPA and \$355 local funds.

Centralia street improvements will continue with \$5,994 federal and \$2,240 from the city, employing approximately 30 men for three months. With \$2,032, WPA will erect a community and recreational center at Winlock, the town authorities promising an additional \$499.

A \$14,548 WPA allocation will improve Benn Memorial Park, Aberdeen. Workers will build tennis courts, fences and bulkhead, also remodel a community building, and install showers, plumbing and wiring system. The city's assistance will total \$5,586.

A WPA clerical staff with \$4,820 will transcribe and index Elma City ordinances. The city is pledged to contribute \$1,392 for the work.

Abel recently stated that more than \$2,500,000 in WPA funds have been invested in Grays Harbor county in the past twelve months, with an average of 3,700 persons employed.

With \$12,693 federal funds and \$5,055 city contributions, rock surfacing will replace wood in the streets of Raymond. Free hot school lunches for needy and undernourished children will be served by WPA women in public schools of Pacific county with \$8,801 in federal funds and \$7,830 from the county. A hot lunch project for Skamania county requires \$3,535 from WPA and \$2,160 county contribution.

Drainage ditches in Bingham will be dug by WPA with \$790 and the city assisting with \$330. Additional remodeling of the grade school building in the village of Skamokawa, Wahkiakum county, will be made with \$113 WPA allotment.



IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 9, 1939



PR-726

A four month WPA improvement project is scheduled to begin this week at the Minter Creek Salmon hatchery near Elgin, Pierce County, with \$4,707 in federal funds announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

The construction schedule includes new concrete fish rearing ponds, bridges, dams, trap structures, revetments, trails, cattle guards, water pipes, painting and landscaping.

Abel said this new allocation would be matched by \$1,486 in sponsor funds from the State Department of Fisheries, and that extensive improvements in both fish hatcheries and game farms have been done by WPA throughout the state.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building     Seattle, Washington

RELEASE SUNDAY  
March 12, 1939 or after.

Easter chorals and church music programs in dozens of communities throughout Washington are now being arranged and participants are rehearsing under direction of WPA instructors in the Adult Education Division, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

Hundreds of men and women, eager to sing appropriate music in choruses or choirs, are rehearsing for Easter Sunday. Four WPA directed programs will be presented in Seattle, Easter, and one Palm Sunday, said Abel.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building     Seattle, Washington

BH



Pre-fabricated barracks panels were enroute yesterday from Lincoln, piled high on the deck of the diesel-powered WPA boat "Paul Bunyan", for construction of the second big WPA camp, at Keller, to be used for clearing the upriver reservoir areas above Coulee Dam, according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, today.

The construction on the second camp will be done on the Columbia upstream from the mouth of the San Poil river, while sections are being assembled at Lincoln for the third camp to be erected at Gerome, where the Gerome ferry crosses the river, 60 miles above the dam, said Abel.

Exact location of the second camp, designed to hold 350 men, is one mile downstream from Hellgate, which is 23 miles downstream from Lincoln, or  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles upstream from the Keller ferry.

San Poil valley and areas along the Columbia are to be cleared by hundreds of WPA workers who will be accommodated in this camp, one of ten scheduled for erection on this program, largest WPA project in the United States. More than 500 acres of reservoir land, of the 83,000 acres to be cleared, have been slashed and piled for burning 400 acres of the 493 near Peach and Hawk creek, 53 acres on the right bank of the Columbia near Peach and 40 acres in the vicinity of Camp Lincoln.

Of the men employed at Camp Lincoln, 35 are engaged in fabricating the panels for Camp Keller, more than 400 are working on clearing projects, and a large crew is working on transportation of materials and incidental works.

The second "floating camp" slid down the ways into the Columbia river from the Camp Lincoln "ship yards", Tuesday, and is equipped with bunks for the "marine" crew. The first floating camp vessel touched the water a week before, and contains the barge "messhall".

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Easter chorals and church music programs in dozens of communities throughout Washington are now being arranged and participants are rehearsing under direction of WPA instructors in the Adult Education Division, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

Hundreds of men and women, eager to sing appropriate music in choruses or choirs, are rehearsing for Easter Sunday. Four WPA directed programs will be presented in Seattle on Easter and one Palm Sunday, said Abel. At Madrona Presbyterian church Alice Ruopoli will direct 20 mixed voices singing "Magdalene", by G. W. Warren; "Christ is Risen, Hallelujah!", by J. Edgar Birch, and "Victory", by H. R. Shelley. The Georgetown Presbyterian Church Easter choir is rehearsing under the experienced direction of Miss Loretta Sawyer, widely known WPA music instructor. Edgar Cramer is training the singers at the Church of Latter Day Saints, West Seattle. At Richmond Beach Congregational Church, choristers are getting in trim with assistance from Firna Plumptre.

Palm Sunday afternoon, WPA Instructor Miss Annie Feurer, will present a girls' ensemble in the Seattle downtown Y. W. C. A. lobby.

Other WPA directed Adult Education entertainment programs are also scheduled in Seattle. An Hawaiian String Ensemble will play at the University Heights school, March 15. Lewis Diaz directs for WPA. Under Edgar Cramer the "Love Pirates of Hawaii", an operetta will be given at James Madison Junior High School, West Seattle, April 21.

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March 14, 1939

PR-729



A new WPA allocation of \$172,084 for reconstruction and improvement of roads throughout Okanogan county, was announced today by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, who said that work would begin this week under the new project.

More than 100 miles of improvements are scheduled, according to Abel, including the laying of 4,029 feet of 18 inch concrete pipe, placing of 120,800 cubic yards sub-base surfacing, and oiling of the entire distance. Shoulder widening and drainage ditching will be done on 150 miles of secondary highway.

Work will be done in the following localities: Okanogan-Omak road to Conconully; the Riverside-Johnson Creek road; Okano-Omak Orchard District; Carlton to Twisp; Mouse road; Malot-Leop road; Tonasket-Havillah road; Loomis road; Oroville-Molson road; Oroville Orchards; and Ellis-Forde Orchards.

Abel pointed out that an interesting feature of this project is the proportionately large sponsor contribution. Okanogan county is pledged to contribute \$278,124, most of which will be invested in materials and rental of construction equipment on the project. Local authorities, in pointing out the need for this type of work, said yesterday that it is the largest county in the State with a high percentage of unimproved roads.

An estimated 300 needy heads of families of the area will be provided with security wages on this WPA project, which can operate during cold, inclement weather when other types of construction projects are closed.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

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Seattle, Washington

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March 15, 1939

PR-730



In accordance with instructions received late yesterday from Washington, D. C., by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, no additional persons will be employed or replacements made on WPA except a very small group eligible under previous rulings.

Abel received instructions from Col. F. C. Harrington, national WPA administrator, saying that the excepted group would comprise persons returning to work after recovering from illness or injury, persons authorized by the regional director as essential to efficient project operation, and those returning from private employment who accepted such employment after January 21, 1938.

The order is effective immediately, said Abel, and remains in force until further notice. This action is necessary because of the limitations on relief appropriations made by Congress for the balance of the fiscal year.

The State Administrator also pointed out that approval of projects by the President, or announcement of the starting of operation of these projects by the state WPA office, does not mean that additional workers will be employed. To provide continuous employment for the authorized quota of workers it is necessary to establish a reserve of approved projects, Abel said. Then when projects are completed other projects are selected from the reserve list which best meet the needs of the community to which workers from the completed projects are transferred.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

BH

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Two Pasco WPA projects, another for irrigation improvements in Benton County, and a fourth for school grounds development in a Spokane County district were announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. The projects will begin at once with federal allocations totaling \$70,154, to take care of workers transferred from other completed projects.

With \$39,970 of these funds WPA will build a recreational building in Riverview Park, Pasco, and construct other improvements in the city's parks, including tennis courts, water pipe for irrigation, fences, and many incidental jobs of painting, carpentry and landscaping. The city joins in the work with an additional \$11,781 for materials. Diseased trees will be removed and others pruned. Lack of sufficient city funds made this project impossible without WPA assistance, said H. E. Sanstead, park director, and these improvements will directly benefit an estimated 3,500 residents.

Grade and high school grounds of Pasco will also be developed and beautified by WPA, with a \$9,986 allotment. In addition, bleachers and grandstands for school athletic events will be erected, and irrigating sprinkler systems installed. For this project the city agrees to contribute \$4,123. Pasco school grounds at the present time are ungraded and without vegetation or irrigation facilities, local authorities said. The park project will take a year and the school grounds more than six months.

General improvements throughout the Columbia Irrigation District in Benton county, near Kennewick will be made with \$19,229 from WPA, and \$3,300 from the Columbia Irrigation District. WPA will begin this week with 30 men, and engineers say it will take 12 months to finish the job. Work includes clearing and grubbing 115 acres and heavy excavation along the main canal. F. B. Mason, manager of the district, in charge for the sponsors, says this project, together with work of a previous WPA project, will put the irrigation system in "good working order."

Abel also announced \$969 for school ground improvements in District 343 near Marshall.



IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MARCH 16, 1939

PR-732



City-wide improvement of Bremerton parks and playfields will begin Tuesday under a WPA project of \$58,619 federal funds, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

Work will include general construction of new recreational units and playground equipment, Abel said, and will take six months to complete. The city has pledged an additional \$19,593 for the project, to pay for materials and rentals of construction equipment. In addition to the usual excavating, grading, clearing and grubbing, workers will do one of the most extensive landscaping jobs the ship-building city has ever enjoyed. Crews will lay sewer and water mains, to serve the park areas, install new electrical, plumbing and heating facilities, construct a recreational and caretaker's building, build camp kitchens, outdoor fireplaces, tennis and horseshoe courts, softball field, wading pool, outdoor stoves, a pottery kiln and an archery gallery.

WPA workers will be drawn from other completed projects in Kitsap county for this big project, said the State Administrator.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

208 Alaska Building

Seattle, Washington



Present engineering estimates indicate the new Ellensburg sewage treatment and disposal plant, under construction a quarter mile southwest of the city, will be completed by WPA about June 1, according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, yesterday. WPA has already invested more than \$27,800 of a \$53,948 allocation for the project, Abel said.

The project will provide a system which will purify and dispose of sewage which has been flowing into Wilson creek, to pollute the Yakima river. A similar system is under construction by WPA at Ephrata, and others have been completed at Yakima, Dryden, Dayton, Wapato and Zillah. Abel said these plants solve a dangerous pollution of the Yakima Valley, endangering health and killing millions of dollars of stream fish, and salmon. The Ellensburg plant will cost an estimated \$138,443, which represents both WPA and city sponsor funds. It is not designed to care for any storm water flow which is not permitted to enter the sanitary sewerage system.

Principal equipment of the plant is a grit chamber for removing sand, comminutors to cut raw sewage screenings, control gates, two 105 foot in diameter clarifiers, digester tanks, chlorinator tanks, boilerhouse and laboratory. A heating system to keep the clarifying tanks at even temperature is fueled by sewer gas, captured in the plant. The boiler house contains the gas-fired boiler, hot water circulator, hot water meter, temperature recorder, gas meters, and pressure relief and flame traps.

Another WPA project, calling for \$11,694 in federal funds is under way to construct improvements and additions to the Ellensburg sanitary sewer system, and provide adequate flow to the disposal plant. One district will have its first sewer system under this project. The disposal plant will benefit the entire population of approximately 6,000 residents, said Abel.

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March 21, 1939  
IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PR-734



Two WPA projects are scheduled to begin today in King County with a total of \$46,302, according to Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator, yesterday.

The Green River headworks of the Tacoma Municipal Water Supply System, one mile east of Palmer Junction, will get general improvements, including clearing, grubbing, landscaping, excavating, revetment construction and riprapping. About 50 men from other completed jobs will work more than six months on this project for which WPA is providing \$32,707 and the City of Tacoma, \$9,369.

At Foster WPA has set up a \$13,595 project to develop the grade school grounds and playfield. School District No. 144 will supply materials and rental of construction equipment. Rustic fences, landscaping and seeding are listed in the plans, in addition to the clearing, grubbing, excavating and drain-tiling of the playground area.

Abel said the Foster school grounds project would be completed by the end of June.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

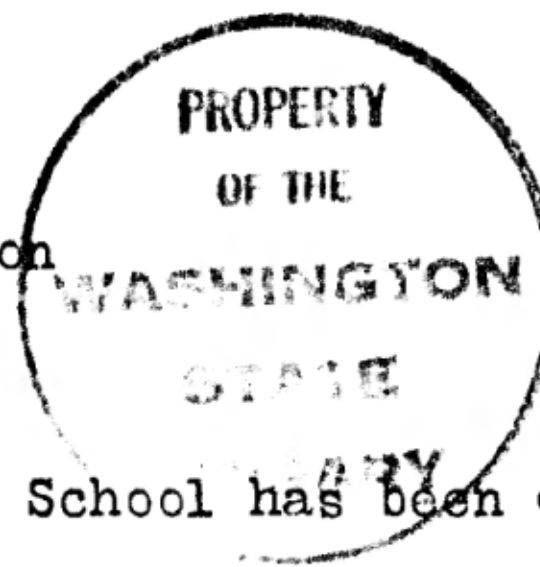
208 Alaska Building

Seattle, Washington

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building Seattle, Washington



Buckley-- Washington's new Custodial School has been declared a model of modern medical and psychiatric planning according to local planning authorities. The new school site, more than a thousand acres in extent, now contains six California style buildings. These will be connected by covered walks, which are being constructed with WPA funds and labor.

ooOoo

Asotin-- WPA workers will undertake improvements along the well-known "Hog-back" road where the bluffs are flush against the Snake river, to prevent annual flooding of the highway between Asotin and Rogersburg. This section of road has been flooded from two to four weeks each Spring by high waters of the Snake river, county highway records reveal.

ooOoo

Kelso-- One of the few remaining members of the Cowlitz Indian tribe, Charles Wannassay, has been employed through the WPA as a recreation instructor for the Catlin school in West Kelso.

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Port Angeles-- Following extensive WPA improvements at the Jessie Webster park, the Port Angeles city park department has continued development work with transplanting of choice rhododendron, vine maple, coniferous and broadleafed evergreen trees. Garden clubs are planning contributions for future planting to complete plans already made.

ooOoo

Wenatchee-- Resumption of WPA adult education classes recently opened registrations for classes in shorthand, bookkeeping, general business, typing and speedwriting, which is a system of shortened long-hand capable of considerable speed, using pencil, pen or typewriter.

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Yakima-- In remodeling their equipment to comply with the new Yakima milk ordinances, many dairy farmers are installing sanitary units of the type approved by the United States public health service. Under Yakima county's community sanitation program, WPA workers have constructed and installed 659 units in unsewered areas.

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Spokane-- Safety school instruction by WPA under sponsorship of the American Legion has attracted representatives of business, law enforcement agencies, school and civic organizations. Lectures have been given on safety work by a representative of the Pacific Telephone company, and a well-known physician spoke on winter ailments, cures and preventive measures.

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Oakesdale-- WPA engineers must even plan to be a jump ahead of the weather to keep projects operating at certain times of the year. At the Oakesdale swimming pool project now underway, a pump was placed in operation to clear the bath house basement of four feet of water. Work on the forms was continued in the shelter of the blacksmith shop across the street for the project.

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March 22, 1939  
IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ES-736



Mrs. Marietta Eichelberger, Director of the Nutrition Service, national Evaporated Milk Association, Chicago, will be guest of honor tomorrow at a luncheon at the WPA Home Demonstration Project, 101 Madrona Place North, Seattle, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator..

As a nationally known authority on dietetics Dr. Eichelberger will address 30 WPA field supervisors of the Women's and Professional division, and supervisors of the WPA Free Hot School Lunches projects and Housekeeping Aid Projects, on important problems covering food selections and preparation encountered on the Federal work relief program in this state. The Chicago nutrition expert is a regular contributor to national publications bearing upon the field, including the "Journal of the American Dietetic Association", "Oral Hygiene", "Medical Women's Journal", "The Journal of Home Economics," "The Modern Hospital," and "The Nation's School".

The WPA Home Demonstration project is one of four in the state, where young women are carefully chosen from the certified rolls of the needy, for thorough training as efficient household employees, according to Abel. The other projects are operating in Tacoma, Everett and Spokane.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

208 ALASKA BUILDING

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

BH





Three Washington state agencies and Tacoma authorities will get immediate WPA clerical and professional assistance for four different projects covering various types of research and indexing, under federal allocations totaling \$88,636, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

At the Western Washington Experiment Station, near Puyallup, workers from the WPA "white collar" rolls will assist in conducting experimental and research work in the departments of agronomy, horticulture, plant pathology, entomology, dairy husbandry, poultry husbandry, soils and veterinary medicine. Federal allocations totaling \$41,629 will operate the project in conjunction with \$11,790 from the Puyallup station, with an estimated 12 months required to complete the undertakings.

An inventory of economic factors affecting land utilization in Washington, and a classification of all rural lands in the state as to the best long term use, will be made by WPA "white collar" professional workers for the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station with \$23,719 in Federal funds. Factors included are land ownerships, assessed valuations, tax delinquency, crop yields by ownership, and segregations of types of holdings. Sponsor contributions of \$5,862 have been pledged by the State Experiment Station. A year of work is planned under this project, said Abel.

Tacoma School District No. 10 directors' meetings minutes will be transcribed, cataloged and indexed, and the teacher and employee service and salary records will be indexed alphabetically by year. WPA has allotted \$20,506 to combine with Tacoma's funds of \$3,332. A handy reference work containing historical data pertaining to the school district, will also be done under this project. The district will furnish materials and equipment with the sponsor funds.

The Washington State Planning Council, under a \$2,782 WPA allocation, will sponsor a project to tabulate and summarize data concerning existing and potential parks, parkways and recreational areas in the state. From the data gathered a report will be made for use of the National Park Service, State Parks Committee and other federal, state and county agencies interested in recreational facilities. The project calls for \$2,322 sponsor money and will operate in Seattle.



March 27, 1939

PR-738

IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator, is in San Francisco this week to confer with other WPA Administrators from western states on perfecting plans for heavy employment quota reductions effective April 3, providing Congress fails to appropriate an additional \$150,000,000 for WPA before that date.

Abel said that 7,000 persons would be dropped from the WPA rolls April 3, in this state, as Washington's quota of the national cut of 400,000 which will be necessary if the additional funds are not available. Instructions to this effect were officially received Thursday by Abel from Colonel F. C. Harrington, National WPA Administrator.

"According to instructions from Washington, D. C., reductions will be made on a project basis to maintain maximum efficiency of operations," said Abel.

Harrington's order in part said: "Pending action by Congress on House Joint Resolution 209, which provides these additional funds for WPA, and which is now under consideration in committee on appropriations of the House of Representatives, it is necessary to plan operation of the Works Program for April on the basis of funds actually available."

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

BH

In the efficient manner traditional to the U.S. Marines, 50 WPA workers Thursday, had a threatened flood disaster in the vicinity of Oroville "well in hand," said Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

Less than an hour after Okanogan county authorities issued an urgent call for assistance to the WPA office, national authorization was obtained for using \$5,000 from an emergency fund and crews were rushed from other projects in the county to battle rising waters rushing down from Dry Creek, two miles northeast of Oroville.

Unusually high temperatures in the region created sudden floods from the heavy snow areas of nearby hills and mountains, said Abel, and local authorities faced a critical threat to orchards, roads, farm improvements and small towns of the district.

Clean-up crews are now working to clear away the debris. Only 20 acres of orchard were flooded because of the quick action of the crew, according to Floyd Corporan, County Commissioner of the Oroville District. Diversion of the water was made with emergency trenches, sandbags and temporary culverts. Although the shoulders of one section of the Oroville Moulson road were washed away for a considerable distance, crews succeeded in saving the highway except in two places where culverts near Moulson failed to carry the water and the city was temporarily isolated. A concrete bridge abutment near Oroville was saved from destruction by rapid ditching and sand-bag walls.

Abel explained that an emergency state-wide WPA flood control project was approved by the President for \$236,000, from which funds could be withdrawn through Washington, D.C. authorization for use on short notice to fight floods in this state. Through this arrangement previous disasters have been averted from the Green River, near Kent, and in Snohomish County Diking District No. 21.

"The WPA crews surely did a fine job helping us prevent huge property destruction and possible loss of life," said Corporan.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

The Works Progress Administration has invested more than \$4,500,000 in Spokane county streets and roads since the Federal work relief program began in 1935, it was announced this week by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

Under this huge total the largest single county-wide WPA project has been the grading and graveling of 2,200 miles of secondary roads with Federal expenditures exceeding \$1,437,400. Fifty township roads were improved and two miles of new road built on the east side of Liberty Lake. Second largest project was \$931,200 for the sub-grading of 35 Spokane streets in preparation for paving by the city. Three more county-wide projects, aggregate more than \$1,550,000 in WPA funds. A Palouse highway improvement and new construction project represents \$383,000 in Federal expenditures, and the grading, graveling, and surfacing of 100 miles of Spokane Streets was done under a city-wide WPA investment of \$402,000. Five other county street or road projects represent WPA expenditures from \$1,800 to \$14,900. Another Spokane street job amounts to \$19,600 in Federal money.

Thirty-four miles of the old Palouse Highway from the Spokane city limits to the county line have been relocated, straightened, graveled and surfaced. Engineers say this project shortened the road more than nine miles and eliminated a total of 2,000 degrees in dangerous road curvature, in the first ten mile unit.

Throughout the county, traffic has been speeded up, with less curves and more safety grades, through the numerous WPA road projects. A mile of the Zimprick Road, near Otis Orchards was repaired and graded. More than 118 miles of secondary roads were widened and graveled in one project, 100 miles of farm-to-market roads in another, and 140 miles in a third which featured crushed rock surfacing.

Abel pointed out that thousands of men received security wages during the road program of more than three years, with payrolls finding their way to local merchants, and a permanent network of improved farm-to-market roads to widen the trade area of Spokane.

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 28, 1939

PR-741



Members of the Newcastle WPA Adult Education classes in sewing, Americanization, English and economics will stage a "Spring Festival", April 8, in several rooms of the town school building, it was announced today from the office of Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator.

Exhibits of the festival will include sewing class products from the adult groups and a wide variety of works from the children's hobby clubs. Needlework will represent the handicraft of native Denmark, Finland, Wales and Czechoslovakia.

Refreshments will be served both in the afternoon and evening, and the Kenedale WPA school band will augment the festival spirit. This is the third year of continuous attendance in WPA adult education classes in this coal mining center.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

208 ALASKA BUILDING

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



The city of Ephrata will hold a jubilee banquet and dance Saturday, honoring the Works Progress Administration and Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, to celebrate the construction of a town hall, sewer system, sewage disposal plant and water system. It was announced yesterday by Mayor Harry W. Pierson.

Mayor Pierson said that the \$93,386 WPA fund allocated in January made these major city improvements possible, and Ephrata citizens would turn out Saturday to express their appreciation of the modernization program now under way. The banquet will be held at the Bell Hotel at 6:30 p.m., and the dance will begin at nine o'clock as the first public function in the new City Hall. The city hall, a 50 by 114 foot, brick-veneered, two-story structure will serve as subsistence housing accommodations and office building for the WPA project until the entire program is completed. Then it will be turned over for its permanent function as the center of official city business.

A modern sewage disposal plant is now under construction, and will be served by new sewer lines aggregating more than 22,700 feet. Approximately 4,600 feet of water system pipe extensions will be made which Mayor Pierson said would reduce fire insurance rates as much as 50 per cent.

The entire WPA project is scheduled for completion before next October. The city is providing an additional \$60,348 for necessary materials and rentals of construction equipment.

WPA is building a similar sewage disposal plant at Ellensburg with a \$53,900 allocation. Other plants have been completed at Yakima, Dryden, Dayton, Wapato and Zillah.

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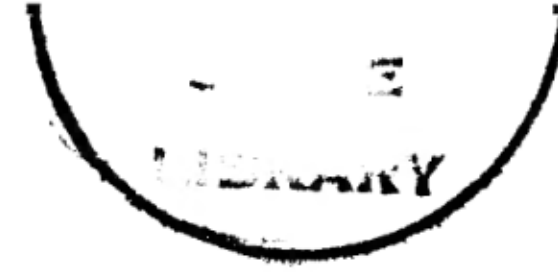
A special study of Washington parks, parkways and recreational areas, to formulate definite plans and recommendations for meeting the present and future recreational needs of the state, will be extended at once by WPA professional workers with a \$4,782 Federal allocation announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. Abel also announced another state-wide research project with \$5,662, to operate in the civil engineering department of the University of Washington, covering a field of soil mechanics.

The parks use survey will be made under sponsorship of the Washington State Planning Council which is providing an additional \$2,782 for the work of gathering, tabulating and summarizing both preliminary and final data. The program is 70 per cent completed through two previous WPA allocations. A report on the completed investigation will be prepared at project headquarters, 305 Lowman Building, Seattle, for use of the National Park Service, State Parks Committee and other Federal, state and county agencies charged with administration of this resource. The report will aid them in formulating policies for conservation and development, according to Abel, and will be completed about September 15.

The soil mechanics research, to be carried on for a year under the new WPA allocation, will be done in Guggenheim Hall on the university campus. Principal aim is to build up research equipment in soil mechanics, foundations and photoelasticity to permit investigation of problems arising in foundation engineering, and to permit accumulation of scientific data in this field. The problems include investigation of shear stress in earth masses for an assigned report to the National Research Council, investigation of shear stress in earth surrounding tunnels for a report to the State Highway Department concerning factors connected with construction of the Mercer Island Bridge over Lake Washington and the Narrows bridge near Tacoma. The work has been about 60 per cent completed through a previous project and will take another 12 months to finish, University authorities estimate. A university fund of \$2,808 will pay for materials.

Abel said that valuable research and survey findings of the Works Progress Administration will become generally and easily available to scientists and scholars through election recently of Corrington Gill, Assistant National Administrator, in charge of Finance, Statistics and Research, to membership in the American Documentation Institute.





744

The largest battery of rotary fish screens in the world will be completed across Wapato ditch at Parker, near Yakima, early this month, and formally put into operation April 15 by the United States Bureau of Fisheries in a colorful celebration attended by representatives of the Works Progress Administration, the Public Works Administration, mayors of Yakima Valley cities and officials and members of various sportsmen's organizations.

Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, will represent WPA participation in the project in which \$35,400 in Federal work relief allocations have been invested.

Chief Alex Saluskin and members of the Yakima Indian tribes, will participate in ceremonial regalia in accordance with tribal customs, as part of the program to be held on the banks of the huge canal which feeds the irrigation system of the Yakima Indian Reservation from the Yakima river. The Indians are scheduled to stage a ceremony of thanksgiving for the "whiteman's" ingenious screen contraption for saving their happy fishing grounds from destruction.

The last units of the fish screen assembly will swing into place, engineers say, a few days before the celebration. The screens have been designed to prevent young salmon, that are enroute from headwaters of the Yakima River to the Pacific Ocean, and find their way into the huge ditch, from going into the irrigation laterals to destruction. A battery of ten cylindrical screens span the entire width as a barrier in the ditch. Each screen, according to Abel, is 12 feet long and 13 feet in diameter. The flow of water in the ditch turns separate paddle wheels directly connected to each cylinder. Continuous turning prevents the screen from being clogged with mud and debris. By-pass channels lead from a bank of the canal just above the screens back to the river, to allow the salmon fingerlings to continue their journey to the ocean. U. S. Bureau of Fisheries experts and other fish authorities state that the general instinct of the salmon is to return to spawn as an adult to the stream of its origin. The Indians foresee even a more happy fishing ground than in generations past, as a result of the fish screens and the WPA project, according to Abel.

IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 31, 1939

PR-745



Grounds and facilities of the State Custodial School near Buckley will be improved under an \$111,949 WPA project to begin April 9, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator.

The project will operate until about June 30, and will continue a general modernization of facilities initiated last June by WPA with expenditures totaling \$76,300. Almost six acres have already been cleared and graded to extend the grounds area and the new allocation will permit additional clearing, surfacing and topsoiling. One crew will install 5,300 feet of water mains, 10,000 feet of three inch drain tile, and put in new plumbing and electrical facilities.

Included on the building schedule will be a 40 by 40 foot cottage, 42,200 feet of fence, more than a mile of roads, a river groin, farrowing pens, chicken houses, walks, and overhead sidewalk shelters. Extensive painting will also be done, according to Abel. About 34,000 cubic yards of top soil will be placed for landscaping the grounds. The State Department of Finance, as sponsor, will furnish an additional \$31,312 for the project.

Under the previous WPA allocation 51 acres were landscaped, a septic tank installed and sludge and filter beds provided.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

BH



Six WPA projects, aggregating more than \$710,000, were announced today for operation in Pierce County by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, with workers transferred from other completed WPA undertakings.

Largest allocation is for continuation of street improvements in Tacoma, from April 10 to the end of June. The project will operate in various districts and feature paving and sidewalk construction as well as the usual grading and surfacing. One of the heaviest scheduled sponsor investments of any WPA project set up so far this year is the \$295,769 pledged for materials and construction equipment rentals by Tacoma city authorities. Detailed items of construction also include installing storm drains and guard rails, rebuilding manholes and inlets, removing and constructing more adequate bulkheads, replacing street lights, and hundreds of incidental jobs.

The program for improving and beautifying famous Point Defiance Park in Tacoma will be continued by WPA with a \$128,276 allotment, intended to carry on the work from April 24 to June 30. Work includes clearing, grubbing, draining, excavating, grading, developing picnic and parking areas, rebuilding roads, erecting guard rails, constructing a boat house and demolishing the present boathouse which has outlived its usefulness. The park improvements have been half completed under previous allocations from WPA. The Metropolitan Park District will add \$24,521 to the WPA fund for the project.

A \$31,909 WPA fund will be used for construction of a school building at Fredrickson, near Tacoma. Prior WPA work started the program and this project is for installation of plumbing, heating and electrical facilities. Local school authorities pledge an additional \$13,072 for the school building.

The Puyallup water system will be extended and modernized with \$26,787 from WPA and \$12,406 from the city. And the Puyallup city cemetery is slated for rehabilitation with \$1,279. A playshed and ground improvements will be made for the Arletta school, with \$3,013 from Federal funds and \$582 from the local School District.

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Five WPA projects will begin Thursday in King county with Federal allocations totaling \$287,000, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, State Works Progress Administrator. The program will include additional improvements on the University of Washington buildings.

Modernization work on the university campus will be done with allocations totaling \$83,151 from WPA. Seattle's tuberculosis sanitarium at Firlands is to get \$79,922 general rehabilitation work. Kent street improvements will be done with \$76,266. The swimming pool and recreation center at North Bend will be completed with \$31,841, and a community center at Factoria will be developed with \$15,855.

The university project is to increase space and facilities for class rooms in structures now unusable or in extreme need of repair, according to Abel. Sponsor contributions will reach \$26,000 for the work, from the university authorities.

Firlands improvements are to include plastering, painting, new flooring, new electrical, sprinkler, plumbing and heating facilities, and construction of a fertilizer house and incinerator. Additional landscaping is also planned. Seattle city authorities have pledged an additional \$23,000 for the undertaking. Last year \$51,440 was allocated by WPA for grounds and equipment work at the sanitarium.

Kent will add \$52,680 to the WPA fund for street improvements, in that city. This project is expected to last until early in December. The North Bend recreation project, in addition to the swimming pool, will include building a caretaker's residence, tennis courts, fireplaces and baseball diamond, a six month's job, say WPA engineers. King County's commissioners are down for a sponsor contribution of \$8,837 for this improvement, and 1,500 residents hope to benefit. At Factoria outdoor recreation facilities will be improved by addition of a softball court, horseshoe court, baseball diamond, adequate drainage, and better water supply. King County will furnish \$3,963 to aid the project.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

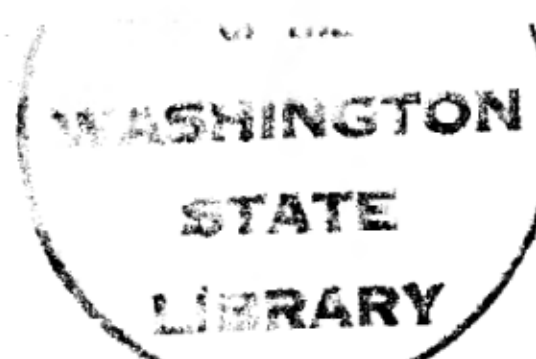
Rehabilitation by WPA of eastern Washington's important irrigation systems, which has reached extensive proportions during the three and a half years of the Federal work relief program, was speeded up yesterday with the announcement by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator that \$65,149 in additional funds will be allocated immediately for four projects of this type.

In Spokane Valley Irrigation District No. 10, near Spokane, WPA will grade and line canals of the Greenacres system as well as build new canals and lay new pipe and flume with \$26,281 in Federal money. The local irrigation district, as sponsor, is cooperating with \$6,710 for materials. Several previous projects have greatly modernized this system, said Abel. Similar work will be carried on in East Farms Irrigation District No. 11, with \$23,380 from WPA and \$9,112 from local authorities. In District No. 3, near Trentwood, WPA workers will launch a modernization program on the irrigation system, using \$2,343 from WPA and 553 from the district. All three Spokane county projects will be completed before October 1, according to present estimates.

To improve the Chelan Falls Irrigation District distribution system a WPA crew will remove old and lay new pipe, construct diversion boxes, and carry on a general renovating job with \$13,144 in Federal and \$6,256 local funds. This work, Abel said, will be completed by October 12. WPA projects on various Chelan county irrigation systems will cost more than \$127,000, said the State WPA administrator. A \$47,200 WPA allocation was recently made for restoring the distribution system of the Lake Chelan Reclamation district, which lost several miles of its supply flume in the disastrous fire of 1929. Workmen are now installing 30 inch wood stave pipe, the project has already restored several hundred acres to productivity by lowering ground water.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



749

With Federal allocations totaling more than \$91,400, seven new WPA projects will begin early this month in five northwest Washington counties to take care of workers on jobs now nearing completion.

Heading the list is a \$45,141 allotment for an athletic field at Port Angeles. In addition to extensive grading and grounds preparations, workers will build a grandstand, fences, a running track, equip sanitary facilities with modern plumbing and lighting, and do considerable seeding and landscaping. The work will begin immediately and keep a crew busy until late in November, Abel said. The city will give the unusually large sum of \$41,086 for adequate materials intended to make the WPA improvement one of the best of its kind in the state.

A building will be erected at Union High School, Poulsbo, for agricultural and music classes. The school basement will be completed and tennis courts erected. The entire project calls for \$11,293 from WPA and \$4,154 from the school district. About three months will see completion of the work, Abel estimated.

Three of the projects go to Snohomish County. With \$11,406, general improvements will be made to school buildings throughout District 24, in and near Everett. Desks will be reconstructed, plumbing and heating plants modernized, and a complete rehabilitation of the wiring, fixtures, floors, blackboards and other accessories will be made. This program is a continuation of previous WPA remodeling in the district. Local authorities pledged an additional \$3,938 for the project, and the schedule is set up for six months. School grounds will be repaired and extended in a four month's job at Sunnyside school District No. 10, two miles southeast of Marysville. WPA funds totaling \$8,510 will be combined with sponsor money amounting to \$2,095.

A general warehouse and blacksmith shop will be built for Mt. Vernon with \$12,310 in Federal funds. It will be used for the repair and housing of city-owned equipment. Mt. Vernon officials say the city will put in \$3,142 for the project. Whatcom county WPA clerical workers will rearrange and properly index the files of civil and probate court cases of the County Clerk, at Bellingham. This job will take about a year, say the county authorities who are putting \$745 with a WPA allotment of \$2,857 for the project.



Friday, April 7, 1939

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PR-750



Dedication of the largest battery of rotary fish screens in the world, under construction across Wapato ditch at Parker, near Yakima, has been postponed from April 15 to May 6, it was announced today by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. The project will not be ready to put into operation by the earlier date, said Abel, because of a seasonal delay in running irrigation water into the huge canal to turn the large fish screen paddle wheels.

The United States Bureau of Fisheries, sponsor of the project in which WPA has invested \$35,400, informed Abel through J. A. Craig, Associate Aquatic Biologist at the Seattle office, that it would also be necessary to make a series of mechanical adjustments in the equipment after water was turned into the big ditch. Craig said that the new date for dedication would provide adequate time to get the huge screens in "good working order".

A battery of ten cylindrical screens will span the entire width as a barrier in the ditch to prevent young salmon fingerlings from entering irrigation laterals on the Yakima Indian reservation and ending in their destruction. The salmon will be returned through by-passes to the Yakima River, to continue their journey from spawning grounds at the headwaters of the river to the Pacific Ocean.

Yakima Indian tribes will participate in the celebration in full regalia, and stage a ceremony of thanksgiving for the installation of the fish screens to preserve their "happy fishing grounds."

Abel said newsreel cameramen planned to "shoot" the dedication ceremonies, and various sportsmen's organizations as well as mayors of nearby cities, would be present. All persons interested in fish conservation are urged to attend.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

BH

Monday, April 10, 1939

FR-752

Release at Will



Vancouver, Wn.- The Leverich Park project, Vancouver's major WPA recreational development will cost an estimated \$190,000. Sponsor's funds will amount to more than \$45,000, which will be expended for materials and supplies. To facilitate parking, space will be prepared for 800 autos.

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Ampere, Wn.- Bonneville's sub-station at Ampere will be supplied with water through a 10-inch main from the Vancouver water system. It is estimated by WPA engineers work will be completed early in April.

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Vancouver, Wn.- WPA street improvement crews, in shoveling up more than 65,000 cubic yards of earth have enabled city trucks to fill a 25 year old city dump. It is now planned to develop the area for a children's playfield.

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Longview, Wn.- In serving 17,200 school lunches in Cowlitz county between February 4 and March 4, the WPA report to the superintendent of schools indicates the average cost per lunch was 4.8 cents. An average of 860 school children were served daily.

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Hoquiam, Wn.- In preparation for opening the Hoquiam-Olympic stadium for the baseball season, WPA workers are cutting and transporting turfing to the baseball and softball diamonds. Ten thousand square feet of turf will be taken from the old Beachway golf course. Last year WPA workers turfed the football field in time for the Thanksgiving Day game.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

BH

Monday, April 10, 1939

PR-753

RELEASE AT WILL

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



Coulee City- Surveyers have fixed an imaginary line 1,310 feet above sea level as the future shore line of the 151 mile "Lake of the Columbia River Canyon". As the WPA land clearing project continues, the phrase "below 13-10" is fast becoming an accepted expression. Eventually this underwater area, "below 13-10" will cover 89,000 acres.

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Spokane- Early Northwest aviation history is being compiled by a WPA indexing project from old newspaper files and for the present will be retained by the Nick Mamer Memorial committee. Later the files will be sent to the Washington State College for their permanent place in Northwest Historical Archives.

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Oroville- Less than an hour after Okanogan county commissioners urgently requested WPA assistance from the state office, national authorization was obtained to draw upon emergency funds to battle rising water rushing down Okanogan county's dry creeks, near Oroville. WPA crews are now clearing away debris, replacing riprap and clearing cut culverts.

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Everett- Snohomish county airport supplies are now arriving on the site in large quantities. Items on the purchase list include blasting powder, reinforcing bars, netting, electric cable, lighting equipment, tile, iron pipe, barb wire, fence posts, fire fighting equipment and plumbing and heating supplies. WPA engineers at the Snohomish county airport declare it is the most fog-free field on Puget Sound. Large transport passenger planes have already made use of the field when landing was impossible at Seattle. It is reported from Washington the Snohomish county airport will be used as an auxiliary airbase for the Army's airbirds.

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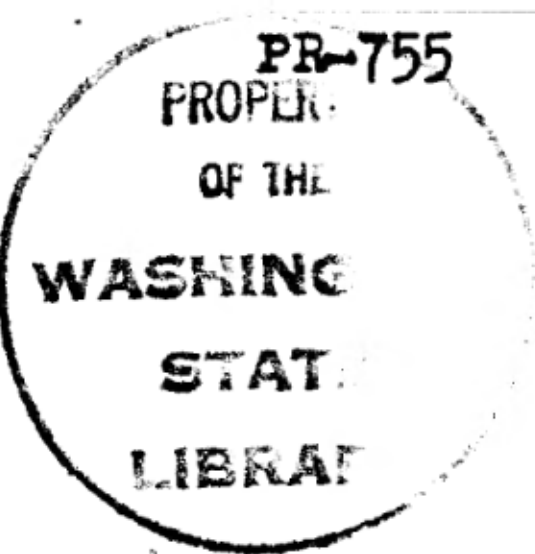
Everett- Life saving classes conducted by WPA instructors, in conjunction with YMCA, qualify for examinations for Red Cross Life Saving Certificates. In addition to life saving procedure, every known method of safe guarding beaches is touched upon in this instruction.

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Kirkland- The King county WPA operated cannery proved such a success last year, that 2,184 square feet of floor space will be added this season. The 1939 season will also have 9,400 cubic foot cold storage capacity. WPA allocations made possible these extensions to further the county's efforts to preserve foodstuffs for needy.

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The most extensive planting of rhododendrons launched in one year anywhere in the United States will begin immediately by WPA workers in the new arboretum, now being developed by work relief crews in Seattle, according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, yesterday. More than 2,000 choice specimens of native, imported and hybrid varieties of the colorful Washington state flower will be placed in permanent positions along Azalea Way which is now being graded and grass-seeded.

Abel said the huge program for the arboretum would prove a major addition to the state-wide schedule of private planting urged by the Governor in designating next Saturday as official Rhododendron Planting Day, and that the extensive plans for the use of this floral shrub in the arboretum has already drawn widespread attention of park officials throughout the country.

Azalea Way will extend 3,800 feet in the Washington Arboretum, from the north entrance of adjacent Broadmoor district south to near the East Madison street entrance. Plans call for creating a solid bank of rhododendrons and azaleas on both sides of the Azalea Way.

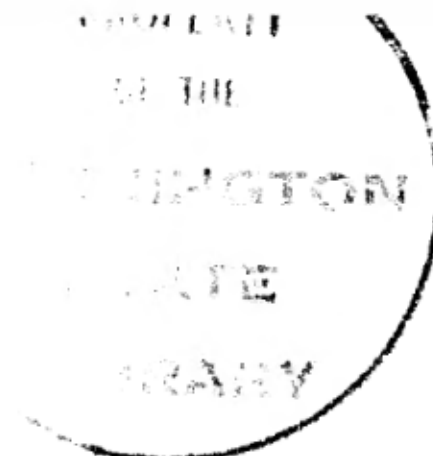
Approximately 1,000 native species of the state flower will bloom soon and some of the more choice hybrid varieties of the Dr. Tenney collection are now coming into bloom.

Exotic plants and special seeds have come to the arboretum from the far corners of China, Tibet, Burma and Asia Minor, said Abel, and rare hybrid rhododendrons have arrived from two large producers in England. The great Arnold Arboretum in Boston has made considerable contribution to the collection as have many private donors.

WPA workers on this project, according to Abel, are becoming expert in propagating rhododendrons from seed with large scale methods. A member of the WPA crew said that if 80 to 90 percent of the seeds now planted in the new hot house, in "flats", reach the transplanting stage, five or six years from now, between 25 and 50 thousand plants would then be ready for removal to permanent arboretum positions.

FRIDAY - April 14, 1939

IMMEDIATE RELEASE



PR-756

As a result of a survey recently made to determine alien status of WPA employees, 574 workers have been permanently dismissed from Works Progress Administration rolls in Washington, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator.

"In accordance with Congressional act these dismissals were made to make way for citizens of the United States who are in need and entitled to first consideration," said Abel. "But true to the American Way, although the door has been closed to aliens, it wasn't slammed in their faces."

Abel said that aliens still may enjoy advantages of WPA through attendance at the Americanization classes in the WPA Adult Education Division. These classes have attracted many aliens who have been released from WPA or have met a similar fate for the same reason in private industry. "There are more than 3,500 enrolled in our Americanization program in 264 classes throughout the state," Abel said. "Twenty-eight nationalities are represented in the various classes, including many Americans who lost their citizenship through homesteading in Canada or through marriage."

During the past year an increasing number of refugees find their way into these WPA classes from Spain, Germany and dismembered Czechoslovakia. Approximately 2,500 of the citizenship enrollment are actually seeking instruction to prepare for naturalization examinations, and 1,000 are learning rudimentary English. Abel disclosed that since the WPA Americanization program began over 3,000 enrollees have received citizenship papers in Washington, and there is a continuous turnover as "graduates" pass naturalization court examinations and new students enter for study.

The traditional method of learning through the question and answer system has been abandoned by WPA instructors in favor of a thorough instilling in pupils of a reverence for patriotic traditions, admiration for American institutions, respect for and understanding of the Bill of Rights and the Constitution, and a well-grounded knowledge of both the obligations and privileges of good citizenship in the United States, said Abel.

The classes are sponsored state-wide by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and locally by school districts and county superintendents. WPA provides a staff of 50 instructors for the program.

The Department of Labor, through the Immigration-Naturalization Service, furnishes text books for English and Naturalization work in these WPA classes.

"At present we are compiling material on the history and government of this state for our Americanization students," said Abel, "and since this is our Golden Jubilee year we are making special effort to prepare the material as soon as possible."

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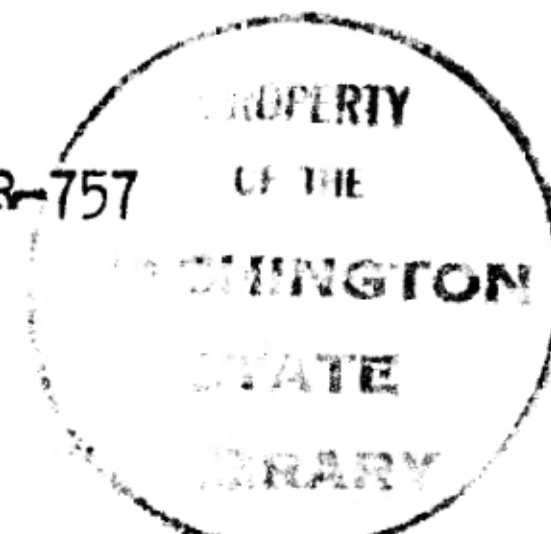
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

BH



April 18, 1939  
FILLERS - TO RELEASE AT WILL

PR-757



Everett- After study of several weeks under WPA instructors, a large class in citizenship took a preparatory examination at the Y.M.C.A. In the tests to be taken before the April court session for citizenship, it is expected that more than 40 applicants will be "ready for the questions."

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Puyallup- Experimental research work at the Western Washington Experiment Station will be conducted with technical assistants from the WPA rolls. Studies will be conducted in the departments of horticulture, plant pathology, entomology, dairy and poultry husbandry, soils and veterinary medicine.

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Tacoma- Play supervision by WPA recreational leaders has been set here for a regular schedule for week days and holidays throughout the Spring and Summer months. Thirteen park playfields opened after April 15, manned by WPA recreational leaders.

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Mount Vernon- Constructed from logs taken from the Swinomish Indian Reservation, WPA workers are erecting a huge grandstand which will seat more than 1,600 persons.

Engineers estimate that the unique structure will have a period of usefulness of more than 50 years, as it is exceptionally well constructed. This WPA recreational development was sponsored in part by a local athletic association which furnished 26.7 per cent of the cost.

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Seattle- King County's WPA land use survey has revalued 300,000 pieces of property at a cost of \$2 each. Through this survey King County is expected to receive more than \$1,000,000 in additional taxes.

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Seattle- The average age of the typical woman employed in WPA sewing rooms in the State of Washington is 49 years. Approximately 5,000 women are employed in Washington the large majority of whom are widows. A few have husbands incapacitated for employment. Most of them have been housewives all their mature years and know no other profession.

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Yakima- In celebrating the completion of the county's \$6,000 WPA constructed airport light system, pilots reported heavier passenger business than usual. Customers were those who had become anxious to see Yakima from the air after dark.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



April 20, 1939

PR-758



Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, yesterday told delegates of the Washington State Conference of Social Work, convening at Spokane, that WPA workers are demonstrating a consistent determination to obtain private employment despite a rapidly increasing number of destitute unemployed due to sharp curtailment of state and county direct relief funds, and in face of the prospect of additional WPA reductions during May and June made necessary because of limited funds appropriated by Congress for the balance of the fiscal year, ending June 30, and the uncertainty of many private jobs.

Ample proof is available, he said, in WPA records showing that 960 left the program for private jobs in February, 1,500 during March and more than 900 during the first half of April.

Although the present seasonal tendency toward increased private employment as shown in these WPA records is encouraging, said Abel, other figures point to the evident uncertain and temporary status of a substantial number of jobs available to unemployed. "In February 900 persons returned to WPA after being layed off private jobs and eventually becoming again in urgent need of work relief", said the State Administrator. "In March 500 persons came back to us for the same reason after working for private industry for various lengths of time."

Abel said figures on returns of such workers to WPA during April would not be available until the end of the month, but that estimates undoubtedly point to considerable seasonal employment as a favorable factor, offering at least temporary outlets for workers eager to better themselves wherever private industry provides equal or higher earnings. Some of the large logging and lumbering operators are planning increased production, he said, and considerable numbers of small operators are now returning to the woods with trucking operations not possible during the winter. Agriculture in eastern Washington is taking a few workers.

Employable heads of families who are in the most destitute circumstances are now being employed by WPA for the places made vacant by workers who leave for private industry. Abel assured convention members, however, that those on WPA who left to take such private jobs would be reemployed promptly if they should lose those jobs later through no fault of their own and were still in need. The April employment quota for WPA in Washington has been set at 41,150.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
200 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

BH

Release Sunday  
April 23, 1939 or thereafter.

PR-759



Eighteen community clubs and organizations, the Seattle Park Board and the Works Progress Administration will participate in the ground-breaking of the 14 acre Magnolia district recreational area development, April 26, at three o'clock in the afternoon, at which Don G. Abel, state WPA Administrator, will turn the first shovel of dirt on the new WPA project.

The Works Progress Administration will then start a crew on the program of creating the largest recreational area in that part of Seattle. The development will be bounded by Thirty-fourth Avenue West, Thirty-second Avenue West, West Armor and West McGraw streets. Abel said that WPA would invest \$28,000 in the area acquired by the Magnolia district taxpayers through a special levy of \$12,000. The 40-piece WPA symphonic band will augment the program with a series of spirited selections under the direction of John Spargur, conductor.

More than \$200 in popular subscriptions have already been raised toward recreational equipment, in a concerted drive by the various interested community groups, according to Henry Peck, of the Magnolia Community Club, in general charge of arrangements. Resourceful methods feature the drive, including a huge book wherein "victims" are induced to inscribe their names and pay a penny a letter into the fund. The book, Beck said, would eventually be placed on permanent display in a recreational building "we hope to have here someday". A variety show will be staged early next month in the grade school to raise additional funds."

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

208 ALASKA BUILDING

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

April 21, 1939  
IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FB-760



Mayor L. H. Jaycox of Kirkland yesterday announced that Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, had accepted an invitation from local civic leaders to wield the shovel at groundbreaking ceremonies April 25, for the development of the 15 acre recreational area between Central and Kirkland avenues. The project calls for \$85,353 from WPA and \$21,807 from King county.

As sponsor representatives, Commissioner Tom Smith and other county officials will attend the ceremonies, which will follow a luncheon to be given by the Kirkland Service Club at the Pastime Cafe.

Abel said the day following the ground-breaking, WPA will put 25 men to work clearing, grubbing and grading the entire tract in preparation for building one of the finest recreation centers in the county. Project allocations are intended to carry the program for a year and provide for the construction of park and playground equipment, and installation of drain tile, fences, plumbing, heating, sewer, electrical facilities, water system, tennis courts, septic tank and wading pool.

Featured improvements will be a new clubhouse, 124 by 120 feet, one story and basement. A log shelter building, 30 by 20 feet, will also be erected. The project is intended to benefit approximately 5,000 residents of the community, said Abel.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

208 Alaska Building

Seattle, Washington

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April 22, 1939  
IMMEDIATE RELEASE



PR-761

Residents on the east side of King county will vote today on a proposition to consolidate several communities into a new water district extending from Kenmore south along Lake Washington including a part of Mercer Island to Hillcrest, east to Issaquah and north to Duvall.

G. W. Lightfoot, President of the Federated East Side Clubs, said yesterday that the purpose in forming a new water district would be to set up basic facilities for obtaining modernization and extension of the water systems throughout the east side of the county. Lightfoot said that a large delegation from all of the 24 local communities, civic and business clubs represented in the federation, gathered last Tuesday evening at the Rose Hill club house and heard Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, offer every cooperation "within the limitations of the WPA" to further the cause of a better water system for eastern King county.

Abel, who was invited to be present and give first hand details on what other water districts had accomplished with WPA assistance, said that three water districts within the greater metropolitan area of Seattle had received a total of 519,300 feet of water pipe installations, serving a combined area of 7,000 acres, and that the projects represented a WPA investment of almost \$300,000 in addition to sponsor contributions for materials and rentals of construction equipment. "What is equally as important is that thousands of employable heads of needy families were able to earn a security wage for long periods on these projects, while communities were getting major needed improvements in return", said Abel. "Just such similar constructive, mutually helpful work is under way by WPA throughout the state."

In Water District No. 42, north of Seattle, Abel disclosed that WPA had invested \$178,800, installed 250,800 feet of water pipe, ranging from three inches to a foot in diameter, and serving an area of 2,600 acres. A 100,000 gallon steel tank was erected for adequate pressure storage. Workers provided urgently needed fire protection with 229 fire hydrants. For Water District No. 49, south of Seattle near Lake Burien, WPA invested \$58,739 in laying 117,700 feet of pipe to serve 1,200 acres. Almost 100 fire hydrants and a 60,000 gallon steel tank installed by a WPA crew are more than adequate for this system, said Abel. In the Alderwood Manor Water District, in Snohomish county but included in the greater metropolitan area of Seattle, by Abel, WPA installed 150,796 feet of pipe, and invested \$57,706 for a territory of 3,200 acres.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

Four WPA projects will begin immediately or before May 8, in King county with Federal allocations totaling \$50,374, according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, yesterday. Curbs and sidewalk construction at Kent calls for \$31,439 of the funds.

More than 50 men will be employed six months on the Kent project, laying concrete sidewalks, grubbing, leveling, grading and excavating on various streets throughout the city. The city has pledged \$16,275 for cement and other necessary materials.

WPA will expend \$6,939 in a new project to develop the water supply system for Water District No. 49, at Burien City, said Abel. Work will include digging ditches, laying pipe and installing fire hydrants. The state WPA administrator told a gathering of east side community clubs last week at the Rose Hill club house that WPA had already invested \$58,739 in the Lake Burien district water system modernization, laying 117,700 feet of pipe to serve an area of 1,200 acres.

Work will begin this week, under a \$6,148 WPA allotment, on grading, landscaping and draining the entire grounds of the Point Robinson Lighthouse, Maury Island, on the south end of Vashon Island, Puget Sound. At least 25 men will be busy until late in July planting trees and shrubs and beautifying the salt water beach to benefit more than 2,000 residents of the community. Late in January WPA launched its first sluicing job in this state through a \$6,800 project, pulling adjacent clay hill slopes into the swamps of the lighthouse grounds and transforming the bleak point into ground for the new landscaping job. The U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Lighthouses is sponsoring the project with \$1,452 for plants and seed.

A school garage and storage building at Bothell will be completed with a \$5,848 Federal allotment and \$2,987 for materials from local school authorities.



APRIL 25, 1939

PR-764

IMMEDIATE RELEASE



To provide continued employment for approximately 1,000 of the WPA workers in eastern Washington who have been retained under a reduced quota of Federal funds but who are now working on projects rapidly nearing completion, Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, yesterday announced ten new Federal allocations totaling \$471,124. All the projects will begin before the end of the week, Abel said.

The largest project is set up for 12 months with \$361,919 from WPA to complete a Wenatchee WPA street improvement program including grading, surfacing, oiling, concrete curbs and modern gutters. The city will furnish materials with \$140,933. "This is a most welcome project to the 20,000 residents of this community", said a leading city official. "The men, heads of families, are in desperate need of work and all of us are eager to have the dustless, hard-surfaced streets we will enjoy with completion of the program."

A town-wide, ten month street improvement schedule for Deer Park will take \$19,180 from WPA and \$2,760 in materials from the city.

Sanitary sewers will be laid in the southeast section of Yakima with \$15,000 WPA and \$3,218 city funds. It is the latest development in the extensive WPA sewers modernization at Yakima during the past two years, including, one of the nation's finest sewage disposal plants. The Washington State Fair Grounds at Yakima, already substantially rehabilitated through WPA, will get an additional \$6,910 for an administration building. Materials will be furnished by the state with \$5,143. Mabton school grounds improvements will be done with a \$6,185 WPA investment.

The Columbia county fairgrounds, at Dayton will be graded and modernized with \$5,979 from WPA. Other allocations are: \$9,368 for the Waitsburg water system; \$22,102 for the Swauk recreational area near Blewett Pass in Kittitas county, completion of the WPA built swimming pool and bath house at Cashmere with \$13,173; and rehabilitation of the Priest Rapids Irrigation District distribution lines with \$11,307. The swimming pool project is 75 percent complete under a previous operation. Abel said the Blewett Pass undertaking would provide one of the state's finest forest camps including community lodge, outdoor fireplaces and picnic grounds. Stone and log construction will feature the work. It is estimated several thousand tourists and Washington residents will use the forest camp annually. Materials, to cost \$11,600 will be furnished by the state.

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APRIL 25, 1939

PR-765

IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Three Pierce county, one Clark county and one Klickitat county WPA projects, aggregating \$30,260 in Federal allocations, were announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, to begin immediately. Except for a \$4,310 project to extend the water and lighting systems of Steilacoom the schedules, all included development of recreational facilities.

Steilacoom will be the scene of a two-month \$4,310 WPA project for installing wood water pipe and erecting transmission lines, intended to benefit a community of more than 800 persons, said Abel. Town authorities have signed to contribute \$3,525 in city funds for the work. With a \$4,259 WPA allotment Steilacoom recreational facilities will be modernized, including new community kitchens, comfort stations, septic tanks and tennis courts. A roof will be placed on the athletic field bleachers and some landscaping will be done. For this project the city will add \$1,000 in materials.

Another Pierce county project will be a \$4,377 WPA investment to install drainage facilities, culverts, sewer pipes, catch basins, baseball backstop and do general landscaping on the playfield and grounds of the Elbe grade school. The school district share will be an additional \$852.

To carry on the big improvement program at Leverich Park, Vancouver, Wash., WPA has allotted \$12,845, for landscaping, erecting flagpoles and backstops, and for installing modern plumbing, heating, lighting, and for additional construction on the stadium, tennis courts, ticket booths and other buildings. This project should be completed by the last of June, said Abel. Vancouver is obligated to pay for materials amounting to \$6,090.

The Glenwood high school and gymnasium buildings will be modernized with \$4,469 from WPA and \$1,727 from the local school district. Improvements in the surrounding playgrounds facilities will be a major feature of the project.

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For release Sunday, April 30, 1939, or thereafter.

WPA LARGE USER OF WASHINGTON STATE LUMBER PRODUCTS

Don G. Abel, State WPA Administrator, Presents a Partial Summary of the Extent to Which Washington State Forest Products are Used in the Operating of WPA Projects Since the Beginning of the WPA Program.

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More than half a million dollars in WPA funds have been invested in rough and finished lumber from Washington mills for projects in this state, and an incalculable amount has been purchased for all other sections of the state since the Federal work relief program began in 1935, it has been disclosed by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. In excess of one million dollars has been expended by sponsors of WPA projects in Washington for the same purpose, Abel said.

An estimated 75 million feet of fir, pine and cedar have been purchased for WPA projects used in both temporary and permanent construction work. Temporary or "false work" construction includes scaffolding, concrete forms, cribbing during ditching operations, barracades to fence off excavations, rough tool sheds and project shelters.

"Not only does WPA use lumber on an extensive scale, but maximum application is made of the material purchased," said Abel. "Whenever feasible, temporary construction material is salvaged for similar purposes later, or for hidden construction work on a new building or on permanent improvements."

The greatest amount of lumber used on WPA projects has been for erecting athletic facilities in dozens of communities throughout the state. Included on this program are a huge number of bleachers, board fences, playground equipment and grandstands. Notable among the athletic field developments are those at the West Seattle

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Golf and Recreation Area, at Hoquiam; Donner field and other developments in Bellingham; Everett High School athletic field, and the most recent recreational project at Leverich Park, Vancouver, Washington. Moreover, throughout eastern Washington, from the smallest "cross-roads" centers to the leading cities, lumber by the tens of thousands of feet has been used for developing or improving athletic and recreational fields.

Hundreds of school buildings have been repaired by WPA in this state, and both rough and finished lumber played an important part in the program. Whether the structures were of frame or brick finished exterior, a large amount of scaffolding was required to execute the work. Interior remodeling included new woodwork and floors, in most instances.

Other wood structures include community houses, city halls and county fair buildings. Winter social activities in a great number of localities have been made possible only through the use of WPA workers and Washington lumber, to create community houses in which to stage the affairs. Make-shift store buildings and dungeon-like jails have been abolished by several communities through WPA projects for erection of frame-constructed city halls.

Probably as great a service as has ever been given to the people of Washington has been effected by a combination of WPA workers and Washington lumber in building sewage, water and drainage systems wherein practically every community has directly benefited. Service lines to bring water to sewage disposal plants have been built by WPA with wood pipe. New and extensive city water systems have been laid out with wood pipe. Acres have been drained to protect roads, swamp farm lands have been reclaimed and floods in many districts controlled by use of wood pipe, made from Washington timber.

More than 680,000 feet of wood pipe, ranging from two inches to six feet in diameter have been installed by WPA workers to serve the residents of Washington. In excess of 70,000 feet of wood pipe was used on water system construction on a

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single WPA project at Sand Point Naval Air Station, near Seattle. Approximately 25,000 feet of wood water pipe were installed at Everett. In several communities such as Des Moines, large wood water tanks have been erected by WPA as part of an enlarged or rehabilitated water system project.

In a vast network of new and improved sewer systems, through this program, WPA workers have installed lagging of heavy planks, in ditches where pipe is being placed, to prevent cave-ins during operations. Although the materials for this purpose are salvaged for repeated use as much as possible, hundreds of thousands of feet of Washington lumber is purchased by both the WPA and sponsors, for these projects.

In flood control work a huge volume of heavy lumber is used for piling and bulk-head planking, and a great many miles of irrigation flume have been constructed of wood throughout WPA rehabilitated Washington irrigation systems. In the Chelan Falls Irrigation district, for example, a WPA crew is now installing 2,400 feet of 24-inch wood stave pipe, and in the Lake Chelan Reclamation district, a reconstruction program is under way with 30 inch wood pipe. This area lost several miles of its water supply flume in the disastrous fire of 1929 and the project has already restored several hundred acres to productivity.

Of course there are literally hundreds of uses for wood in the WPA state-wide farm-to-market and mine-to-market road construction and improvement program. Here is seen a dual service to the lumber industry. Roads lead into hitherto inaccessible areas of standing timber, as a result of the program, and the roads and streets work includes installation of countless wood pipe culverts and small wood bridges.

Typical of the wide variety of WPA projects now in operation where Washington lumber plays an important part are the following eight projects in King county: a new frame school at Pacific City; a new warehouse building for the United States Department of Fisheries in Seattle; a new recreational building near Redmond; a new gymnasium at the East Seattle grade school on Mercer Island; an addition to the

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King County cannery, Kirkland; a gymnasium at the Columbia School, Vashon Island; a recreational center at Preston, and sewer ditch lagging at Issaquah.

It is easily seen, therefore, how substantial have been the direct benefits to all Washington industries in logging, lumbering, shingles and the hundreds of allied enterprises. Both WPA and the hundreds of sponsor groups have continually emphasized this policy of buying Washington-made materials and supplies. Such a program keeps tens of thousands of employees in private industry while at the same time adding to the prosperity of their employers. Hence WPA provides a constructive program of work relief to take care of employables who can not find other work, substantially protects those enjoying private employment and gives the citizens of Washington valuable goods and services for their money.

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April 26, 1939

PR-767

IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, yesterday warned that future as well as present employees on WPA must be citizens of the United States.

"Recently we mailed out blank affidavits of citizenship to everyone of the 13,000 persons certified by the state authorities as currently eligible for WPA employment but whom we have not yet been able to employ because of lack of sufficient funds," said Abel. "A large number of these persons have failed to fill out and return these documents, and are therefore warned that they cannot be further eligible for WPA employment until their citizenship status is cleared up through prompt returning of this affidavit."

Abel said that it is from this eligible list that persons are employed by WPA from time to time to replace those who have left for private employment or for any other of several reasons, but that those who do not return the affidavits of citizenship will not even be considered for WPA jobs.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



April 26, 1939

PR-768

IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Fifty-four business and professional men, members of the Kirkland Service Club, gathered at a luncheon in the American Legion Hall, Kirkland, yesterday preceding the ground-breaking ceremonies to launch an \$85,353 WPA project to develop a 15-acre recreational park virtually in the heart of Kirkland.

After the luncheon, at which Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, outlined plans for developing the recreation center, the group was led by Mayor L. H. Jaycox to the site of the project. The Mayor then presented Mr. Abel with a shovel and the latter dug the first bit of earth to launch the project. Twenty-five men are scheduled to begin work today, said Abel, and the project will produce one of the finest recreation centers in King county.

County representatives as well as various Kirkland civic and business leaders took active part in the arrangements for the ceremony. The Kirkland High School band and the Drum and Bugle Corp gave a colorful and musical background to offset all "dampening" of the affair by inclement weather. Chet Green presided at the luncheon and H. P. Everest was chairman of the committee in charge of the program.

Featured improvements will be a new clubhouse, 124 by 120 feet, one story and basement. A log shelter building, 30 by 20 feet, will also be erected. The project will benefit more than 5,000 residents, said Abel.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

208 ALASKA BUILDING

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

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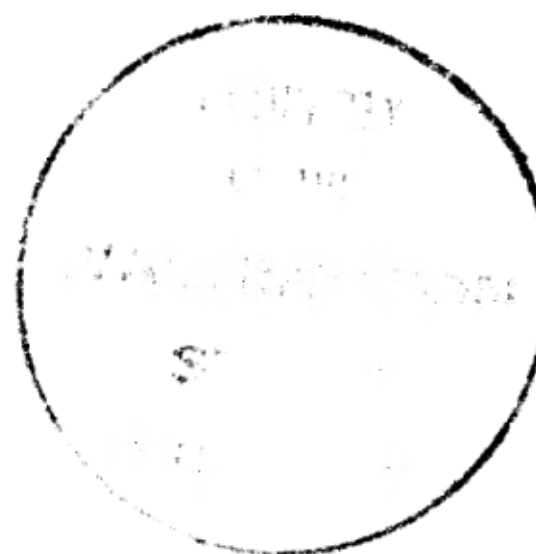
Completion of a WPA project for the construction of a new addition to the Lake City School, East 125th and 27th Avenue, N.E., north of Seattle, will be celebrated Saturday at 2 P.M. in a dedication ceremony in the school auditorium. Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, will present the completed project, in which WPA has invested more than \$28,600, to a school board member of District 180.

The addition is a two-story brick veneer structure designed to match the original building which was erected in 1931. The new portion provides seven new classrooms, a cafeteria, a nurse's room, a teacher's room and several modern conveniences and innovations. Crews have also remodeled and modernized portions of the original structure. More than 400 children will now be adequately accommodated in the new structure, according to Vincent Jones, clerk of the school board. State and local funds as sponsor contributions to the project total more than \$16,300, he said.

Features of the program will be selections by the 40 piece WPA Federal Music Project symphonic band, under the direction of John Spargur, two numbers by a girls' chorus of the Lake City School, the dedication speech by Abel and greetings by Governor Clarence D. Martin, the State Department of Education and the King County superintendent of schools.

A bronze plaque, commemorating the event, will be presented to the school by Mrs. Vincent Jones, on behalf of the community residents. It will be accepted by Principal Harry J. Grimlund. W.R. Smart, chairman of the school board, will be master of ceremonies, Reverend A. D. Soper of the Lake City Presbyterian church, will pronounce invocation, and Ernest R. Wilkins, former member of the school board, will give a brief outline of the school's history. Boy Scout Troop 327 will present the colors.

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The first of the four runways to be built by WPA in the development of the 680 acre Snohomish county airport, near Everett, is now in the final stages of construction preparatory to hardsurfacing, and a deluxe 21 passenger Mainliner plane Friday took on its first cargo of "passengers" from the new field. Two courtesy roundtrip flights were made through arrangements by W.C. Ables, operations manager of the United Air Lines, for Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, Snohomish County commissioners, newspapermen and Everett civic and business leaders.

After receiving his first skyview of the big project Abel said that although the field is now used as an alternate with Boeing field, the airport would require another two years to complete under present schedules. WPA investments to date have exceeded \$570,000 and work will go forward now under an additional WPA allocation of more than \$1,600,000.

The State WPA administrator said that 450 men are now working on the project. Equipment for the job includes four ten-car dirt trains, five donkey engines, two ten-ton steam rollers, a battery of power shovels and a big fleet of trucks. The project has its own "roundhouse" and machine shops to keep the locomotives in running order, and a network of narrow gauge tracks traverse the sections where earth fills are being made. One and a quarter million yards of dirt fill and cuts have been made to date. The runway nearing completion is 200 feet wide with 300 foot shoulders on either side. It has a length of 5,600 feet. All four runways will have a total of 25,000 feet in length. The building schedule will include a hangar and administration building, under present WPA allocations.

The field has just been designated by the Civil Aeronautics Authority as an alternate day landing field with Boeing Field, Seattle, when weather conditions are not favorable in the latter place. The Snohomish county airport has been called the most fog-free field in the Puget Sound region by leading experts. Both United Air Lines and Northwest Air Lines will use it as an alternate. William Hewitt, in charge of the big WPA project, said that as soon as adequate beacon lights are installed in the next few weeks, the field would also qualify as an alternate for night landing.

Ables of United Airlines revealed to his flight guests that another milestone in Pacific northwest aviation would be reached today when his company would inaugurate nightly sleeper plane service from Seattle to the east.

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The fondest dream of Horace Mann, great educator whose birthday anniversary will be observed Thursday, may soon be realized in Washington, according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, who announced the launching of the first unit of a state-wide WPA motorized free "Bookmobile" library service this week in Thurston county.

Abel said that the project was intended to combat the "deplorable lack of libraries in rural areas," an effective solution of the problem he observed was the cherished dream of Horace Mann as revealed in the latter's report on similar conditions in Massachusetts which was made a century ago for the Board of Education in that state.

"This unit will be followed by other motorized libraries as rapidly as arrangements can be made with local co-sponsors in conjunction with the State Library at Olympia, which is sponsoring the project," said Abel. "Already plans are under way to set up a second Bookmobile route in one of the eastern Washington counties, and we hope to extend the southwest Washington service within a very short time."

The first WPA Bookmobile, also reported the first under the Works Program on the Pacific Coast, made some "test runs" last week and went into regular schedule this week, routed to include the vicinities of Little Rock, Rochester, Bordeaux, Yelm, Bucoda, Tono Rainier, and Vail. Later other routes will be added so that the truck will recover the same territory every two weeks. The staff touring with the motorized library comprise a WPA librarian, a librarian representing the sponsor, truck driver from WPA who also assists in book distribution. Books will be loaned directly to users at specified rural service points along the route, distributed through school or store deposit stations, and to augment smaller local libraries through mobile systems of exchange loans. Book stocks come principally from the State Library and from the Olympia Public Library which receives funds for county service. WPA furnishes the truck and the body is being loaned by the Seattle Public Library which used it for a few months in 1931 for similar service in King County. Lack of funds was given as the reason for not continuing the work at that time.

Abel said plans for extending the Bookmobile service are part of the program of state-wide library work under WPA for which in excess of a half million dollars in Federal funds have been expended to date. More than 350 WPA workers are now engaged throughout the state as library assistants in schools and public libraries, according to the state administrator of WPA. This staff includes those who handle the Braille and talking record service for the blind residents.

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May 8, 1939  
IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PR-773



Robert R. Pellicotti, 531 Orcas Street, Seattle, middle-aged tailoring instructor in the WPA Division of Education and Recreation, Saturday received his usual project check through the mail, but it was significant as the four-millionth check issued to employees of the Works Progress Administration in Washington.

This is the fourth big payroll milestone since the establishment of WPA in Washington, said Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. The three-millionth check was issued August 25, last year, to William L. Weitzel, a labor project worker, 1911-41st Avenue Southwest, Seattle. The year before, Herman Hangge, WPA project foreman near Olympia received the two-millionth coveted oblong, and the first-millionth check was issued in July 1936 to Alvira Hartly, 1420 Eighth Avenue, Seattle, who was then earning student assistance through a work relief project of the National Youth Administration. The first WPA check was issued July 22, 1935, said Abel.

"These WPA checks, received twice each month have been the only means of supporting myself and family for the year that I have been working on WPA," said Pellicotti. "I'd hate to think what would have happened to us if it hadn't been for these checks."

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

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May 8, 1939  
IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PR-774



Celebration of the completion of the new state fish hatchery at Vancouver, Washington, was made yesterday in a dedication of the WPA project representing an investment in Federal funds of more than \$23,400. Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator and representatives of the state fish and game departments spoke to an attendance of more than 700 persons.

State representatives included B. T. McCauley, Director of the State Department of Game, and B. M. Brennan, Director of the State Department of Fisheries. The state contributed \$13,400 in sponsors' funds, principally for materials and rental of construction equipment.

Twelve concrete rearing ponds and two broodstock ponds and a superintendent's house are among the principal features of the project. WPA workers also constructed supply and drainage systems, cleared and landscaped six acres of the grounds, erected a garage, installed two septic tanks and sewage disposal system, improved the hatchery buildings and carried on a general program of painting, modernization and ground improvement.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

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More than a half million persons in Washington and 132 million in the nation have attended concerts and performances of the WPA Federal Music Project, it was disclosed yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, in announcing that the Seattle-Tacoma Federal band would play a full schedule this week in observance of the 16th Annual National Music Week, May 7-13.

Abel said the WPA band of 40 pieces would play the following King county schedule:

Two concerts will be given today at Warren school, Seattle, one for local school children in the morning and another in the afternoon for visiting Mercer school children. Tomorrow afternoon a special program for shut-ins and convalescents will be presented at the old site of the auto camp, in Woodland Park, Seattle, in a position convenient for motorists to hear without leaving their cars. Thursday morning a concert will be staged at Highland Park school, and Friday afternoon a group of selections will be played at the Firlands Sanatorium which will be a dual observance, it being National Hospital Day. An average of more than 10,000 patients, attendants and visitors have listened to WPA band concerts at Firlands, in previous years, according to Abel.

Dr. Nikolai Sokoloff, National WPA Music Project Director, and conductor of the Seattle Symphony orchestra, yesterday informed Abel that more than 6,000 musicians on the Project rolls are participating this week in observances of National Music Week. It is the fourth successive year WPA musical resources have been available for this nation-wide festival.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 ALASKA BUILDING SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Hillyard- Among new WPA recreational activities planned here this spring is a children's puppetry project. Boys and girls will not only learn to make and dress puppets, but will construct a stage and present marionette shows.

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Puyallup- Inventory of economic factors affecting Washington agricultural lands will be made by WPA professional workers for the Washington Experiment Station. Classification of all rural lands will include land ownership, assessed valuations, tax delinquency, crop yield and other related subjects.

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Everett- Archery classes conducted by the recreation division of the WPA have both outdoor and indoor practice ranges. A "class A" indoor range has been made available at a local lumber company's lumber shed during inclement weather.

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Issaquah- Sponsored by the P.T.A., a WPA social mixer recently drew more than a hundred persons. A WPA recreation division orchestra presented the major part of the musical program.

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Seattle- In co-operation with the U.S. Bureau of Domestic and Foreign commerce, exports and imports will be transcribed and tabulated by WPA professional workers in assembling data for governmental departments.

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Seattle- More than 100 subjects are now taught in WPA adult education classes according to state WPA Administrator, Don G. Abel, yesterday. All persons sixteen years of age or over are offered the opportunity to advance their education through these classes. All that is necessary for enrollment is to attend the class selected at the appointed day and hour, Abel said.

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Kirkland- Nearly 4,000 persons in 1,030 families profited from last year's operations of the King county's co-operative cannery. This was largely made possible by WPA assistance in providing funds for building and facilities improvements and extensions, according to county officials.

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Seattle- Seattle is one of seven American cities in which the "Survey of youth in the labor market" has been conducted by the Works Progress Administration. Studies have been completed by interviews with 4,850 boys and girls graduated from the eighth grade in Seattle schools in 1929-31-33, to determine their present economic status.

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MAY 10, 1939

PR-777



Tulalip Indians on WPA will undertake immediate extensive domestic water system construction on their reservation near Marysville, according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator yesterday when he announced a WPA allocation of \$20,571 for the project. A sponsor's grant of \$14,735 will be furnished by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Scheduled for completion in four months, the project calls for installation of approximately 26,880 feet of wood stave pipe, a concrete diversion dam and a fence to surround the settling chamber and chlorinating units. Approximately one hundred men will be employed, said Abel.

Superintendent O. C. Upchurch, of the Tulalip Indian Agency at Tulalip has just been officially notified that the state WPA office has also passed favorably on the agency's proposal to continue improvements on the Sam Courier road through the Swinomish Indian Reservation, near La Connor, in Skagit county. This road was designed to open up Indian allotments of land held in trust by the Indian Bureau. Portions of this land have stands of timber and much has been improved and dyked. The area lacks an outlet to main highways of Skagit county. The Indian Agency is seeking \$42,207 in federal funds to match the Indian Bureau's pledge of \$26,347 in department funds to cover purchase of materials and provide funds for equipment rentals. The project proposal has been sent to Washington, D. C., for the President's approval. Abel informed Upchurch.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

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The Works Progress Administration of Washington is taking a major part in the Pacific northwest contribution to United States navy expansion with an investment of more than \$1,400,000 to date in Bremerton Navy Yard construction, according to Don G. Abel, state WPA administrator, yesterday. Abel said 2,500 WPA workers are employed under the direction of officers of the Thirteenth Naval District in a huge building and modernizing program.

Under this program a new class A two story reinforced concrete and brick chemical laboratory is in final stages of construction. The building was started last fall and is scheduled for completion this month. It will represent a WPA investment of approximately \$77,000 and a like amount in materials by the sponsoring 13th Naval District. Included in the expenditure also is the construction of a Naval Ammunition Depot, known as the "D" Loading Plant and another ammunition depot structure now well under way, to be known as the Case Filling House.

Approximately a million dollars in WPA funds have provided labor to complete construction of a four-story brick extension to the Director Storage Shop; enlarge the Smith Shop from a two to a four-story steel structure; erect additions to the Pipe Shop; build an entirely new structural steel Heavy Materials Storage building; make a three-story reinforced brick and concrete Naval Hospital wing, and raise a two-story new brick addition to the Nurses Quarters. WPA crews are now erecting a Covered Steel Storage building, made of structural and sheet steel, and completing a Projectile Storage Magazine with reinforced brick. Additional magazine and ordinance storage buildings are scheduled for construction soon, according to Abel.

Other WPA crews are working on a general reconditioning and improving of present buildings, smaller waterfront structures, drydocks, distribution systems, transportation facilities, tracks, pavements and grounds.

"In addition to the expenditures already made at the Navy Yard, through WPA and the funds still to be drawn on these project allocations, amounting to nearly \$400,000, the Works Progress Administration has approved projects totalling \$252,398 to go into effect whenever the Navy Department officials are ready to draw on this reserve," said Abel.

The 13th Naval District has expended approximately \$400,000 additional for materials and rentals of construction equipment on the WPA projects at Bremerton.

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MAY 16, 1939  
IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PR-779



In a report presented yesterday at a WPA state safety representatives' conference, called to confer with W. J. Easton, field safety director for the eleven western states, R. P. Duncan, WPA state safety consultant, declared that the Works Progress Administration workers in Washington worked 14 million man hours for every fatal accident.

The national rate for WPA is five million man hours for every fatality, and for private industry in Washington the latest available figures show one and a quarter million man hours for each accident resulting in a death. The WPA average for the nation was disclosed by Easton who congratulated Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, and Duncan, on "the fine safety record showing of WPA in this state."

Abel attributed the Washington WPA safety record to the extreme care and continuous vigil exercised by every project worker and foreman under the training and guidance of the safety men, combined with a regular exchange of ideas and methods with WPA in other states.

At the state WPA safety conference Easton was told that Washington WPA efficiency climbed from 642,000 man hours for every permanent partial disability case, in 1936, to 1,180,000 man hours for every such case during 1938, based on the Duncan report.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

BH





City, state and national departments of government are sponsoring a variety of WPA professional and clerical projects scheduled to begin before the end of this month with Federal allocations totaling more than \$86,500, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. Personnel will be transferred from completed projects, Abel said.

The Washington State Planning Council will sponsor a \$57,318 WPA project to transcribe, and map data from existing records on the location and extent of publicly owned land in all rural areas and 25 selected cities in the state. The state will provide an additional \$4,470 for rentals of equipment and facilities and for the purchase of stationery and other materials, needed for the project.

Everett authorities, with a pledge of \$3,222 for materials, have obtained a professional WPA staff to prepare composite and detail maps showing underground sewers, pipes, tunnels, water mains and other service lines to indicate locations, physical characteristics and uses; and to obtain inventories of the city light and city water departments. WPA will furnish \$13,705 to pay wages of the staff.

WPA will continue a transcribing and tabulating project for the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries Seattle office with \$5,559. The sponsoring agency will add \$2,700 for materials. Work includes summarizing findings of the catch, seasonal variation and other relevant information of the salmon fisheries in Alaskan areas. Abel said that to date a staff of four men and two women had indexed and recorded important data on 500 fish traps for 1937 and other data of value in a study of the industry, for the period 1930 to 1936.

To conduct a study involving utilization of sands, clays, olivine, chromite and diatomaceous earth of the State, the University of Washington will sponsor a \$5,673 WPA project. Professional workers from WPA will be supplied with necessary equipment and materials with \$2,023 from the university. The work will all be original research carried on in the Mines building, university campus, Seattle.

Kelso water mains, service lines and other substructures of the city water system will be indicated on detail maps to be prepared by WPA "white collar" workers under a \$4,284 allocation, combined with a city grant of \$1,191.

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MAY 17, 1939  
IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PR-781

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



Six WPA projects for improvement of school grounds, buildings or recreational facilities and seven projects to modernize or extend city streets, water systems and sewers in Washington, were announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, to begin at once or before the end of the month with Federal funds aggregating \$137,250.

The school grounds at Neah Bay will be cleared, drained, leveled, enlarged, surfaced with sand and generally improved with \$8,084 from WPA and \$2,055 from the local school district. WPA has allotted \$7,119 for improving the grounds and remodeling the school in District 52, five miles east of Snohomish. Preparing a much needed drainage system will be featured on the project, for which the district has pledged \$2,124. Laying sewer and drain tile, installing modern plumbing fixtures, and landscaping, head the list of items for improvement at the Cathcart school, Snohomish county. A district pledge of \$1,750 will be added to the \$6,905 Federal allotment, to finance this work.

Recreational facilities, will be constructed at Clover Park Junior High School, District 204, Pierce County with \$4,830 from WPA and \$1,043 local funds. Landscaping and tree planting will also be done under this WPA allocation. Crews will build a baseball field, surface roadways and seed lawns to improve recreational opportunities at Wapato Lake Park, Tacoma, with \$10,201 from WPA added to \$2,478 Metropolitan Park District money. Grounds of the school in District 100, near Bremerton, will be improved through a \$709 WPA allotment for clearing and grading.

Almost two miles of streets will be paved or improved with gravel surfacing in Enumclaw on a five month project requiring \$26,289 from WPA, according to Abel, and \$21,088 in materials from the city. Clearing, grading and surfacing Tenino streets calls for \$18,006 Federal and \$5,347 city funds. At Roslyn street improvements will be done with \$13,923 WPA and \$6,026 local allocations. WPA will modernize and generally improve Kelso streets with \$9,721, combined with local material funds up to \$7,920.

Water supply systems will be constructed at Port Townsend and in and near Irondale with \$11,731 Federal funds. Materials will be furnished with \$9,438 Port Townsend city money. At Hunt's point, near Medina on the east side of Lake Washington water system construction will take \$10,085 from WPA for labor and \$9,951 from the local district for materials.

For Ferndale sewer construction WPA will add \$9,650 to the city's \$2,632.

IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MAY 22, 1939



PR-782

While the second of the two huge concrete caissons is being placed in position this week as the east pier for the Narrows Bridge, under construction at Tacoma, a WPA crew of four men is assisting a technical staff to gather vital data for the bridge engineers from a WPA model on the University of Washington campus, it was announced Saturday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. Abel said WPA has invested more than \$2,100 on this project, scheduled for completion June 1.

The future safety of the new bridge, he said, will depend greatly upon research material obtained from this model concerning adequate anchorage requirements for the great 68 by 120 foot caissons, sunk in more than 120 feet of swift-moving tides. The model, with a ratio scale of one to 70, consists of a channel flume, 15 feet wide by 75 feet long through which water is forced to simulate tide flows in Puget Sound at the bridge site. Midway in the channel floats a miniature concrete caisson model, approximately 11.5 by 20.5 by 24.5 inches. It is held in position by cable wires radiating to 20 anchors placed around the rim of a steel turntable at the bottom of the channel. Pressure gauge equipment leads from each anchor to a manual board where readings indicate the force required to hold the caisson from any direction. As the water in the model flows only in one direction, the turntable revolves to expose all sides of the miniature floating bridge pier to the currents, such as the real bridge caissons encounter from rising and lowering tides, and from storms.

William Morton, laboratory engineer for the State Toll Bridge authority, who takes the test readings from the model, said that eight additional anchors have been ordered for the bridge caisson piers as a result of findings on the model, and that data furnished the bridge engineers will guide them in arranging distribution of the anchor placements. The model operates under the university hydraulics engineering department, headed by Professor Charles W. Harris. Associate Professor F. B. Farquharson supervised the design.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building, Seattle, Washington

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By far the largest single project payroll on WPA in Washington is now operating on the 400 mile rights-of-way clearing project for the Bonneville power transmission lines, it was announced Saturday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, who said that early this week, with the completion of the first three 240 man contingents, a Mill-A Flat, more than 2,400 men would be employed. The men are being transferred from other completed WPA projects.

Last of the 22-man barracks will be completed within a day or two at the Mill-A Flat WPA clearing crew camp, located on the Little White Salmon river near Cook in eastern Skamania County, said Abel. The second camp construction will begin immediately just west of Appleton, about ten miles northeast of White Salmon, and the third will be erected near Satus Pass, approximately nine miles northeast of Goldendale.

The region now being cleared under this project reaches from Goldendale to South Bend. More than 2,000 men will be working this week in Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis and Pacific counties, and the remainder of the crews will cut through the forests of Klickitat and Skamania counties for the powerline strip of land.

Abel said two additional allocations will be made in connection with the work; one of \$34,102 to construct service roads and bridges from Bonneville to Condit, Bonneville to Vancouver, and in various locations of Skamania and Klickitat counties. This phase of work comes under a \$9,195 sponsorship fund of the U.S. Department of Interior Bonneville Project. An \$8,945 WPA allotment goes for clearing the right-of-way for rural electrification lines in Cowlitz county, near Longview, Stella and Oak Point, and is sponsored with \$1,220 by Public Utility District No. 1, of Cowlitz county. The men will dig post holes in addition to clearing, on this sector.

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On or After  
SUNDAY  
MAY 28, 1939



PR-784

Nine sportsmen's organizations will be represented at the dedication of the WPA built rotary fish screens on the White River diversion power canal, two miles west of Buckley, June 11, it was announced yesterday by Mark Gary, secretary of the Sumner Sportsmen's Association which heads a committee on arrangements for the ceremony. The screens are the first installations of their kind in Western Washington, and the 159th in the state.

Each of the eight cylindrical screens at the White River project measures 12 feet long and 14 feet wide. The screws are being installed to deflect fingerling salmon and game fish through a by-pass back into the river, instead of continuing the canal to the plant of the Puget Sound Power and Light Company where they are now being destroyed by huge power turbines using 2,000 second feet of water.

The project is under sponsorship of the State Department of Fisheries, and includes the largest individual rotary screens in the world, according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. The largest fish screen assembly, comprising ten smaller screens, was dedicated at Wapato Ditch near Yakima, May 6.

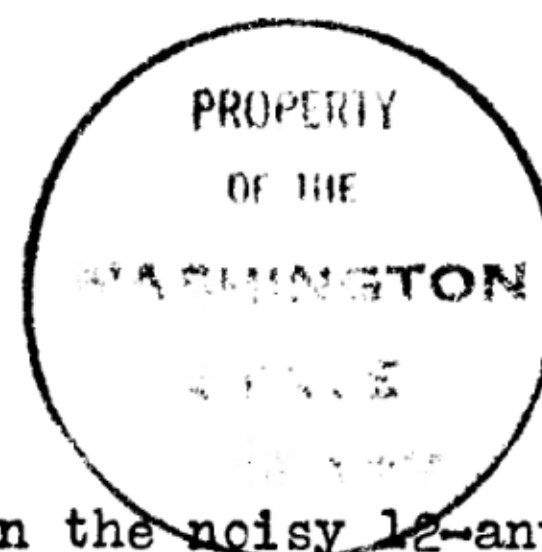
Abel said WPA will have an investment of more than \$53,800 in the project when it is completed, and the sponsor contribution will exceed \$20,000, according to B. M. Brennan, Director of the State Department of Fisheries.

Gary said that everyone interested in the vital problem of increasing the state's fishing wealth, and efforts of WPA and state in this direction, are urged to bring their families to the big fish screen dedication, the afternoon of June 11. Details are now being worked out with other organizations, he said.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
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Seattle, Washington

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There are no "measures beat and slow", in the noisy 12-anvil "chorus" out at the big WPA blacksmith shop at Salmon Bay, Seattle, according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, yesterday, because the 12 husky, seasoned blacksmiths and their helpers repair more than 17,400 picks, mattocks and other hand tools each month together with hundreds of special forging jobs on heavier equipment.

About 100 men are employed in seven big frame buildings renewing broken and worn tools brought from hundreds of projects throughout the state, by a fleet of eight WPA trucks, according to Abel. Restored equipment is returned to the 14 branch warehouses for redistribution. In the big blacksmith shop there are eleven machinists as well as the 'smiths, surrounded by a drill press, lathes, acetylene and electric welding equipment, a blast furnace, 250 pound electric hammer, air compressor systems and a battery of blazing forges. More than 500 pairs of rubber hip boots are cleaned, repaired, sterilized and powdered each month; 1,000 wheel barrows and 750 saws of all kinds are renewed. WPA signs are made and painted, dynamite cap and powder boxes constructed, 1,500 axes ground and several thousand shovels re-pointed.

The WPA Salmon Bay plant contains 30,000 square feet of floor space. Materials for the seven structures were salvaged from 30 houses dismantled by WPA on the site where the new Seattle armory now stands.

The craftsmen have worked in many lands. One brawny blacksmith, Lewis Brown, has labored over a forge for more than 30 years in Idaho, Colorado, Montana, the Philippine Islands, Washington and Hawaii. "I've shoed everything that has hair on it," he said, "cow-ponies, fancy draft horses, racing stuff - even Ezra Meeker's oxen which are now stuffed and stand in the Tacoma museum. That job happened way back in 1909 at Mountain Home, Idaho, 50 miles east of Boise. Ezra was enroute back over the Old Oregon Trail to Washington, D. C., on his last covered wagon trek. Yes, sir, I shoed his oxen, two shoes to each cleft hoof of the critters, set his wheel tires, and made him a half dozen steel three-inch lynch pins to hold the wheel hubs on the axels of his old prairie schooner."

Another blacksmith in the WPA shop, Ed Wagner, put in 40 years at his trade in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Chicago, Aurora, Illinois, Casper Wyoming, and for railroads at Jamestown, N.D., Parsons, Kansas, and Esterline, S.D. As a wheelwright he "built wagons from the ground up." Ed Silver, 38 years with the anvils ringing in his ears, learned his trade in Rauma, Finland, worked in Alaska canneries, and then in the States, "but I never have shoed a horse," he said.

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MAY 30, 1939  
IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PR-786



City water will be brought to more than 800 homes on the outskirts of Yakima for the first time early next May when a WPA water system extension project, which began yesterday, is completed, according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator. Abel said a WPA allocation of \$307,759 has been made for the work and a crew of more than 100 men, drawn from other completed WPA projects, will be working on the project before the end of the week.

Estimates for the extensions are combined with plans for replacing deteriorated mains and for the installation of 206 additional fire hydrants.

Work will include the installation of a network of cast iron pipe; 82,660 feet of twelve inch pipe, 48,280 feet of eight inch, and 96,000 feet of six inch. Materials and rental of construction equipment will be provided with \$20,250 of the Federal money and \$195,356 from the city.

Abel also announced WPA allocations of \$11,891 for building a garage and improving the grounds for the new Stevens county courthouse at Colville, and \$8,443 for the improvement of Alma Park at Okanogan. About a dozen WPA men will be busy for six months on the brick garage, laying sprinkling systems, and constructing sidewalks and drives for the courthouse. Stevens county will provide materials with \$4,184. The Okanogan program, for which the city is furnishing \$2,697, will include conversion of the unsightly area around the swimming pool into a park. This job is also expected to take about six months.

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MAY 29, 1939

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PR-787

Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, Saturday announced he had received the encouraging news from national WPA headquarters in Washington, D. C., that the June quota of employees for this state would be 34,000, in addition to about 5,000 WPA workers loaned to other Federal agencies.

"This is only a drop of 1,200 from our May quota," said Abel, "and the difference will be practically taken care of by the number leaving the WPA for private employment at the present rate. It will give us an opportunity to hire needy heads of families from the list of those certified by the state, to fill all vacancies occurring beyond this number."

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

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MAY 29, 1939



Completion of the first WPA project of its kind in the United States will be celebrated Memorial Day at Felts Field Spokane municipal airport, when Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, presents a 24 foot, ninety ton clock tower to the city, representing a WPA investment of \$2,100.

The completed project will be received for the city by the Mamer Memorial association, and will be unveiled as a memorial to the late famous Spokane airplane pilot, Nick Mamer, by Governor Clarence D. Martin at 1:45 PM.

The clock tower is 14 feet square, with a face nine feet in diameter and hands four and a half feet long, and has numerals nine inches high. It is electrically operated, balance-controlled with electric master clock for correction, and cost the sponsors \$3,100 for clock works and tower materials. WPA Operating Engineer Harry Lytle, in charge of this and other improvements at Felts Field, designed the Mamer memorial clock tower, a monolith in modernistic style.

Others participating in the ceremony will be Mrs. Fay Mamer, widow of the popular late pilot, Mayor Frank G. Sutherlin of Spokane, and Major H. R. Wallace, commander of the 41st division aviation. Colonel Clarence Orndorff will be in charge of the military review.

Abel said WPA has invested more than \$150,000 to date on the improvement of Felts Field facilities, under city sponsorship, and for the National Guard WPA is now constructing a Skeet Field with allocations totaling \$8,638. A WPA crew recently completed repainting a National Guard hangar with \$695 in Federal funds. For the City of Spokane WPA built a hangar, 100 by 103 feet, removed an old lighting system, built a new one, and graded and leveled major extensions to the field and runways.

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MAY 31, 1939

PR-789



Heavy timber framework of the state cannery being constructed by WPA at Kent may be completed this week, it was announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, who said that work on the project would progress rapidly after that with a rush schedule aimed at finishing the cannery in time for use this season. WPA has allocated \$22,353 for the project.

The State of Washington Department of Finance and Budget has allowed an additional \$14,116 for materials. Engineers hope the project can be completed by late in August. Construction includes heating and lighting facilities and improving and landscaping of adjacent grounds, together with parking areas and walk construction.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington



IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 31, 1939

PR-790



Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, today announced that \$815,691 in Federal allocations have been made to continue WPA sewing room projects in Spokane county and six western Washington counties.

Abel said that WPA sewing rooms in Washington, to date have made a total of 370,000 child's garments, 886,000 pieces of men's apparel, 543,000 infant's, and 1,575,300 women's and girls' clothing.

"Under these projects WPA has also renovated and repaired used army and CCC corps clothing into 7,400 miscellaneous garments such as trousers, mackinaws and woolen shirts," said Abel. "A total of nearly 400,000 other articles have been produced including quilts, comforters, pillow cases, towels, crib blankets and bed sheets."

The Spokane project calls for \$422,497 from WPA and \$33,060 from the state, and is scheduled to run, under these allocations until the end of the year. To maintain and operate the sewing rooms of Thurston county WPA allocations of \$95,412 will be augmented by \$9,800 from the state, continuing a present project. In Lewis county, the sewing program will be continued with \$95,304 Federal and \$10,094 state funds. Grays Harbor county gets \$91,588 from WPA and \$7,920 from the state. The Skagit county project will continue with \$54,324 from WPA and \$5,220 state money. Kitsap county WPA allocations total \$33,338 to go with \$2,580 state; and for Clallam county \$23,228 from WPA is combined with \$5,120 from the state.

The garments are distributed to needy families on orders issued by each county welfare administrator.

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208 Alaska Building  
Seattle, Washington

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Seattle, Washington



Eleven WPA construction projects were announced yesterday by Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, for six counties of western Washington, to begin immediately or before the next two or three weeks, with Federal allocations totaling more than \$580,000. When the projects begin is determined by the number of men available from nearby completed projects, said Abel.

Heading the list under these allocations are two projects to improve Kitsap county roads. In Commissioners' District No. 1, \$299,415 from WPA will be combined with \$138,694 from the county for clearing, grubbing, sloping, draining, surfacing, riprapping, and constructing of walks, bridges, road signs, box culverts, guard rails, fences and drain pipe. With an \$81,294 WPA allotment and \$24,930 from the county, District No. 2 roads will be cleared, widened, surfaced and drained, with some road signs and guard rails constructed.

Ferndale streets will be improved with \$19,400 from WPA combined with \$13,580 in city funds. Work includes grading and surfacing, new sidewalks and extensive drainage systems. With \$11,774, WPA will lay sidewalks and cross walks, move light poles and grade roadways along the Seattle Cedar River Pipeline Right-of-Way in Renton, between the east margin of Mill Street and the north margin of Section Street. Seattle department of lighting will furnish \$4,799 for the work.

Sewer construction at Edmonds will take \$47,736 from WPA, combined with \$17,025 in city funds, and will continue work begun under a previous project. For sewers along 32nd Avenue, near Seattle, in King county, WPA will provide \$7,660 and the county \$2,224.

A Pierce County draining project is slated for Clover Creek near Parkland, with \$21,911 Federal and \$9,509 Drainage District No. 2, funds. The creek channel will be cleared and widened. Work will begin soon on a \$12,434 project to improve the Buckley High School buildings and grounds, according to present plans of WPA engineer. School District No. 338 has pledged \$2,196 for materials. The Woodland school and grounds near Puyallup will be improved with \$3,441 from WPA and \$1,147 in local district money. Buildings and grounds of the school at Shine, Jefferson county, will be modernized with \$3,767 WPA and \$1,069 District No. 25, money. The teacher's cottage will be rebuilt.

The Whatcom county Fairground near Lynden is slated for extensive modernization with \$78,876 from WPA, including construction of a new running track. The grounds are on city property, and Lynden has pledged \$24,379 for materials.





An army of enthusiastic steelhead and salmon fishermen are expected by Washington sportsmen leaders to attend the Sunday, June 11th, formal dedication of the world's largest rotary fish screens on the White River near Buckley. The screens represent a WPA investment of more than \$53,800, according to Don G. Abel, Works Progress Administrator.

For years the protection of trout and salmon at this point has been the goal of both sportsmen's organizations and fisheries authorities. Destruction of countless small salmon and steelhead has resulted from the diversion of approximately half the flow of the river into a power canal, with the resulting destruction of small fish trapped in the intake of the power turbines. The new screens are the largest of their type ever constructed, consisting of a battery of eight screens each twelve feet wide and fourteen feet in diameter. They were designed and sponsored by the State Fisheries Department and constructed by the Works Progress Administration, and are the 159th fish screen installation in the state.

The screens are located a short distance down from the mouth of the power diversion and prevent fish of even an inch or two in length from passing on down the canal to destruction in the power house, according to Milo Bell, chief engineer of the State Fisheries Department. Across the face of the screens a by-pass leads back to the main river channel, insuring the small migrants success in their instinct to seek salt water. The screens are electrically powered to rotate with current as a means of preventing clogging by debris and leaves.

Sam Geijsbeek, president of the Salmon Conservation League, and Eli Paulson, president of the Steelhead Trout Club of Washington, credit the White River screens with ability to save more salmon and steelhead each year than can be turned out by even the largest hatchery. They expect that fishing for steelhead in the White



River and for salmon at Point Defiance near its mouth will be greatly improved within a few years, as a result of this project.

Arrangements have been made for a large crowd of spectators at the dedication ceremonies slated for 2:00 p.m., Sunday, June 11. A committee of sportsmen, headed by Mark B. Gary of the Sumner Sportsmen Association, is in charge of the program. With the Sumner High School band playing and flags flying, the last of the huge screens will be dropped into place and the completed WPA project officially turned over by Abel to B. M. Brennan, state director of fisheries. Immediately following, a demonstration is planned, using thousands of small fish to test the effectiveness of the screens and by-pass.

Gary stated that direction signs will be posted during the next few days at many points along the highways leading to the dedication site from Seattle, Tacoma, Enumclaw and Sumner. The exact spot is immediately alongside the highway two miles west of Buckley.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



More than twice as many WPA workers left for private employment in Washington during May as in April, according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, who said yesterday that out of a total of 35,200 on the payrolls last month, 2,133 left for other jobs.

In April 986 left WPA for private industry, said Abel, however 607 persons returned to the Federal Works Program in May compared with 340 the previous month. Persons who have quit WPA for private jobs are rehired if they are later out of work through no fault of their own and are in need. This is in accordance with a policy of the Works Progress Administration to encourage men and women to leave WPA for private industry without the fear of subsequent loss of security because of their initiative, according to Abel.

"With our June employment quota set at 34,000, in addition to 5,000 WPA workers loaned to other Federal agencies, it will be necessary for only 1,200 more to leave than return this month in order to hire others from the list of needy heads of families," said Abel. "This list of needy employables is certified by the state."

Indications so far this month point to a larger exodus to private industry, he disclosed.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION  
208 ALASKA BUILDING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Completion of arrangements for the public dedication of the world's largest 794 rotary fish screens, built by WPA on the White River power diversion canal, two miles west of Buckley, next Sunday afternoon, were announced yesterday by Mark Gary of the Sumner Sportsmen's Association, chairman of the committee in charge of the ceremonies. The program will begin at two o'clock.

Gary said cardboard guide signs would be placed today at important highway intersections to direct motorists along the nearest routes from Seattle, Tacoma, Puyallup, Auburn, Kent and other nearby cities. He urged members of all sportsmen's organizations and others interested in the conservation of salmon and steelhead to attend this dedication of the first screen installation of its kind in western Washington and the 159th similar installation in the state.

"The screens are also of general interest not only as the largest in the world but as representing the last word in contrivances for fish conservation in the state which leads the world in efforts to save this important commercial and sports asset," said Gary.

Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, will formally present the completed WPA project, representing an investment of more than \$53,800 in Federal work relief funds, and B. M. Brennan, Director of the State Department of Fisheries, will accept for the sponsor. The sponsor's expenditures exceed \$20,000.

Music will be provided by the 80 piece uniformed Sumner school band, said Gary. Don Johnson, former president of the Washington State Sports Council, will present representatives of sportsmen's organizations attending from nearby cities. John Baumbach, president of the Sumner Sportsman's Association will be master of ceremonies, and will outline local sportsmen's efforts leading to the WPA project to build the screens. Milo Bell, Chief Engineer, State Department of Fisheries, who directed construction, will explain mechanical features of the screens, and order the last screen in place as Abel presents the completed project. A loud speaker system will be provided, said Gary.

Among sportsmen's organizations to be present, according to Gary, will be the Tacoma Sportsmen's Association, Puyallup Sportsmen's Association, Buckley Rod and Gun Club; Enumclaw Sportsmen's Club, Fife Steelhead Club, Kent Isaac Walton League, Eatonville Sportsmen's Club and Sumner Junior Sportsmen's Club.



Crashing down the Spokane river rapids early this week was the first of 10,000, 000 feet of logs to be tumbled this year into the swift current as the WPA clearing crews started a huge log drive. It was the first of major operations to clear the Spokane river valley which will be inundated by the Grand Coulee dam reservoir lake.

This was also the first log drive ever attempted on the lower Spokane river, according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, and was accomplished by a WPA crew of 50 experienced river and timber men recruited from the southeastern counties where river drives on the Clearwater have made lumber history.

Abel said the logs are destined for a huge log boom across the Spokane river at its junction with the Columbia. Here the timbers will be held behind the boom until they can be rafted and made ready for a trip five miles down the Columbia to the Lincoln Lumber Company mill which has purchased the Coulee Dam reservoir cut.

More than 125,000 feet of pine logs were decked neatly along a quarter-mile of the north bank of the river about three miles upstream from the defunct Detillion bridge. The crew is housed in WPA Camp Spokane, a cluster of white tents on the opposite side. They cross over to the timber operations by the camp's swift little hand cable ferry. Each deck of logs was held back lightly by a stake or smaller log and were set to rolling into the stream with just a bit of urging by experienced rivermen with peavey and pike.

There are now 2,463 men employed by WPA on the entire project to clear the 151 mile future lake bed of the Grand Coulee dam reservoir, according to Abel. Permanent, 350 man camps are completed at Lincoln, Gerome and Keller in addition to the Spokane river tent camp. Ten camps are planned before the project is completed about 1941, he said. Clearing operations are scheduled to keep just ahead of the steadily rising lake, created as the concrete rises on the great dam construction. Ten towns will be inundated, railroads will be moved, bridges moved, and areas in Stevens, Lincoln and Ferry counties along the upper Columbia and tributaries will be covered with 28,440 acres of water making a 500 mile lake shoreline.

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June 9, 1939  
IMMEDIATE RELEASE



PR-796

The first WPA project of its kind in Washington will be opened today in Mason county with a \$9,307 allocation, according to Don G. Abel, state Works Progress Administrator, who said that gardens would be grown on county land to provide part of the foodstuffs for preparing free hot school lunches in that county.

With allocations totaling \$48,829, projects will also be set up in Pierce, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties for the preparation of free hot school lunches similar to such projects operating elsewhere in the state.

Work by WPA on gardens in Mason county will be started on a 20 acre tract on the county farm near Shelton, but Abel said the project is set up to operate on any available county land or other property for which proper permission has been or will be obtained. County authorities have pledged \$2,278 for seeds, fertilizer and other necessary supplies and equipment. The project also calls for canning the produce raised as well as any donated or surplus foodstuffs which may be used in preparing the hot free school lunches or for distribution to families certified as in need. The project will operate until November 1.

WPA has allocated \$35,479 to the Pierce County-wide hot school lunches project to go with a sponsor fund of \$9,300. Continuation of a similar project throughout Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties will take \$12,350 WPA and \$8,935 sponsor funds from the County Superintendents of schools of the two counties.

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

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