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COLORADO WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

VOL. I

Nourishing meals
—important to the
mental and phys-
ical well being—
are served thou-
sands of under-
nourished school
children by the
Works Progress
Administration of
Colorado . . . an-
other step in fill-
ing human needs.



NO. 4

NO COMPROMISE WITH UNSAFE PRACTICES

By Paul D. Shriver

State Administrator

Colorado Works Progress Administration

Accident prevention continues to hold an extremely important place in the operations of the Works Progress Administration in Colorado. This Administration is convinced that there is no justification or excuse for taking an unemployed man and then placing him in a position of hazard where even minor injury might result. In taking this position this Administration has only followed out the mandates which have been handed down to it from the President of the United States, Harry L. Hopkins, National Administrator, and the Safety Department of W. P. A.

In Executive Order No. 7046, under date of May 20, 1935, Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States says:

"No person under the age of sixteen years, and no one whose age or physical condition is such as to make his employment dangerous to his health or safety, or to the health and safety of others may be employed on any work project. This paragraph shall not be construed to operate against the employment of physically handicapped persons, otherwise employable, where such persons may be safely assigned work which they can ably perform."

"All works projects shall be conducted in accordance with safe working conditions, and every effort shall be made for the prevention of accidents."

* * *

Harry L. Hopkins, National Administrator, states as follows in the Handbook of Procedure, Chapter X, Section 12:

"The functions of the members of the safety organization shall be purely advisory except in case of an emergency, when in the absence of the project supervisor or upon the latter's refusal to follow recommendations they are required to stop the project until it is made safe."

On September 15, 1935, the State Administrator of Colorado issued the following instructions in

Safety Bulletin No. 1:

"When any supervisory person is found guilty, after a thorough investigation, of ignoring or disobeying any of the instructions as outlined in our safety bulletins for safeguarding the health and lives of WPA employees, thereby exposing the workers under their supervision to undue hazards, the person so guilty shall be immediately released of his supervisory position, regardless of whether or not an accident occurs."

This definite determination, which has been reflected practically throughout the entire structure of the work program, has resulted in the commendably low accident frequency rate which Colorado enjoys. The responsibility for accident prevention has been placed definitely upon the shoulders of the supervisory force with the help of a corps of trained field consultants so that there need be no excuse as far as technicalities are concerned. It is the established practice in case of serious accidents or fatalities where the supervisors are in any way at fault or where safety rules are knowingly disregarded to suspend immediately such supervisors until a thorough investigation is made, after which final action is taken.

It has been recognized from the beginning that accident prevention is a highly specialized, technical responsibility. Suggestions and criticism from employees has been welcomed and every effort has been made to secure for employees that full measure of safety which is so essential in this type of employment and which has been definitely ordered. As the work goes forward it is expected upon the part of both supervisors and project employees a conscientious continuation of these principles, and their violation will be dealt with in strict accordance with instructions. WPA workers must be *safe workers* and their supervisors must provide *safe working conditions*.

Established as a section of the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1935 "to provide relief, work relief and to increase employment by providing for useful projects."

The W. P. A. Worker

A monthly Pictorial Journal for Workers and Citizens of Colorado interested in the Statewide Projects of Works Progress Administration

"Only through a clear understanding by every citizen of the objective, organization, and availability of the Government agencies can they render truly effective service and assure progress toward economic security."

—FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

RICHARD BENNETTS
State
Director of Operations

PAUL D. SHRIVER
Colorado
State Administrator

ERNEST W. CORN
Assistant Administrator
In Charge of Information Service

Published by DIVISION OF INFORMATION SERVICE, 810 Fourteenth Street, Denver, Colorado

Vol. I

SEPTEMBER—1936

No. 4

..... Square Dealing, The Rule of WPA

It has been the conviction of those in authority of the Works Progress Administration from the beginning that in a program such as ours there is very little need of excuse for industrial controversy where hard feelings or mutual dislike is engendered. The WPA is fundamentally a program of helpfulness. A spirit of comradeship and an effort toward mutual understanding has prevailed throughout Colorado. We have endeavored to build up in the minds of our employees a presumption of square dealing. Even where disagreements have arisen and conferences have been necessary, almost without exception these conferences have been characterized by a spirit of friendliness and an effort upon the part of all to come to some amicable agreement.

There has been a disposition both upon the part of the administration and the employees to give the other fellow the benefit of the doubt—to say within themselves that any maladjustments were unintentional or unavoidable and that everyone was ready to make corrections within the limitations of executive orders. It must not be overlooked in this connection that the Works Progress Administration is obliged to operate un-

der a rather comprehensive set of rules and regulations over which state and local employees, administrative or otherwise, have no control.

Such regulations are, of course, necessary in the operation of any movement as large as W. P. A. A certain uniformity of procedure must be required and this necessitates a series of executive orders which are bound to run counter, in isolated instances, to the best interests or opinions of individuals. This is but characteristic of all legal enactment. It may afford the greatest good to the greatest number in spite of individual maladjustments and this must be the norm of its effectiveness.

A proper understanding of this principle and the presumption of square dealing and the atmosphere of good fellowship has kept our inconveniences from being exasperations. And, the building up and maintaining of this type of relationship upon the part of all concerned will keep us in the paths of peace and cooperation. In this way we will carry out the spirit of the undertaking which must continue to be that of helpfulness and mutual responsibility.

WPA Manufactures Brick for New Building

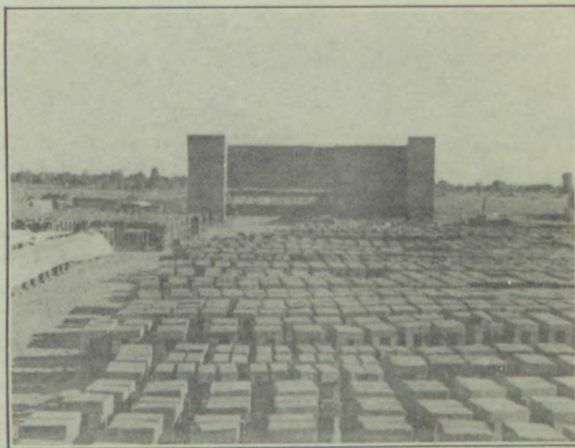
Unused for 15 years, a brick plant one mile north of Alamosa has been reconditioned by the Works Progress Administration and Alamosa county government to manufacture 750,000 bricks for two new WPA buildings.

The bricks will be used in erecting the new Alamosa court house and the Boyd school. Construction is underway on the court house but the school project has not been opened.

Most of the brick, 450,000, will be used in erecting the three wings of the Spanish style court house, which will be stuccoed.

Clay and sand excavated at the site of the brick plant is mixed for the bricks, which after pressing are placed in the open four or five days for curing. They are then placed in a kiln where they are burned for from 16 to 18 days. The kiln has a capacity of 228,000 bricks at a burning.

Project for the brick plant was set up for two months. Most of the \$9,800 cost is for labor.



Bricks for the new Alamosa court house and Boyd school are being manufactured at Alamosa by Works Progress Administration employes who have reconditioned an unused plant and will turn out 750,000 common red bricks. The court house is under construction and work will start soon on the school.

SHRINES

Historic American Buildings can now be preserved for all time. Plans of these structures are now on file in Washington. This project was created by WPA to give non-competitive work in their profession to unemployed architects.

HANDBOOK

The first complete tourist guide of America is being prepared by unemployed writers working for WPA. It is called the American Guide. In future years every traveler will have direct access to the history of the country through which he is traveling and what the points of interest are. Colorado, as a favorite state of scenic supremacy, has much to contribute through her WPA writers.

CONTAGION

One single Public Health project of the Works Progress Administration has already made possible the immunization of over 184,000 individuals against typhoid fever, 2,300 against smallpox, and 26,000 children against diphtheria.

BLIND

Ten thousand "talking book" machines for the free use of the 125,000 blind persons in the United States have been made available by the Works Progress Administration in conjunction with the American Foundation for the Blind. Books in Braille also are being produced by emergency workers.

Las Animas Clubhouse



Salvaged materials were used by Works Progress Administration employes at Las Animas in building a new clubhouse for the community's golf course. A spacious patio surrounds the entire building and the interior has been finished in a typical club fashion. A mammoth fire place is one of the interior highlights. Showers and other modern conveniences have also been installed.

WPA Household Training ————— Professional Domestic



The proof of the pudding is in the eating, so these girls take turns to test the results of their work.

No longer will the tired mother be afraid to leave the children when she leaves for a two-day holiday, nor the business woman home from the office have to come out and help the girl in the kitchen prepare dinner, nor will the bride have to remember which side of the plate the salad fork must go, because WPA training schools under the direction of Miss Mary Patton, state supervisor, have instituted a course of training for household aids in Denver and three other centers in the state.

A course that includes cooking, second floor work, laundry, child care, service, household management, marketing and food values.

Quoting a Denver housewife, "A girl trained for her job is worth her weight in gold and with the modern conveniences that many homes now have, the work though not heavy, requires a responsible person. The day of the hired girl who worked from early dawn to late at night, doing all and sundry things, is over, but so is the day of the irresponsi-

ble, unskilled person who keeps late hours, inconveniences the family with company during working time and neglects the children. It is certainly true that opportunities for well trained girls are many as local employment agencies attest."

In July twenty-three girls were placed in homes to serve, a few of these placements were part-time jobs which enabled the girls to continue with some features of the course. Seventy-three girls were placed in August, a significant increase.

Housekeeping as an art in keeping things beautiful and good cooking as a means to health and stability are only two of the aims of this WPA project.

When employers discover the professional domestic, poised in the knowledge of what service she has to sell, the right pay for the right hours will be her lot, for respect for the integrity of service, commands the equivalent of respect for the amount that service is worth.

WPA Exhibits Show Scope of Projects



Art work produced by persons enrolled in Adult Education made up one of the most interesting displays of the Works Progress Administration exhibit which was shown at Colorado fairs last month by the Division of Information Service. The above photo shows paintings, drawings, wood work, and fine sewing of Adult Education classes which were shown at the Colorado State Fair in Pueblo.

Built around the theme of achievement, a cross-section of the Works Progress Administration activities in Colorado was presented in an exhibit which was displayed at major Southern Colorado fairs during August and September by the Division of Information Service.

Displays in the exhibit ranged from construction projects, the benefits of which are immediately realized, to educational work, the value of which is more or less intangible as yet.

The exhibit was shown at the Colorado State Fair in Pueblo, the Kit Carson Round-Up at Trinidad and the Arkansas Valley Fair at Rocky Ford. Window displays were also arranged at the Alarado Fiesta at Alamosa and the Ski-Hi Stampede at Monte Vista. It is estimated that at least 5,300 persons visited the display at the three fairs and additional hundreds viewed the window exhibits.

Pictures of construction projects in the six WPA districts in Colorado received marked interest from the visitors. A state panel of photographs included projects most generally common

to each district, expressing the most useful projects of benefits to a great many persons. The panel included photographs of schools, public buildings, parks, water systems, roads, sewage systems, bridges and flood control. District panels were modeled along the same lines.

A revolving display of women's department work was arranged showing sewing, weaving, rug making and canning project products. The display was changed each day to present a complete state-wide exhibit of women's work.

Professional projects were represented by art displays, showing WPA's contribution in fine arts to schools and museums; exhibits of tour and historical maps and photographs to be included in the American Guide, being prepared by the federal Writer's Projects; and a concert by the federal music project of Pueblo, which was presented on Colorado Day at the State Fair.

The adult education display of art products attracted widespread interest and it was indicated by the number of inquiries that the enrollment in these classes will be greatly increased.

Fair Displays Depict Permanency of Work



Accomplishments of the Works Progress Administration were depicted in displays shown at major Colorado fairs last month by the Division of Information Service. Top photo shows seven panels of photographs, portraying WPA construction projects in all parts of the state. The lower photo is of the display of products of women's projects, with one of the WPA rug weavers in the foreground. These views were taken at the Colorado State Fair in Pueblo.



MAN-YEAR COST

By R. S. Welsh

Senior Engineer, Division of Operations
Colorado Works Progress Administration

Man-Year Cost: The basic criterion of all WPA projects! This much used phrase is most easily defined as the amount of money required to provide one man with continuous employment for one year under the Works Progress Administration's program.

Arithmetically, the figure is arrived at, for any one project, by dividing the total Federal cost by the number of man-years of employment furnished on the project, and paid for with Federal funds. This figure varies on different projects; the variation being caused by differences in labor rates and the amount of money spent on the project for non-labor cost; i. e., materials, equipment, etc.

Due to variable rates of pay in different counties throughout the State, we have established variable man-year costs corresponding with these rates of pay. This man-year cost as established allows an equal amount of money to be spent for materials on projects in different counties throughout the State.

It will be observed that the amount of the Federal grant of man-year of employment is not sufficient in itself to enable us to operate relatively expensive types of projects. Inasmuch as it is to the interest of both the local community, and the nation as a whole, that WPA projects be of as high caliber as is possible, it is urged that every effort be made to increase the amount of Sponsor's funds applied to the WPA program. In other words, Sponsor's funds should equal the differential between total operating costs of man-year of employment, and available Federal funds. Localities wishing to sponsor relatively costly projects should be encouraged to do so; at the same time, they must be called upon to finance the differential in cost.

To use this theoretical example: If a Sponsor wishes to propose a WPA project to construct a building—the aggregate cost of which is \$20,000.00 and which will provide 160 man-months of employment in a County which is to operate under a man-year cost of \$750.00, and whose average labor cost is \$55.00 per month—it will behoove

the Sponsor to provide approximately \$10,000.00 in order to operate this project under the WPA limitations.

This is brought about by the fact that such a project would provide approximately $13\frac{1}{3}$ man-years of employment, which at \$750.00 per man-year would be \$10,000.00, and which would also be the maximum amount that the Federal Government would pay to employ these men for that length of time. At such a rate, it would mean that the Federal Government would be spending \$660.00 per man-year for labor and \$90.00 per man-year for materials, and that the Sponsor would be required to furnish the differential between the total cost of the job (\$20,000) and the \$10,000 which the Federal Government would be able to provide.

From the above figures, it can be seen that any increase in the amount of money spent by the Federal Government for project costs other than labor, tend to increase the man-year cost of the project, and that this cost on any specific project is also increased if the estimated man-years of labor are not consumed during the course of construction of the project; while at the same time, a fixed amount of Federal funds is expended for other than labor costs.

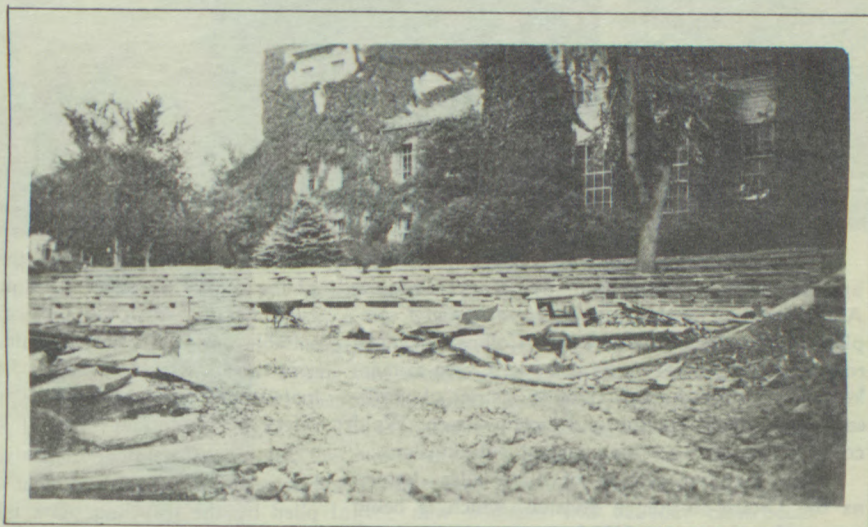
For this reason, all WPA District Directors are attempting to maintain the ratio as estimated on the original project proposals between the amount of our Federal funds expended for labor, and the amount of such funds expended for materials, in order that the aforementioned man-year cost may be maintained as it was originally estimated on the project proposal.

RECORDS

Through the clerical projects of the Works Progress Administration clerical assistance is given to state, county and city governmental offices in the compilation and preservation of valuable records. At the same time, the workers are receiving valuable training which will open up to many of them new avenues of private employment.

Boulder's New Greek Theatre Enhances Already Attractive Campus

General
View
in
Perspective



Close-up
of the
Seat Tiers

Adding to the already beautiful campus, a unique outdoor theatre for the University of Colorado at Boulder is being built by Works Progress Administration workmen who are quarrying red sand stone and using it in building the seats, stage and orchestra pit.

The lay-out is modeled after the Greek amphitheatre of ancient times. The seats are laid in a

bowl shape and will accommodate 1,200 persons.

Setting in the center of the university campus, the theatre adds a distinctive touch to the surroundings. The stone is the same used in all the newer buildings at the institution.

Work was started this summer and is about 30 per cent complete. The work is being done by the WPA at the request of the State of Colorado.

A Boon to Colorado-Wyoming Travelers

This view of the Fort Collins-Cheyenne Highway since oiling shows the high character of WPA road work.



A second arterial highway between Colorado and Wyoming is being built by Works Progress Administration employees, who have already completed 19.9 miles of the new Fort Collins-Cheyenne route, which also serves as a modern farm-to-market highway for the rich farming district of northeastern Larimer county and northwestern Weld county, two of the state's largest sub-divisions.

When the last section of 10.9 miles, known as the Crouse-to-Bulger division, which is being prepared under a new WPA project, is completed, a hard surfaced optional route will be afforded motorists now traveling between Cheyenne and Denver, via Greeley.

The new highway also offers a more direct route to Colorado mountains for tourists who enter the Rocky Mountain section on U. S. highway No. 30 in Southern Wyoming. The Wyoming section of the Cheyenne-Fort Collins route, designated as U. S. highway 87, has already been relocated and hard surfaced with oil.

Before the WPA improvement program, the road followed natural grades over most of its course and presented numerous wet weather hazards, and during winter snows frequently became impassable although protected by double and even triple snow guards for many miles. A narrow railroad underpass, with curving approaches, presented another danger.

Commissioners of Larimer and Weld counties, in preparation for the modernization of this highway, prepared a relocation survey, secured the necessary rights-of-way and took all necessary preliminary steps.

The relocation of Colorado's portion of the highway was so planned as to eliminate railroad grade crossings except within the municipalities of Fort Collins and Wellington. Two dangerous crossings were eliminated.

On the older portion of the Colorado section of the road, there were 10 right-angled turns, and even where radial turns were found, they were suitable for only slower traffic. Under the reconstruction every right-angled turn has been eliminated and all curves so designed as to assure safety at any normal driving speed.

All of the roadway under the original project has received its oil seal coat and mat coat, applied by the traveling plant mix method. Oiling work was done under contract, but under close supervision of an experienced WPA foreman.

Numerous corrugated metal culverts of heavy gauge material, and eight bridges were needed on this project. The largest bridge was of 10 spans, each 23 feet long, crossing Sand Creek, a dry wash, and one of the most annoying flood hazards in this section.

Construction of all bridges was according to Colorado highway department specifications, of creosoted timbers, laminated floors, roadway 25 feet clear width and guarded by side walls and approaches. Where fences had to be relocated or new fences installed, either creosoted or cedar posts were used, with a three-strand, two-point barb wire.

Because of the magnitude of the project, material figures are of interest. The WPA furnished 3,714 lineal feet of corrugated metal pipe, 17,831 board feet of untreated lumber, 10,386 lineal feet of piling, and 141,035 board feet of treated lumber and timbering.

More than a half million cubic yards of dirt were moved, 47,975 cubic yards of gravel were excavated, hauled and spread and 256,777 square yards of two-inch thick oil mat were placed. WPA-furnished materials also included 502 barrels of cement and 248,015 gallons of road oil.

Southern Counties Get Fine New Public Buildings



Bonded to the limit, the Del Norte consolidated school district in Rio Grande county has called upon the Works Progress Administration to construct a two-story six room addition which will alleviate a serious overcrowded condition in the combination grade and high school.

The enrollment of the school is 1,100, and to take the words of Superintendent Elmer Underwood, "the facilities are absolutely inadequate."

In the new addition will be four classrooms, lavatories and a storage room. One of the rooms is a combination workshop and study room.

A stone foundation and a stone wall four feet high will support an adobe wall, which will be stuccoed. WPA workmen are quarrying the stone three miles north of Del Norte.

"The work of WPA has been splendid in every respect," Superintendent Underwood states.

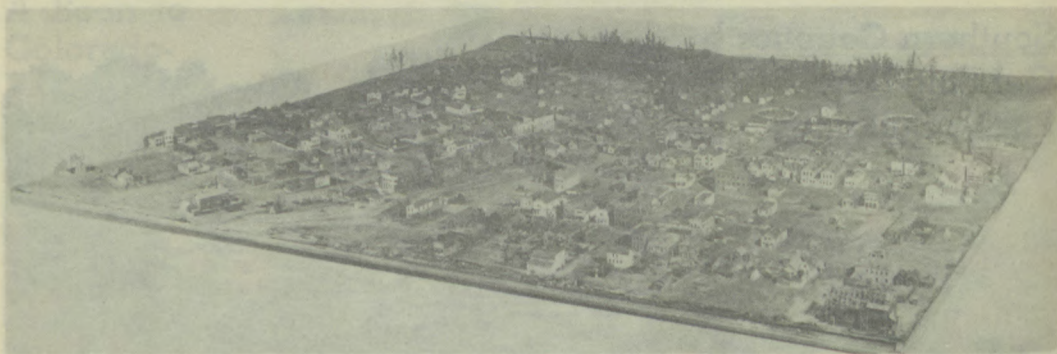
The top photograph gives a view of the 4-foot stone foundation and wall of the Del Norte school addition; at left two workers are busy on the chimney erection. Bottom picture shows foundation work in progress (in foreground) for the new Alamosa courthouse.

Early Spanish architecture marks the style for the new Alamosa county courthouse being built by WPA. County commissioners supply \$32,000 in materials, equipment and supervision; Works Progress \$47,000 in labor and materials. The courthouse will be in three units, each of brick, stuccoed. Red tile roofing will enhance the Spanish note.

WPA is manufacturing some 450,000 brick for the job, putting into use an idle plant in Alamosa for the purpose.



Denver in Miniature—1860



Would you like to mentally take a walk down a dusty roadway, in your homespun suit and stove-pipe hat, and live in another day and another time—a time when Denver boasted four thousand folk in population, and tourists arrived after laborious trips through Indian country in stage coaches and covered wagons, not only to see the glorious country but to wrest a living and build a future on the promise that the country held out to them.

If you would, come to the Colorado State Museum and see the marvels that Works Progress Administration artists have constructed from a little clay, paint and wood. For not only have they built a map of Denver in 1860 finished to scale with key maps letting you know just where you are, but they have reconstructed another era, an era in which you may possibly find your own grandparents—young, glowing with the task of pioneering a new state.

Pass Brown's Bank, the first bank in Denver, where adventurer, miner and politician are transacting business that later brings stability and fortune to the frontier town.

See the famous Ford barber shop where the dandies bathe, shave and are shorn preparatory to an evening at the Apollo Theatre, where traveling companies bring in entertainment on the way west to the gold camps of California and where the first convention of the provisional government of Jefferson county was held.

Peek in at the shop windows of Clayton Lowe and Company, general store, where everything from hardware to the latest lady's tippet from the states makes first appearance.

The principles of painting, architecture and sculpture have all co-ordinated to make the project possible. True to detail, six months' research was completed before a master file of information was

available for the artists to begin work. According to museum officials, "The model of Denver and Auraria has no equal among other models of the type for fine detail and is unique at this time in the entire work."

In several other glass cases, artists under the Works Progress Administration have completed the story of transportation in Denver, modeling the early Kiowa Indian travois, the first travel aid, the Red River cart of the fur trapper, the Mexican caretta with two solid wheels that brought the Mexican trader up from the south with his Taos "lightning" and Spanish goods for sale, the covered wagon, stage coach and the old Montezuma—the first mountain engine on the Rio Grande railway. Then the last three models of the modern day—the streamline train, a passenger plane with the Municipal airport for background, and a bus complete the outline of transportation history.

Oil portraits of Colorado fur traders, made from early photographs by Waldo Love, flank the two walls of the center room of the museum and command unusual attention in that they are artistically true as well as being splendid reproductions.

A recent story by Lee Casey, columnist for the Rocky Mountain News, indicates a little of the enthusiasm and appreciation for the work completed under Works Progress Administration at the Colorado State Museum.

Quoting Mr. Casey the story relates: "The largest and best assembly of artists ever together in the West have been working now nearly a year in the Museum, and what they have done is a wonder. There is nothing on exhibition in New York City or the celebrated Washington historical collections to exceed the results of the deft fingers and keen artistic taste of these Western artists. . . ."



A cross country trip might be a little slow in a travois but these Kiowa Indian babies liked it!



Taos Light'ing" and goods from the south made these caravans welcome to early Colorado settlements



Kentucky matched teams and the best traveling service to the territories of the United States was the boast of these early Wells-Fargo line of coaches.



Be modern, travel in the latest mode of transportation, is the message of the 1936 trains and busses coming in and out of Denver. Streamlined, air-cooled and clean, they cut all previous speed records.

Aguilar Appreciates a Handsome New WPA-Built City Hall



Needed for many years, a new city hall building, pictured above, which is a distinct asset to the community has been built at Aguilar, in northern Las Animas county, by Works Progress Administration employees.

A combination jail and fire station, which was an eyesore to the town, was demolished and the materials salvaged for use in building the new structure, which is of stone and brick. The sal-

vaged brick was stuccoed and the exterior of the building trimmed with dressed stone, quarried at Aguilar by WPA men.

In the basement of the one-story city hall is a modern jail, while the rest of the structure is divided into offices, an auditorium and fire station.

Aguilar citizens contributed \$3,160 of the total cost of \$10,355 for the project, considered one of the finest in the county.

Half-Mile Long Canal Now Protects Blanca From Floods

Nestling at the foot of Mt. Blanca, one of Colorado's highest peaks, with an elevation of 14,363 feet, the town of Blanca in Costilla county in the past has been subject to damaging floods that resulted from cloudburst run-off waters from the peak.

This condition has been eliminated with the construction by the Works Progress Administration of a 2,700-foot canal, which is 30 feet wide and flanked by an eight-foot high dike. The canal skirts the east edge of the town, carrying away the flood waters. A half-mile long drain ditch has also been excavated in the town to carry off excess rain waters.

A recent flood washed out a state highway bridge on U. S. 160, as well as a county bridge near the town and a Denver & Rio Grande Western railroad bridge.

WPA workmen replaced the county bridge with a treated timber structure 57 feet long and 20 feet wide.

Excavation of the canal was done all with teams and hand labor.

MUSIC

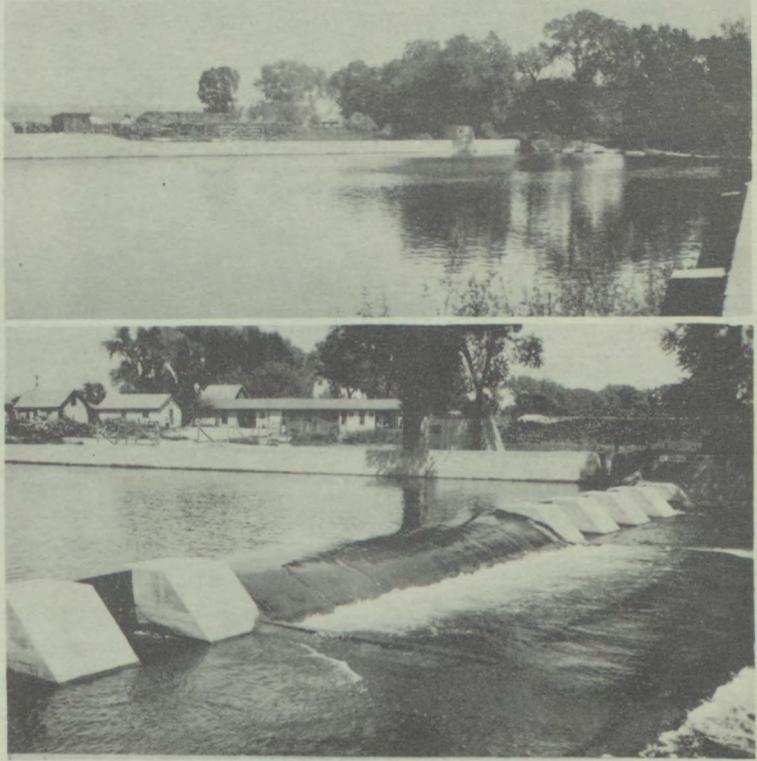
More than 1,500 teachers of music, whose means of livelihood vanished in the depression, are teaching, directing, coaching and leading community music units throughout the country. This work is organized by the Federal Music Project of the Works Progress Administration. An additional 15,000 professional musicians, caught in the maelstrom of the depression, are being enabled to preserve their skill while entertaining and educating the public by playing in these units.

Fort Collins Municipal Power Dam Has Dual Purpose

Serving a dual purpose of protecting the Fort Collins municipal light plant from floods and assuring an adequate supply of water for the power house, a 400-foot concrete retaining wall and dam has been built on the Cache la Poudre river on the north outskirts of Fort Collins.

Works Progress Administration employes carried out the work at the request of city officials, who realized the importance of the project.

The retaining wall, 12 feet high, guards the banks around the plant while the dam retards the flow of water so that there is always a sufficient supply for cooling the condensers and other equipment at the plant.



Brevities Concerning Nation-Wide Works Progress Programs

PARKS

Emergency funds, spent under the expert supervision of the National Park Service, have given people with low incomes something they have never had before—nearly a half million acres of parks to promote the health and happiness of millions of American mothers, fathers and children, most of whom now live crowded together in industrial centers. The norma lprogram has been advanced 25 years by workers from relief.

DOLE

WPA is making more than 105,000 public improvements throughout the nation, while the dole would accomplish nothing. WPA dollars do double duty. In addition to maintaining workers and their families, they also leave sound values in public improvements.

ART

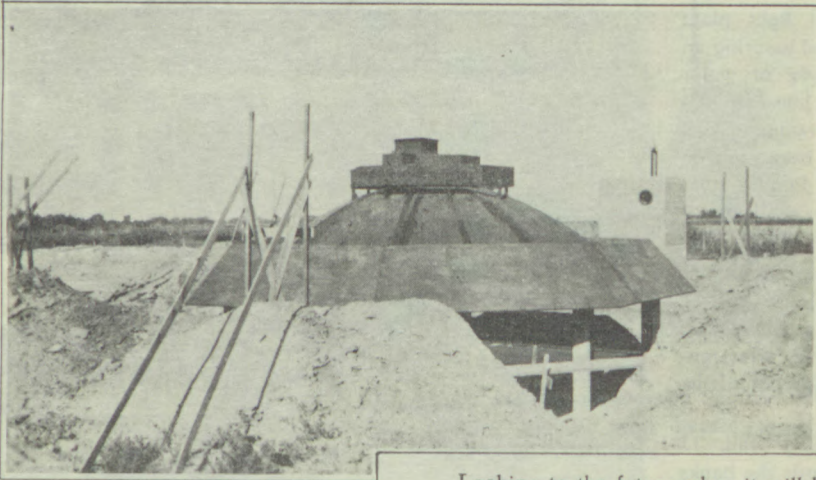
The Metropolitan Museum of Art of New York City, the Guggenheim Foundation and other notable authorities have bought pictures and given scholarships to the fine artistic talent discovered by the WPA Art Projects. One young artist recently won the Prix de Rome, another the Architectural Institute's award. Five thousand artists, mostly from relief rolls, are being given the chance to produce native American art.

PARENTS

Eighty-three thousand parents are enrolled and 1,100 teachers in the various states of the union are given employment in the Parent Education projects of the Works Progress Administration. Parents are taught among other subjects, home management, child hygiene and child care.

Brush Modernizes With Sewage Disposal Plant

The top picture is a close up view of the Imhoff detention tank. The lower photograph shows the drying beds into which the sludge is run.



Looking to the future when it will be mandatory that all cities in Colorado purify their sewage before disposal, the town of Brush is sponsoring a Works Progress Administration project for the construction of a modern disposal plant, two miles north of the city, which will give 60 per cent purification.

The project, now in progress, requires the construction of a sludge detention tank, a concrete control box, and concrete drying beds.

Sewage from the town is carried in a 15-inch line, which has been repaired by WPA workmen.

Sludge storage capacity of one and a half cubic feet per capita is required under state regulations. The new Brush tank has four cubic feet storage per capita. The plant is designed to handle the needs of a town of 3,200. Brush, which is located in the Platte river valley, 10 miles east of Fort Morgan, has a population of 2,400.

The average flow at Brush requires a detention period of three hours for settlement. After the sludge has been stored in the tank and all water drained off, the tank is flushed with the sludge going to the drying beds. The drying bed area of the plant is one and a half cubic feet per capita of Brush, which is about twice state requirements. After the sludge dries, it is used for fertilizer.

LEWIS C. JESSEPH
FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
CHICAGO

August 12, 1936.



Mr. Paul D. Shriver,
Administrator W.P.A. Colorado,
810 Fourteenth Street,
Denver, Colorado.

Dear Mr. Shriver:

Recently, in the company of my son, Joseph D. Jesseph, it was my privilege to visit the following W.P.A. Projects in southern Colorado:

1. Alamosa County Road, W.P.A. Proj. No. 600.
2. Antonito Teacher's Dormitory, W.P.A. Proj. No. 140
3. Antonito Pipe Line, W.P.A. Proj. No. 1132.
4. Platoro Road, W.P.A. Proj. No. 1558.
5. Crestone Road, W.P.A. Proj. No. 1137.
6. Saguache Sidewalks, W.P.A. Proj. No. 1583.

The projects mentioned which have been completed are well constructed and beneficial, and those which are still under construction will be beneficial when completed and are being pushed to completion as rapidly as circumstances will permit.

The office at Alamosa is well organized and a fine spirit of loyalty and co-operation is manifested by all of the employees which is at least half the battle.

On two separate occasions I had luncheon at the camp on the Platoro Road Project and found the food abundant, wholesome, clean and well cooked. In fact, it was much better in every respect than food I have eaten in the logging and mining camps of the Northwest.

In conclusion, I wish to commend these projects and also all of those persons who are responsible for their initiation and completion.

Cordially yours,

L. C. Jesseph

WPA Recreation Leader Enlivens "Story Hour"



Childhood stories known to most adults since their days of infancy were retold in fascinating fashion to this group of Burlington children who attended a story hour class conducted during the summer months by Luda Vilott, Works Progress Administration recreation leader.



Babes in arms and "ornery" little boys of 12 years are included in this group of children who attended a story hour class conducted during the summer months at Burlington by Lyda Vilott, Works Progress Administration recreation leader.

Vacation months were a happy period during the past summer for 55 kiddies of Burlington who spent part of their leisure time attending a story hour class conducted by Lyda Vilott, a Works Progress Administration recreation leader at that small Eastern Colorado farming community.

The children in attendance at the class ranged from one to 12 years of age, and every one showed an interest that was gratifying to the WPA officials.

Regular story hour classes were held in the city park at Burlington.

New Means Through WPA for

Combating Tuberculosis in Colorado

The recently completed WPA building of the Colorado Foundation of Research in Tuberculosis, a project sponsored by the City of Colorado Springs, and the completion of a sanitarium at Lamar for tubercular patients, calls attention again to the White Plague, that through the early centuries and middle ages made such inroads into the populations of the old world. Fighting the plague, science in the last hundred years has brought a great decrease in the disease, but, sleeping, it may awaken to continue along its path of destruction as mighty a force or mightier than before, unless the modern weapons of science are given the opportunity to prove their skill.

According to the Colorado Tuberculosis Association now initiating a bill in the legislature for the state's care of native Colorado tubercular patients, "Colorado statistics reveal there is one active and one inactive case of tuberculosis out of every ninety-nine persons in the

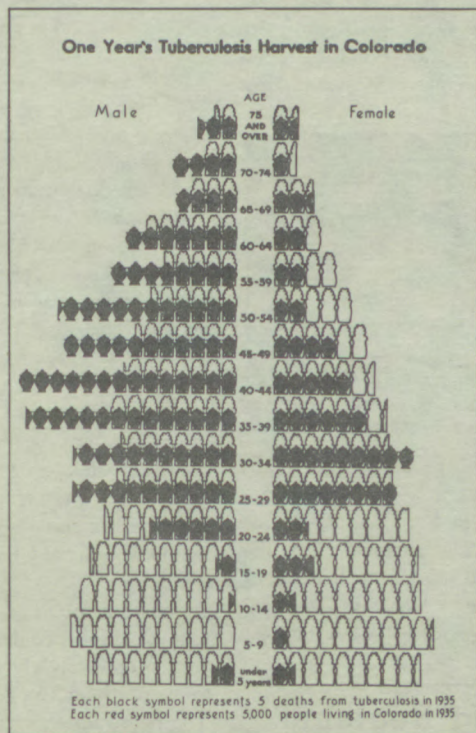
state; that 2,603 far advanced cases are in homes and boarding houses; and that the known cases in the state number 4,000, including 400 school children; and that 1,165 patients are located in communities where there are no sanitarium facilities."

During operation of the Federal Emergency Act research under government supervision revealed the extremely high rate of tuberculosis among relief clients. This condition can no doubt be accredited to the lack of proper diet and medical care, and inadequate housing, but most significant of all, spread of the disease is mainly accounted for through lack of isolation facilities.

No one contracts tuberculosis from a well person. The sick person carries the disease. In the past five years the native death rate has gone up 7%. This is considered alarming, and it is predicted that unless facilities are provided for people more readily to recover, the disease cannot be limited.

According to the statement of a well known scientist, "Science can do nothing but make people aware of the opportunities for better living, healthy living. It requires initiative and the complete acceptance of scientific mandates to get the results desired."

Under Works Progress Administration, sanitariums and hospitals have been built all over America to care for the sick and the needy. Colorado is no exception. The new WPA sanitarium at Lamar in Prowers county and the new research laboratory in Colorado Springs, testify to the earnest desire of the Works Progress Administration to cooperate



with the medical profession and its clients in ridding the country of a scourge that at the present time removes 71,609 lives by death every year in the United States.

Note to WPA Employees

The Editors of the WPA WORKER invite suggestions for making this little magazine more interesting. If you have FACTS regarding outstanding and unusual performances in Colorado project work send them to Division of Information Service, Works Progress Administration, 810 14th St., Denver, Colo.

WPA Takes Active Part in Colorful Pageant of San Juan Basin

Tourists and citizens attending the Spanish Trails Fiesta in Durango, Colorado, August 29 and 30 had the opportunity of seeing real WPA participation in community activity.

The grandstands, constructed by WPA labor, of native rock quarried from the near-by mesas will, when completed, handle five thousand people. At the time of the Fiesta one and a half sections were finished and twelve hundred people were able to view the program from the grandstand. An additional six and a half sections will be completed during the winter to replace the stands lost by fire last year.



Spanish Trails Fiesta, gala days of Southern Colorado, sees this WPA float in its annual parade.

Contributing to the spirit of the occasion a WPA float, built by WPA workers and office force, depicting the project activity in San Juan Basin, of red, white, and blue, carrying a shield with the names of the principal projects with lines converging in a single caption: "Worthy Projects" gave ready evidence of permanent WPA interest in this community festival.

WPA Area and Regional Organization

It may be of interest to our readers to know the type of organization which prevails in Works Progress Administration. The functional procedure is de-centralized into regions and areas. The state of Colorado falls in region five made up of the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, Alaska and Hawaii. Each region is presided over by an Assistant Administrator as a direct representative of Harry L. Hopkins. Region five, the headquarters at 303 Kearns Building, Salt Lake City, Utah, is

headed by Robert H. Hinckley. Area two of region five, comprising states of Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming, has its headquarters at 518 Insurance Exchange Building at 810-14th Street, Denver, Colorado. The personnel of our particular area is comprised of the following: Ralph J. O'Rourke, Assistant Field Representative; G. M. MacMillan, Regional Engineer; I. S. Roberts, Regional Examiner; Mrs. Alice S. Clements, Field Supervisor, Division of Employment; Mrs. Dorothy Wheelwright, Womens' and Professional Projects; Lincoln C. Tisdale, Regional Research Supervisor.

Better Living Promised By WPA

New vision for old, new wicks for the lamps of yesterday, that is what the work means in the literacy and citizenship classes of the adult education program of Works Progress Administration under the Colorado state department of education.

Few there are today who remember their first experience in catching a thought from the printed page, holding it for a second, rejecting or accepting it, as the case may be and passing it on either by letter or speech. That first experience marks a day in everyone's life, but to twenty-three thousand people in the state of Colorado that experience, because of lack of opportunity and environment, has been denied, until now when the doors of adult education have been flung wide to those folk who as the census taker declares are illiterate because they are over ten years old (for the most part adults), and can neither read nor write.

Fourteen thousand and seven hundred and fifty-four of these people are in the rural areas, 7,331 are foreign-born white people who came to Colorado to work in industry, and 5,807 are native white. The negro illiteracy report shows only 403 persons under this classification. To these persons is offered the new light.

What it can mean is evidenced in a report sent to the state office by Carl Kellstrom, teacher of literacy and citizenship in Leyden, Colorado, of one of the students, Pete Kinder, miner since 1916 in the Leyden mines. Born in Lithuania, Kinder states that though the country is supposed to be a free country, the president is elected for life and is virtually a fascist dictator.

Since coming to the class, Kinder has been reading a book of Russian history, something he would not have been allowed to do in the old country, being a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment.

Activities of the WPA in Review

Music enthusiasts will have a fine winter in Denver according to recent reports regarding the plans for the coming musical program of the Federal Music Project. Dr. Horace E. Tureman, long associated with Denver musical activities,



conductor of the Denver Civic Symphony and State Director of the Federal Music Project, announced six concerts to be given during the winter, including three concerts with the symphonic band conducted by Fred Schmitt and three presentations of the concert orchestra under the direction of Waldo Williamson.

The month of January is to be entirely devoted to an American Composers Forum and all American composers are invited to turn in any material for try out.

The delight that residents of Denver will feel in their musical opportunities will be occasioned also by residents of Pueblo and Colorado Springs where the Federal Music Projects will offer similar programs on a somewhat smaller scale.



Colorado history, and geography are to be catalogued and kept for posterity, as well as to be made available for tourists, by the Writers Project of Works Progress Administration. Sixty-two writers have been employed on the project, doing research, as well as compiling material for Colorado's part of the American Guide, the national guide book sponsored by the federal government.

Through the See America First movement it is to be expected that the new impetus produced by the writers project will more than repay its cost of operation by the travel diverted into American channels which previously had gone to Europe, in search of romance, and the glamour of history.

New facts and new data have been found by these Colorado writers which uncover a wealth of interesting material for the amateur photographer, tourist or student; and maps spotting this material have also been produced on the project, which no doubt later will be released to civic centers for appreciation and use.

A series of art projects over the State of Colorado with artists producing material that will serve as permanent memorials to Works Progress Administration characterizes the Federal Art Project.

Among the many pieces of work created to provide visual education mediums for schools and museums have been a group of replicas of architectural motifs used throughout the ages typical of the thought and the civilization that made them possible at Chappel House, branch of the Denver Art Museum. The miniature models,



fashioned to scale are to be kept for the time being in the Art Museum until the dream of the Children's Museum has been realized.

Romance, history and geography are imprisoned in these compositions of clay and wood and visitors are able to catch a glimpse of the world vision that fashioned a pyramid and a Mayan Temple before the birth of Christ, and since has produced The Cathedral of Chartres and the Church at Laguna, New Mexico. Other examples in this story of building are the glamorous old French Chateau de Coucy, demolished during the World War, a Pompeian country house, and typical of the first New England house, the original Capin home. When completed there will be twelve models, perfect in miniature, color and design.

The old Baker theatre is shaking off the dust of its colorful past to become the new mecca of legitimate theatre goers. Cleaned and redecorated, the theatre will have a gala night for certain when simultaneously with fifteen of the other large cities of America, Denver will premier the Sinclair Lewis play "It Can't Happen Here" on the old Baker theatre stage.



The play, revealing the impact of certain economic forces in America, is expected to use the native background of the particular locale in which it is being presented as a setting to emphasize the significance that the same forces are at work in all parts of the country.

The second presentation on the theatre project is to be the new play "M III" purchased by the Federal Theatre from a Denver playwright, Mary C. Chase.



Dynamite was used in blasting loose hardened adobe which blocked the new flood control channel of the Fountain river at Pueblo. After the adobe was pulverized the river current carried away the dirt, saving excavation costs.

..... "Ol' Man River" To Be Harnessed

Three tons of dynamite fired in two separate blasts were utilized recently by Works Progress Administration engineers at Pueblo in the excavation of a new flood channel for the Fountain river, which during recent years has caused hundreds of thousands of dollars damage to property along its banks.

A charge of 2,000 pounds of dynamite was set off August 31 on the northeastern corner of the new channel opening. The second blast of two tons was fired September 3 on the northwestern corner of the channel mouth.

Dragline operations in moving the dirt at the channel opening had been unsuccessful because of the hard character of the ground, which is hardened adobe. It was necessary that the dirt be broken and pulverized with the dynamite.

Approximately 3,000 cubic yards of dirt were pulverized by the first blast and 5,000 cubic yards by the second detonation.

On the first charge the dynamite was packed in holes 16 feet deep over an area of 5,000 square feet. Forty of these holes were packed with 50 pounds of dynamite each. The powder holes on the second blast averaged 18 feet in depth and were scattered over an area of 10,000 square feet. Excavation of the holes was done by hand churning, machine drills being unsatisfactory in cutting into the hardened adobe.

Fifty per cent ditching dynamite was used in both blasts, which were supervised by William Ranger, Colorado Springs powder expert.

Pueblo District WPA Director Terry J. Owens and District Engineer Earl S. Stone both stated that the dynamiting was "more than satisfactory."

Immediately after the last blast a few hundred cubic yards of dirt were moved from the channel opening to provide a clear path for the river which will carry off most of the 8,000 cubic yards of loosened dirt. This will greatly reduce excavation costs.

Cutting of the new channel, which will harness the Fountain's waters and eliminate any future flood danger, involves the moving of 400,000 cubic yards of dirt. Major part of the work is along a strip of land 4,000 feet in length, where the channel is being excavated to a depth of 18 feet. At this point the channel is being cut 250 feet wide at the bottom and 300 feet wide at the top.

Works Progress Administration started the project at the request of the Pueblo Chamber of Commerce, the city and county governments, leading business firms and officials of the Colorado State hospital for the Insane.

Victor E. Troutfetter



Victor E. Troutfetter is one of the youngest administrative heads of Works Progress Administration in Colorado. Director of finance, Troutfetter, previous to his connection with WPA, was a Certified Public Accountant. Educated in Colorado he received his higher education at Denver University and all of his business life has been spent in Denver.

William B. Walters



Competently experienced William B. Walters serves as office manager for the Colorado Works Progress Administration, which position he has held since the organization was started. Before entering federal service, he was engaged in private investment work and railroading. He attended the Denver University school of commerce and has been a resident of Denver all his life.

Stephen E. Keating



Active in engineering circles since 1912, Stephen E. Keating directs the Works Progress Administration in district six, with headquarters at Alamosa. He was born in Topeka, Kans., but received his education in Denver public schools, the Colorado School of Mines at Golden and the University of California. He served overseas with the American army during the World war. He was formerly FERA administrator for Las Animas county.

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W.P.A. continues to convert Relief Rolls into Pay Rolls.

