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View from WPA-Built Trail in Box Canyon Above Ouray

WPA WORKER

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

OF COLORADO

JUNE

1937

TEAM MATES OF EMPLOYE CONSIDERATION

* * * * *

Accident Prevention—First Aid—Compensation

It was the express wish of the President, when the Works Progress Administration was launched, that all of the operations should be carried on with every possible consideration for the safety of the employees. This same attitude was voiced in Executive Orders from the White House, emphasized by the Director of Operations, and has been given every encouragement by the State Administrator.

It was the opinion of those in authority that unemployment is a catastrophe of sufficient seriousness that it should not be added to by accident hazards on any Federally-supported work program. Safety instructions were broadcast with technical details covering practically every job situation and the supervisory force was ordered to maintain safe conditions. Further assistance has been given by an adequate staff of field safety men who cover, periodically, the projects which are in operation. The net result of all of this has been that when compared with similar private industries, the safety record of the WPA is far below the average in Colorado. With an average employment, since the beginning, of between twenty-five and thirty thousand employees in practically every form of industrial pursuit and aggregating a total of over sixty million man-hours, only eight employees have died from injuries suffered on our jobs and a proportionately small number have been the victims of serious or minor accidents. Not a single fatal accident has occurred on the WPA jobs in Colorado since January of this year, which bears out the fact that we have taken seriously those Executive Orders relative to safety and the advice and encouragement of those who are determining the policy of this program.

Realizing, on the other hand, that in spite of all of our efforts some injuries would occur, first aid was made an integral part of this program of employee consideration. Foremen were instructed in first aid. Employees trained in proper first aid procedure can be found on practically every job of any importance so that when accidents do occur we have an excellent opportunity to minimize the seriousness of the injury by expert first aid treatment and in some instances to actually save lives by immediate action in first aid. This has at no time been a usurpation of the field of medical serv-

ice but is intended to be the first immediate treatment preparatory to getting the victim into the hands of the medical profession. First aid has not only saved lives in some instances and more frequently minimized the seriousness of accidents, but has no doubt paid for itself many times over in the reduction of compensation cost which otherwise would have been charged to the Federal Government.

The third of these considerations is that of compensation. All of the employees of the Works Progress Administration are insured under the United States Employees Compensation Bureau and in case of incapacity traceable to injuries incurred while working on our projects are eligible for Federal compensation. The objective of this department of the work has been promptness and fair consideration. Every job has its compensation representative, supplied with proper forms, and the State of Colorado stands extremely high in the list of states for the promptness with which claims are paid, the low number of pending applications and the reasonableness and fairness with which these cases have been dealt. The injury itself is looked upon as a catastrophe of sufficient seriousness not to be added to by unnecessary delays nor inconveniences before compensation payments begin, which, in themselves, frequently work hardships since they, of necessity, cannot be equal to the regular wage of the employee.

In spite of the sincere efforts upon the part of the administrative and supervisory employees none of these fine objectives could have been realized had it not been for the cooperation of the employees themselves. They have taken these matters seriously. With but a few notable exceptions, every one has teamed together to maintain safety on the jobs. First aid classes have been filled with line employees as well as members of the supervisory force, anxious to acquire this knowledge not only for their own personal satisfaction but for the use to which they may be obliged to put it in case of injuries to others. Another element that has contributed to this high standing of the State of Colorado is the extremely low percentage of false claims. Every reduction in the number of false or phoney claims gives that much more time to

(Continued on Page 6)

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 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.

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

..... Expenditure or Investment

By ERNEST W. CORN

The repeated use of an expression establishes public opinion. We probably use the word expenditure too much in connection with WPA. This expresses only a half truth, other phases of which deserve consideration. The whole truth lies in the thought that these expenditures have in fact been investments in permanent achievement.

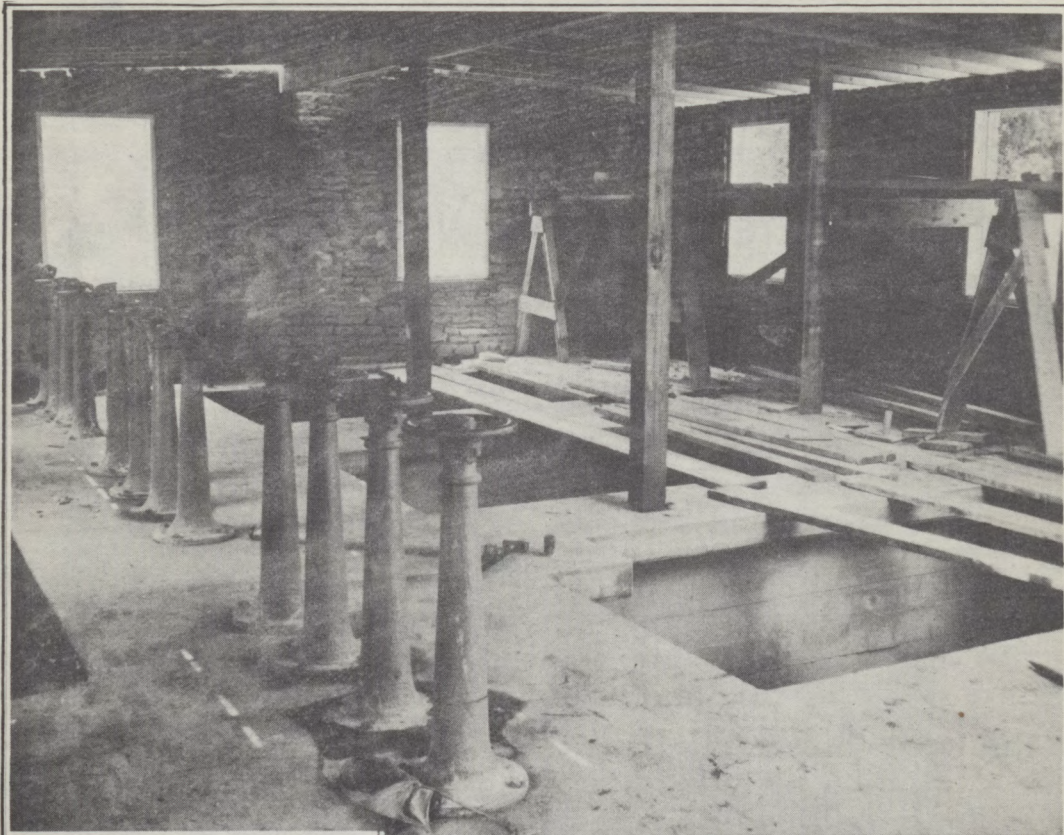
We have in the first instance invested in human values. We have preserved productive labor resources. Much of this, as evidenced by the reduction in our work rolls has been mobilized again in private industry. We have invested in the diversity of craft ability either by adding to the craft training already possessed by the workman or by giving work to those who had never followed an industrial pursuit. Through adult education we invested in training courses for those who desired work ability. In our white collar projects we have invested in bringing together in usable form, records, documents, and other informational resources virtually lost to public use. And from the investment in art, music, drama and letters we have developed and afforded to the public those resources of refinement and culture so essential to modern society.

We have invested in the manhood and womanhood of tomorrow by our expenditures for children in nursery schools for hot school lunches or more adequate and modern educational facilities. And in our present day, young people of whatever age, by giving them recreational outlets that are safe, wholesome, and healthful.

These are all investments. Investments in permanent achievement. Just as much so as when in the more tangible accomplishments we have invested in roads and sewers and water systems. Or when our funds have been invested in hospitals, schools and college buildings, courthouses, city halls or other public buildings, or any of the other concrete and tangible accomplishments of the Works Program.

Expenditures, yes—but expenditures which in fact are investments in human values and in additions to the capital account of the community and the state which will continue to stand as monuments of permanent achievement growing out of the solution of at least some of the problems incident to unemployment.

. Water Filtration Plant Built at Craig



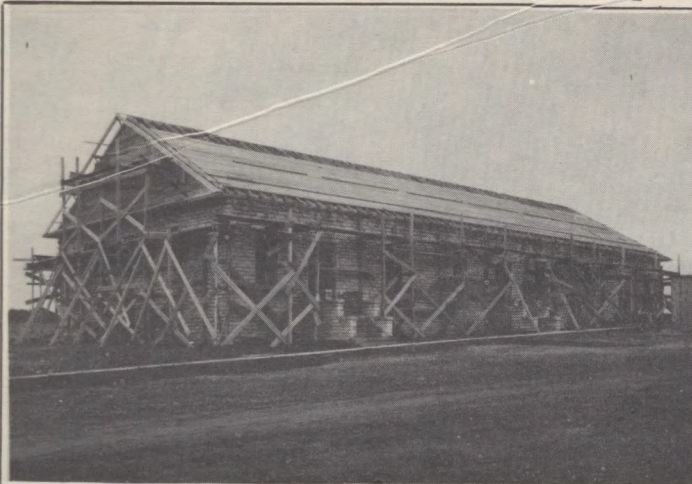
One of the most technical projects attempted in Colorado by the Works Progress Administration is the construction of a water filtration plant at Craig, Moffat county seat.

Built according to the most modern ideas of water filtration, the plant will have a daily capacity of 1,500,000 gallons of water. It includes a large baffled settling basin, three coagulating tanks, facilities for both dry and solution introduction of chemical treatment and a diesel electric unit for light and power at the plant.

Upper photo shows the interior of the plant. The exterior is shown in the lower view.



. . . Rural Schools Constructed by WPA Workmen . . .



Three classrooms and a finished one-third basement are included in the one-story masonry school erected by WPA at Dove Creek in Dolores county. There are 250 students at the school. Some walk many miles and others ride as far as 20 miles on horseback to attend classes.

Native sandstone was used in the structure, which is 120x50 feet.



Classroom, auditorium and gymnasium facilities are provided students of the new Nucla school, in western Montrose county, which is under construction by WPA. Stone, quarried nearby, is being used for the outside walls. The Nucla school is shown in the center photo.

At Hoehne, in Las Animas county, a gymnasium and auditorium has been built for rural students by WPA. It is shown at right.



. . . Completed Projects Attest Value of WPA Work . . .



Two of the finest public buildings erected in Colorado by Works Progress Administration employes are the native stone jail at Montrose, on the western slope, and the auditorium and community building at Segundo, in Las Animas county.

Upper photo shows the jail, which includes a residence for the sheriff on the lower floor. Stone, adobe bricks and stucco were used in the erection of the Segundo structure, which is shown below.



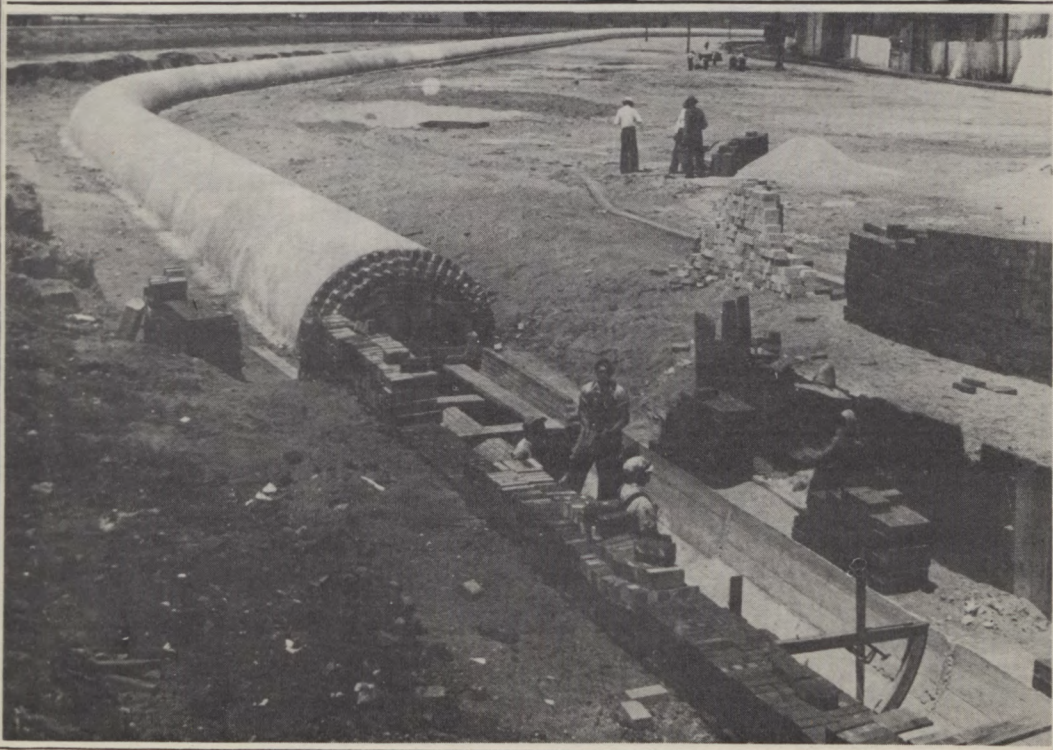
. 160,000 Served by Delganey Sewer



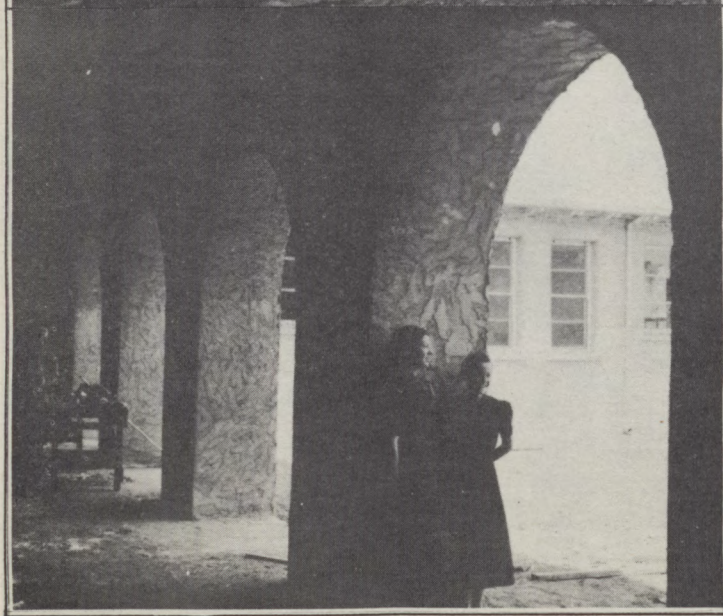
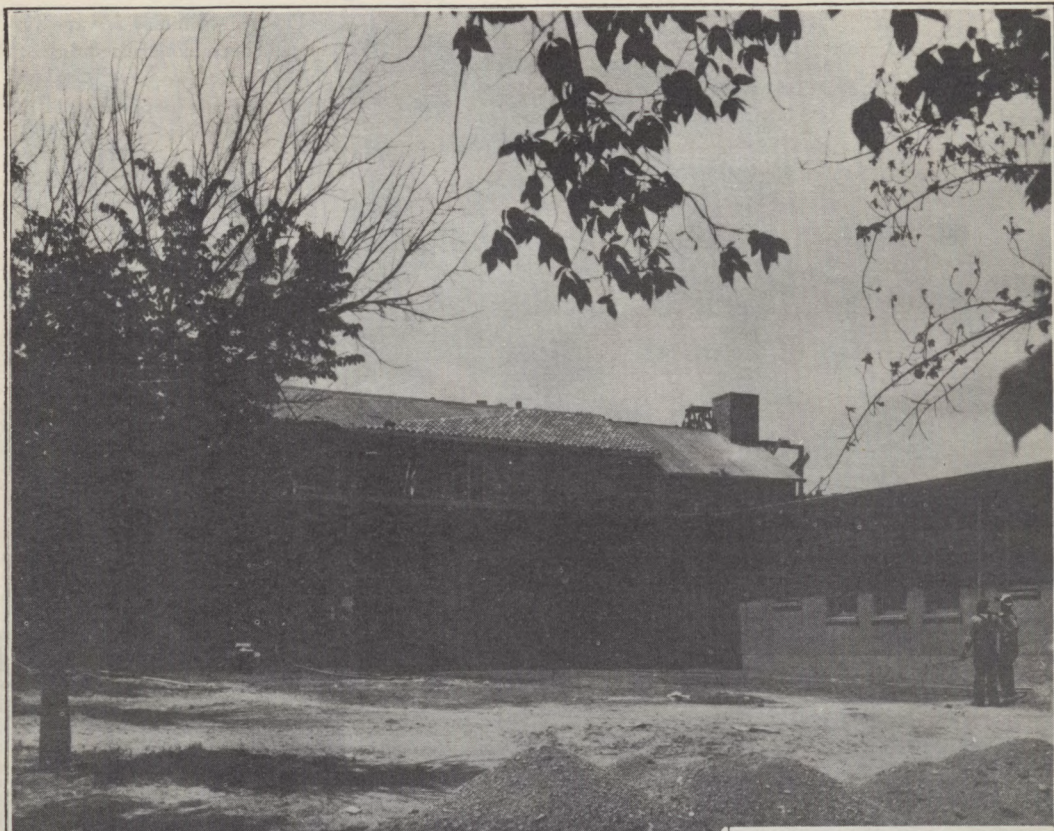
Denver's sanitary sewage system has been modernized through the Works Progress Administration by the completion of the Delganey street sewer project. Work was started January 10, 1936, and finished March 9, 1937. An average of 153 men were employed during the fourteen months of operation.

Approximately 160,000 of the total 270,000 Denver residents living in districts connected with sewers are served by the new Delganey system. All of Capitol Hill, the business district, West Denver and parts of East and South Denver are included in this territory.

Photos illustrate the project in operation and a portion of the completed sewer.



. . . Modern School Constructed for Pinon Children . . .



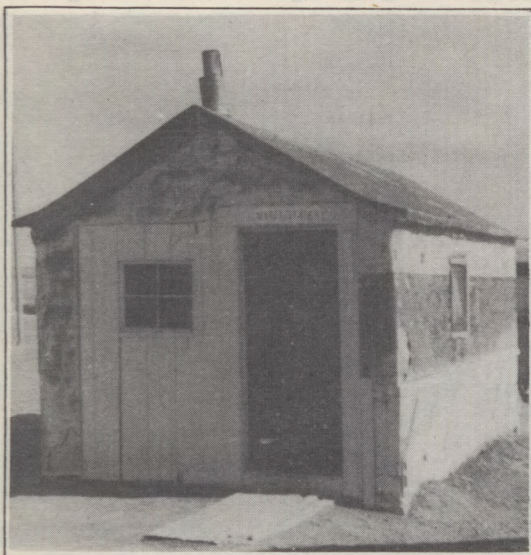
Spanish Design

Five class rooms and a combination gymnasium and auditorium are included in the school constructed at Pinon, 12 miles north of Pueblo, by Works Progress Administration.

It will accommodate 120 pupils. The building is of adobe construction, finished with white stucco and a red tile roof, presenting a Spanish effect. Modern plumbing, heating and lighting has been installed. It replaces a condemned wooden structure which was dismantled by WPA.

Upper photo shows a general view of the school and the lower picture is a close-up of the arch work.

Erie Miners Provide School Building



Determined to take advantage of the opportunities offered under the WPA adult education program but without classroom facilities, a group of miners in the Erie coal field furnished material and equipment for a small building. Works Progress Administration provided an instructor and a program was organized in literacy and citizenship.

The class meets five nights a week to prepare for the naturalization examinations and to acquire the fundamentals of education denied them in early life. This program is providing the first educational opportunities for the majority of this group.

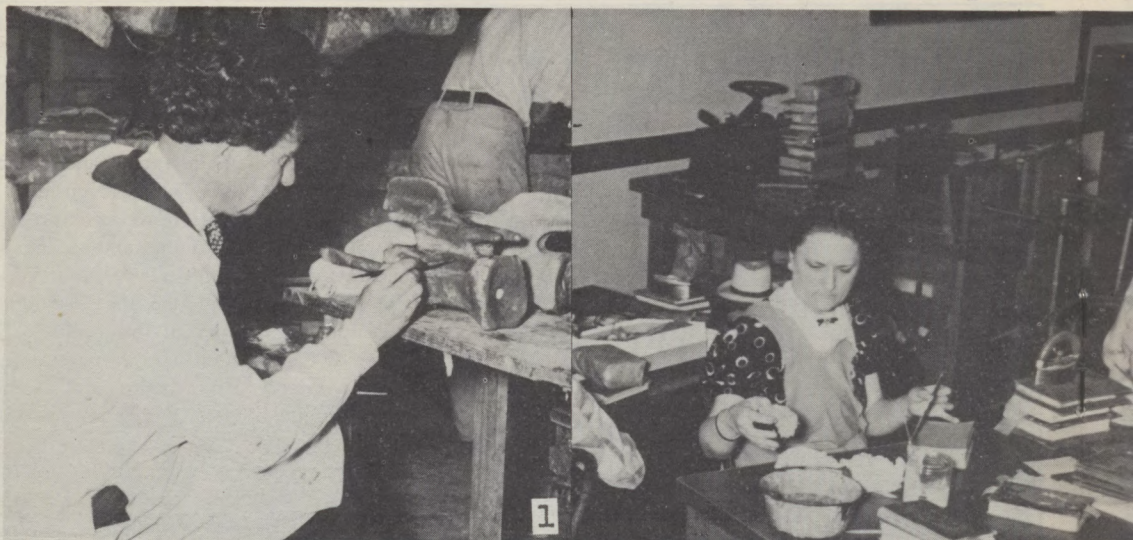
At the close of each period these men from Germany, Bulgaria, Greece, Montenegro, and Poland face a small United States flag and sincerely pledge allegiance.

Dean McCoy, supervisor of education and recreation in WPA District No. 1, believes this to be the only class in Colorado meeting in its own building.

Class in Citizenship and Literacy



These WPA Workers Quietly Perform Important Jo



VARIED TASKS are performed by persons employed on WPA women's and professional projects. Photo No. 1 shows workmen preparing bones of fossils for mounting at the Colorado Museum of Natural History. Repair and binding of books, as shown in photo No. 2, is an undertaking that has received widespread commendation. Photo No. 3 depicts a WPA worker on the research project at the Colorado Museum of Natural History cleaning small animal skulls in preparation for mounting. Tasty and healthful meals are served to undernourished school children (Photo No. 4) by WPA women. Garments for needy families are made by women employed on sewing projects (Photo No. 5).



Their accomplishments are not measured in cold, factual statistics but the women and men employed on WPA professional and "white collar" projects are attaining results as impressive as any of the excellent buildings constructed by WPA.

No yardstick can measure the value received through the WPA education and recreation projects. Thousands of men, women and children participate, studying in classes or relaxing on playing fields.

Works of the Federal Art projects will be enjoyed for years to come.

A new appreciation for drama and music has been developed by the Federal Theater and Federal Music projects.

Health surveys have been conducted, national resources listed, historical records classified, and library services enlarged. Clothing has been manufactured, thousands of hot lunches have been served to needy children.

ant Jobs in Professional and Women's Field of Work



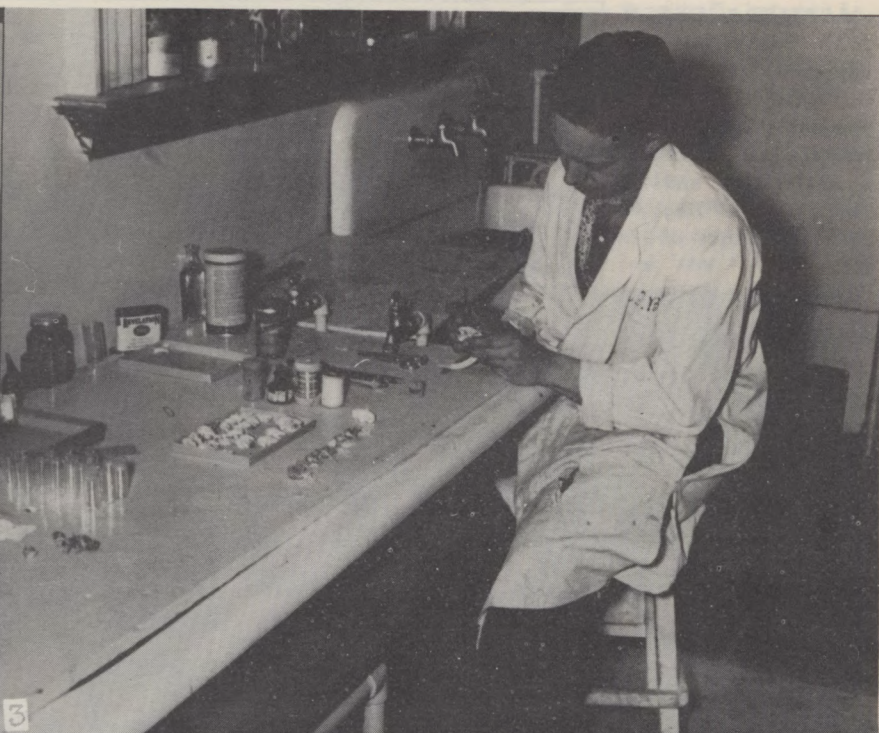
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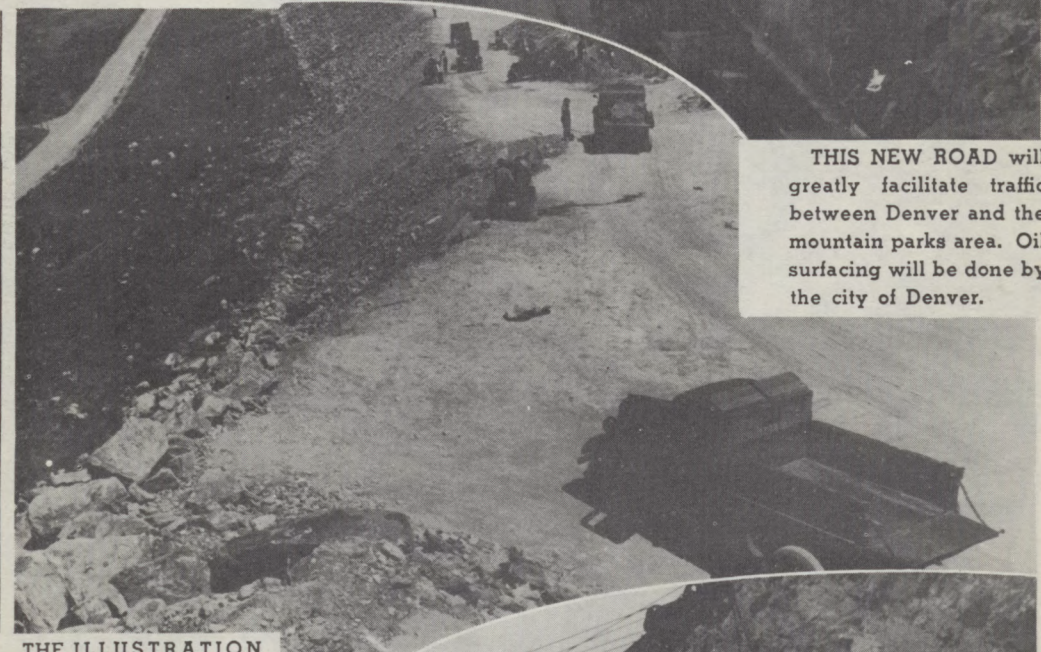


Alameda Extension Soon To Be Completed

ALAMEDA EXTENSION, one of the most important WPA projects in District No. 2, will be completed August 1. The new road begins at Morrison Junction and extends to the Hogback road, a distance of 12.4 miles.




THIS NEW ROAD will greatly facilitate traffic between Denver and the mountain parks area. Oil surfacing will be done by the city of Denver.



THE ILLUSTRATION below shows some of the difficulties encountered in construction.




. . . Three Span Steel Bridge Built Over Apishapa River . . .




Expediting traffic between La Junta and Walsenburg, a steel highway bridge is being constructed over the Apishapa river, 20 miles southwest of La Junta, by Works Progress Administration.

There are three spans in the structure. The center steel truss is 100 feet long and the two approach spans are each 40



It is the key bridge on state highway No. 10 between La Junta and Walsenburg. The road would be of little value without this sturdy crossing which will withstand flood waters.



The structure is an outstanding example of steel bridge construction by WPA. It is being constructed for about \$5,000 less than the lowest figure submitted to the State Highway Department when it was considering having the job done by contract.

A 24-foot roadway is provided by the bridge. Views of the structure are shown in the accompanying photographs.

Dry at times, the creek bed is a raging torrent during the rainy seasons.

..... Road Facilities Improved by WPA

Roads are important to the communities served. Many rural areas, formerly isolated during wet seasons, are being provided with all weather roads. Grading, graveling and other improvements are made possible through WPA. Some of the previously neglected mail routes, farm-to-market and non-federal-aid roads are pictured below.

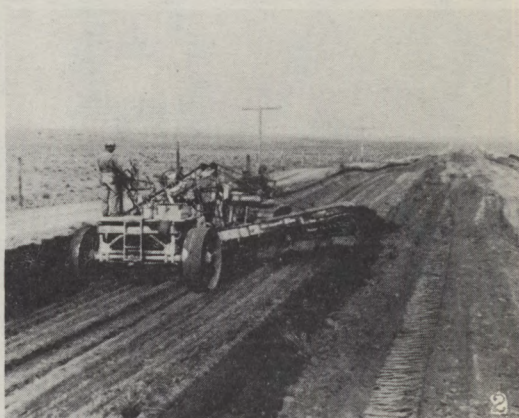


1. Farm-to-Market Road

View of farm-to-market road from Salida to Turret and South Park showing the old and the new. Grading and rock surfacing insure an all weather road.

2. Pole Line Road

Grading and improving the Pole Line road by Works Progress Administration has been an important contribution to residents of Logan county. This is a non-federal-aid road.



3. Improving Mail Route

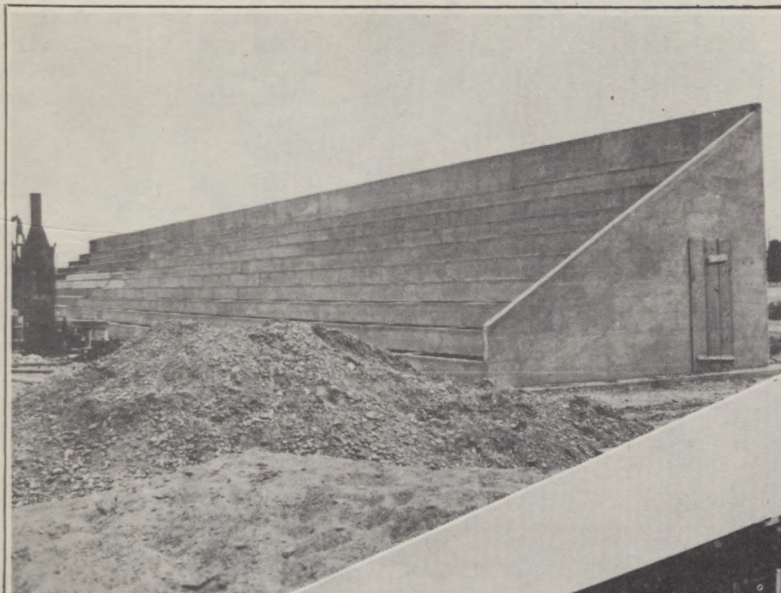
Improving 12 miles of the mail route from Highway 40 at Clear Creek to the mining camps of Vicksburg and Winfield in Chaffee County.



4. Road In Baca County

WPA project near Richards in Baca County provided for the grading of eight miles and surfacing of 22 miles of farm-to-market road. The road was formerly impassable in wet weather.

. . . . Athletic Facilities Enlarged in Three Towns

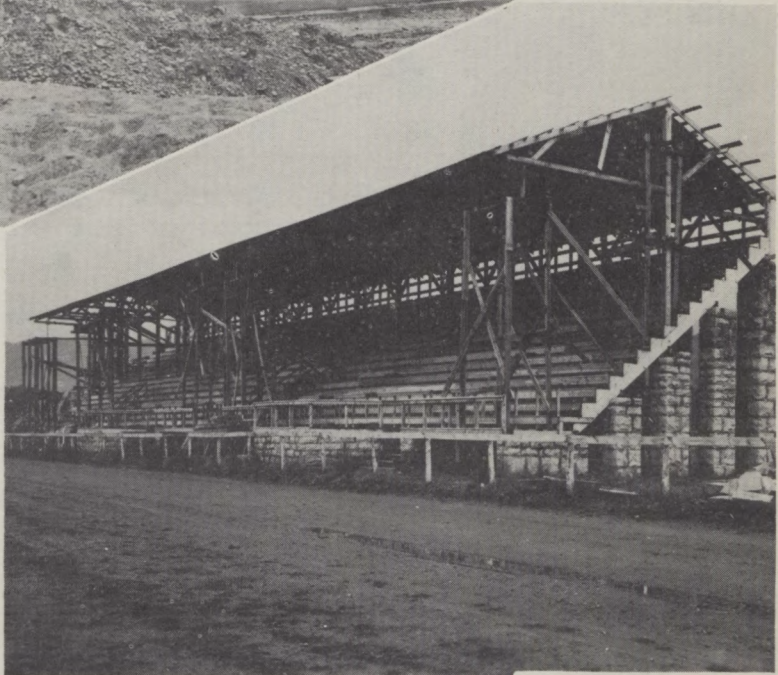


STURDY concrete grandstand has been erected at the high school athletic field in Montrose by Works Progress Administration employees.

The structure is large enough to handle the anticipated attendance at athletic contests. The modern seating is expected to increase attendance.

CONSTRUCTED with native stone and timber, a modern grandstand for the Durango Spanish Fiesta grounds has been nearly finished by Works Progress Administration employees.

The structure is about four-fifths complete. The seating arrangement is expected to accommodate at least 2,500 spectators. The fiesta is one of the outstanding events in the San Juan basin.

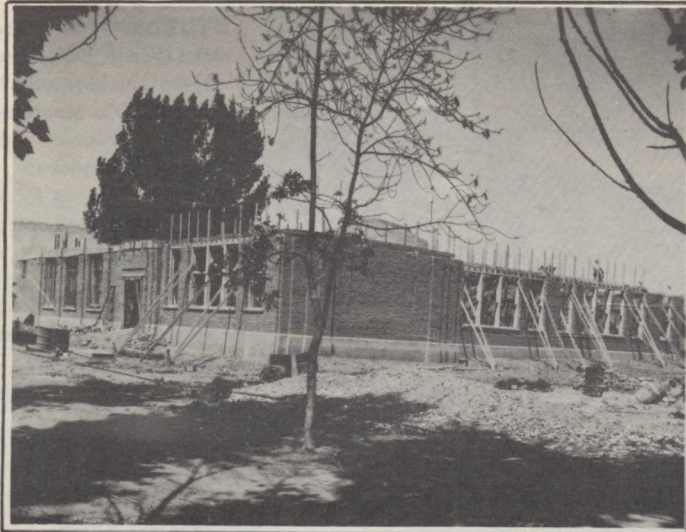


ATHLETIC events and community affairs will be conducted in the new gymnasium that is being constructed at the town of Magote in Conejos county.

Adobe bricks were used in building the gymnasium. A similar structure is being erected at Manassa, in Conejos county, by Works Progress Administration.



. . . . New School at Clifton Will Accommodate 250

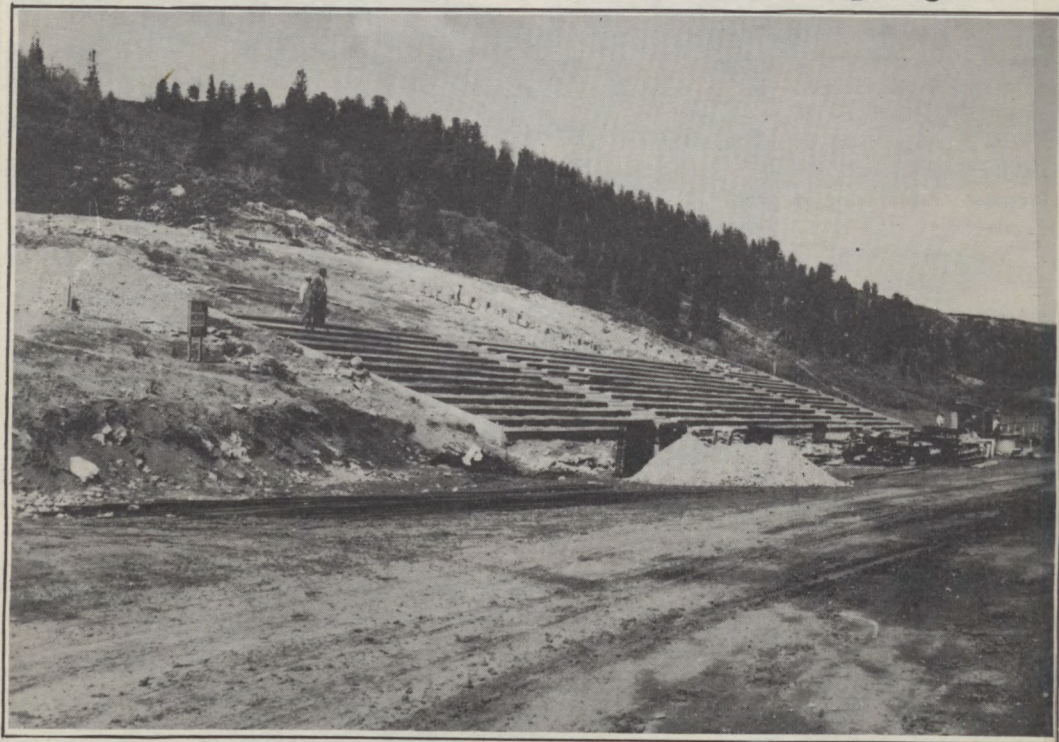


Accommodations for 250 pupils will be provided in the adobe brick school being constructed at Clifton in Mesa county by the Works Progress Administration. The building is shown at left.

About 90,000 adobes are being used in the structure, which includes classrooms and a combination gymnasium and auditorium. It was necessary to drive piling into the ground to form a sturdy foundation. Work is finished to the top of the first story.

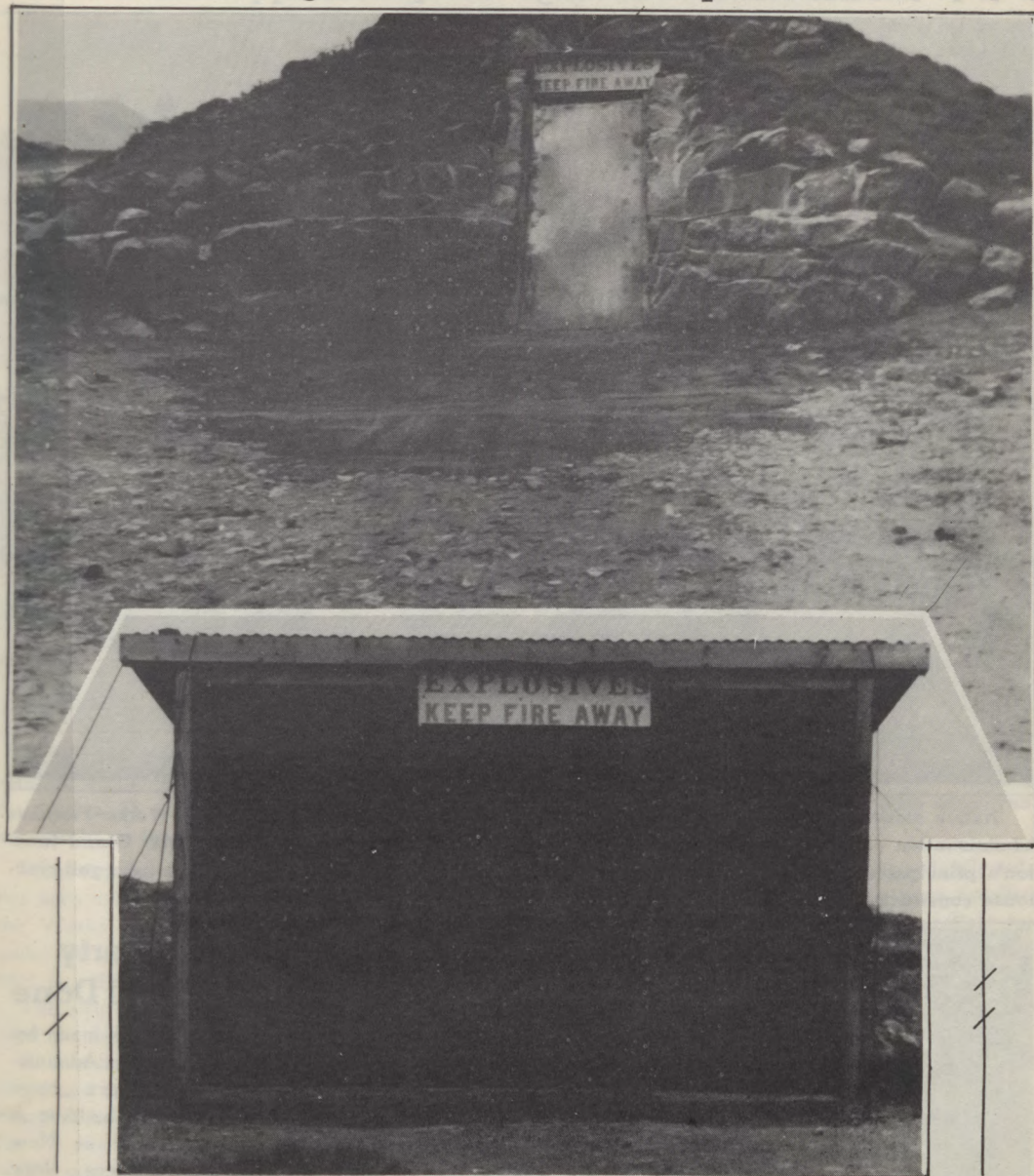
The exterior will be finished with stucco.

. . . Building Concrete Stadium at Steamboat Springs . . .



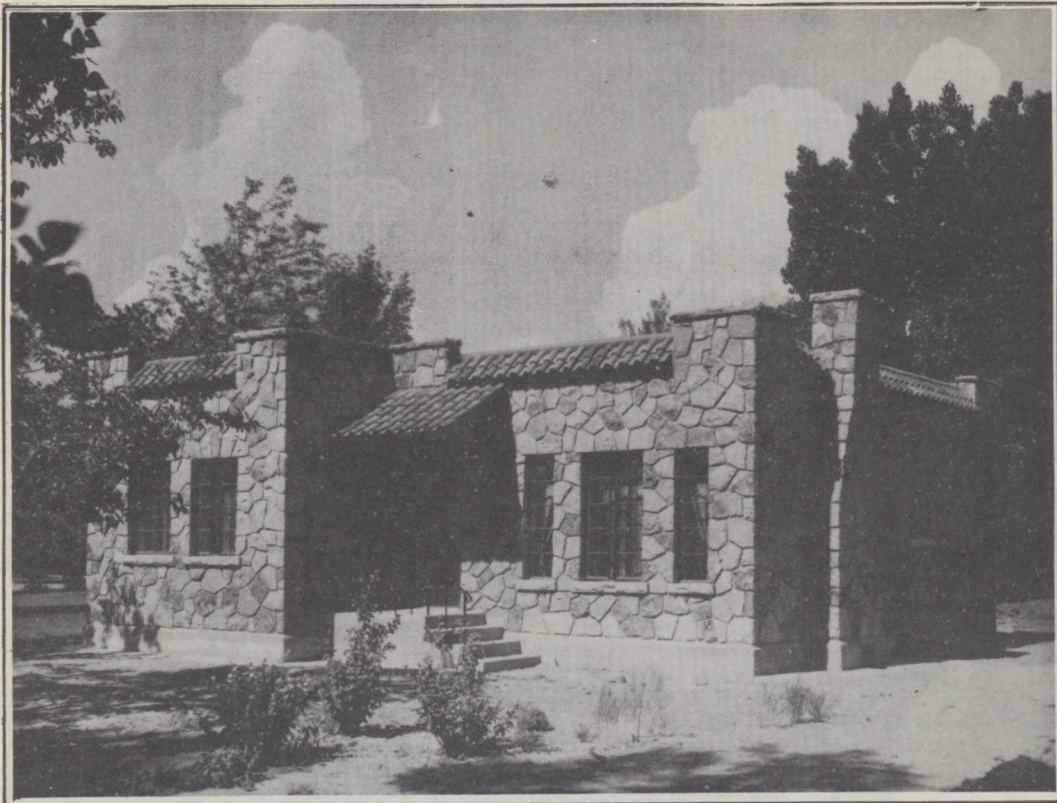
Set into one of the many imposing mountains at Steamboat Springs, a concrete stadium is being constructed by the Works Progress Administration. The grand stand will accommodate thousands of fans who annually attend winter sports activities at the mountain city. The stadium provides a clear view of the ski runs.

. Storage and Protection of Explosives



One of the best examples of the proper handling of explosives is at the rock quarry project on Table Mountain, near Camp George West, at Golden. In upper photo is shown the cave where dynamite is stored and the lower view illustrates the house where the dynamite caps are kept, entirely separate from the dynamite. The store houses are more than 150 feet apart. The proper storage of explosives is emphasized in WPA safety bulletins and is carried out by varying methods. This project is a fine example of their proper and safe care. Stone taken from Table Mountain has been used in rip-rapping the North Platte river and Cherry Creek. Some of it has been used in rip-rapping the shores of the lake at City park, Denver.

. . . . Fine Public Buildings Completed by WPA



Native stone, blending with other buildings in the park, has been used by Works Progress Administration employes in the construction of a caretaker's residence at Lincoln park, Grand Junction's principal recreational center. The structure is built along the same lines as the new golf clubhouse constructed by WPA at the park. It adds materially to the beauty of the park.

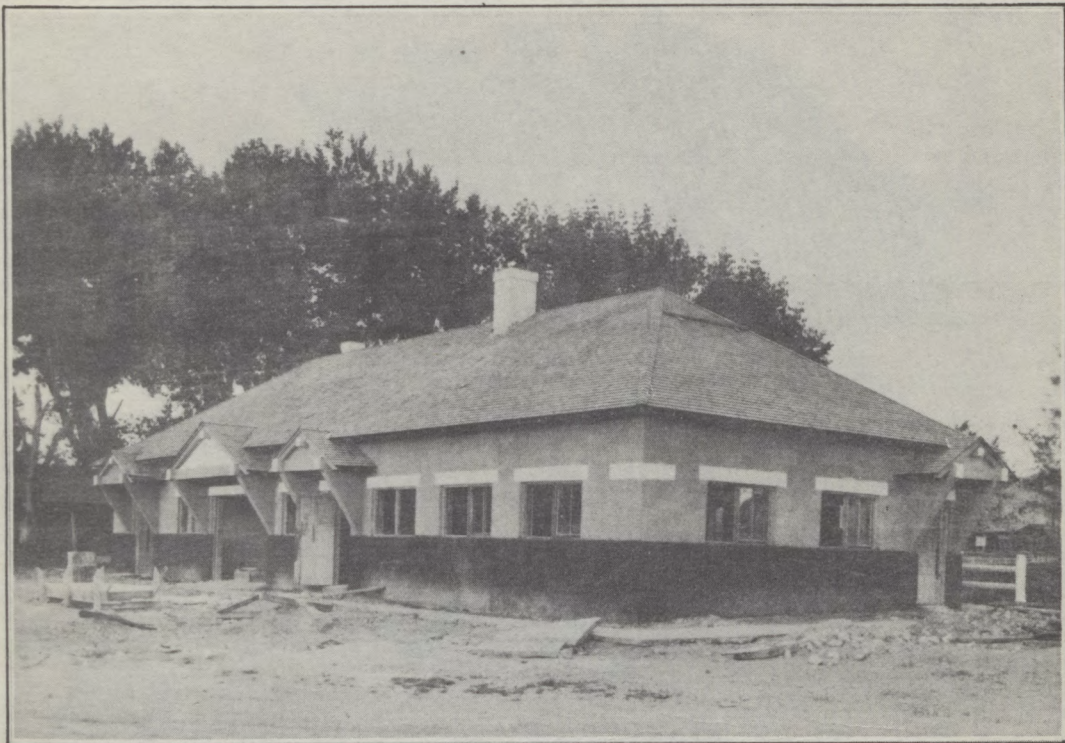


New Liberty School Done

Adobe bricks made by Works Progress Administration workmen have been used in building a modern school at New Liberty, western slope town near Grand Junction. A view of the school is shown at left.

Exterior of the building was stuccoed. It contains well lighted classrooms and other modern facilities for education.

. . . Farm Shop Building Erected for Hotchkiss School . . .



Salvaged materials from a school building erected in 1884 were used by Works Progress Administration employes in constructing a manual training and farm shop building for consolidated school district No. 25 at Hotchkiss. The building was completed this month. Fourteen men were employed six months on the project.

Manual training and farm shop building, which has been a long felt need, is being constructed by the Works Progress Administration at Hotchkiss under the sponsorship of consolidated school district No. 25 of Delta county.

The structure is nearing completion and will be used this fall.

A two-story brick school, erected in 1884, was razed and the salvaged materials were used in the new building. Nearly all the materials necessary for the new construction, even to the cement sidewalks, which were taken up and relaid, were taken from the old school.

Brick and concrete were used in the shop building, which is 30-80 feet, with a shingled hip roof. Unique porticoes have been constructed over the four outside doors, adding to the general appearance. Footings were of flag stone and concrete. Walls to the window sill height are 14-inch concrete, the remainder of the walls being constructed with salvaged brick. Reinforced concrete caps

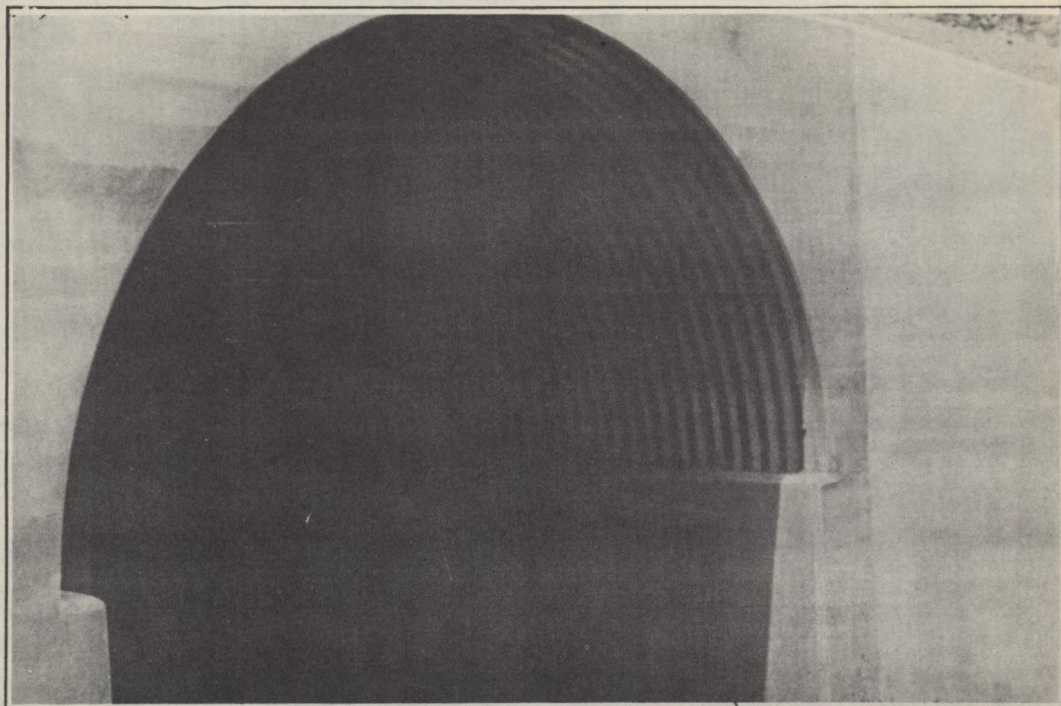
were used over all openings, projecting slightly outside the wall line. Thirty windows were installed in the one-story structure to give ample light for shop work. The floors in the wood working department, lumber and tool rooms, are of quarter-sawed fir while those in the machine shop and storage room are of concrete.

The outside brick work is finished in cream stucco and the lower concrete portion in black stucco. All outside trim, including window caps and porticoes are white.

WPA workmen are leveling and landscaping the old building site so that it may be used as a playground by the grade school children. The grade school building is on the opposite side of the street from the new playground, but the street will be closed, making a continuous playground.

An average of 14 men have been employed since December, 1936. The work is costing \$8,846, which is jointly supplied by WPA and the school district.

. . . Multiplate Arch Bridge Built on Red Rocks Road . . .

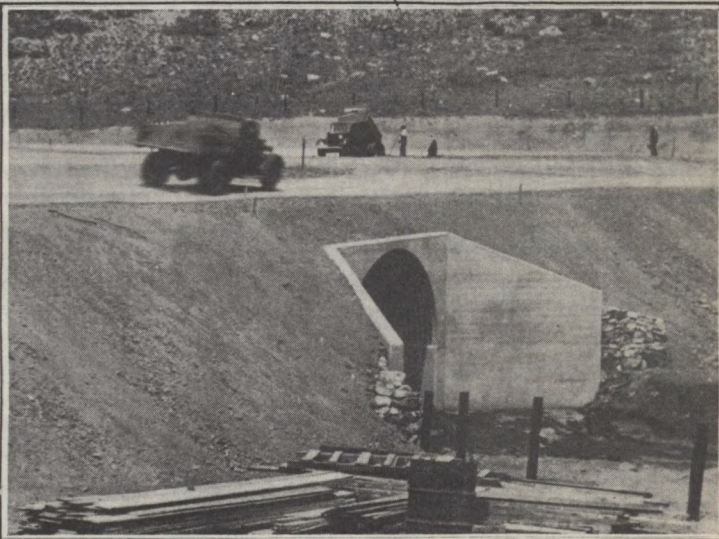


WPA Uses New Type Successfully

One of the first of its type in Colorado, a multiplate arch bridge has been constructed by Works Progress Administration employes at the junction of the new Red Rocks park road and the Alameda extension highway, both of which were built by WPA.

Metal plates form the arch of the bridge between two concrete piers.

The arch is delivered to the field in sections and when fastened together forms a practically solid arch. It was erected with the use of templates holding the first arch in place until it was securely bolted. The remaining sections are self-supporting, resting on the first arch. The arch was installed in two shifts without an accident.



Metal plates in the arch are similar to those used in large culverts under highways and railroads. They have proved to be exceptionally strong and long lasting as they are heavily galvanized.

Several of these multiplate arches were used in numerous bridges constructed on state highway No. 12, west of Trinidad, by the Works Progress Administration.

. A Fella' Tole Me:

A fella' tole me:

That he saw a bunch of stone masons workin' up about ten feet the other day. They had an old two-inch plank blocked up there an' was teeterin' around on it tryin' to lay stone. Well, an inspector come along on the job an' says, "What's that thing?" The boss said, "Why, it's a scaffold." The guy didn't know whether to laugh or cuss but he sure got that bunch down off o' there. Seems funny when we have so many bulletins and instructions on scaffolds and so many fellas get hurt fallin' offa bad ones that these supervisors still try to get by with some make-shift a stingy sponsor wants to furnish.

A fella' tole me:

That he likes to see the boys happy and havin' a good time but this foolin' round on the job, pullin' jokes and carryin' on ought to stop. Horse-play too often ends up with some guy gettin' hurt. After all, we're not kids. This is a man's job, not a kindergarten an' if they got to play, they ought to do it some other time, when they won't be hinderin' the work nor makin' somebody liable to get hurt—

A fella' tole me:

That he wondered when we're going to get hip to the danger of tools that's all battered up. Our jobs ain't so tough about furnishing good tools any more if the men would just turn 'em in. Said he saw a fella holdin' a drill the other day an' the striker knocked a burr off it an' drove the sharp corner of it right into that guy's hand. Might just as well hit him in the face if it had been goin' that way. Don't risk it. Send 'em to the shop. That goes for sledges an' all the others, too.

A fella' tole me:

That he saw a worker come out the other day with a hand all tied up. He asked him what he had an' he said he had a place all festered up on it an' the doc had told him to lay off and keep it tied up. Said he just got a little scratch and thot nothin' about it. Said he'd had a lot of 'em. This time it all blew up on him the third day and now he's up against it. The first aid is still there and the fellas ought to use it for a guy never knows when some little scratch or cut or bruise is goin' to get him into trouble.

A fella' tole me:

That he saw a letter from some big boss in

Washington named Harrington the other day about hot weather. Well, it sure gets hot on some o' these jobs. Maybe we don't have sun-stroke like they do back East but the foremen sure got told in that letter about workin' the men too steady on these hot days. Sometimes they don't realize how hot it is cause they don't get down and plug away at it. But just the same, if they'll keep their eye on the boys these hot days it may save a lot o' trouble and maybe somebody's life.

A fella' tole me:

That he's been noticin' these flaggers as he goes about. This looks like a snap of a job an' no more than some of them make of it, it is. Just the same, a flagger is supposed to be a flagger an' not just a statue holdin' a red flag. If they protect the workers from the traffic and the traffic from the workers that flag's got to mean something. It's no place for a lazy worker to take a nap. He'd better be on his toes. They ain't no use o' havin' any at all if they don't do more than some of them do and if they don't work at it they'd better take a pick and let some other guy take the flag.

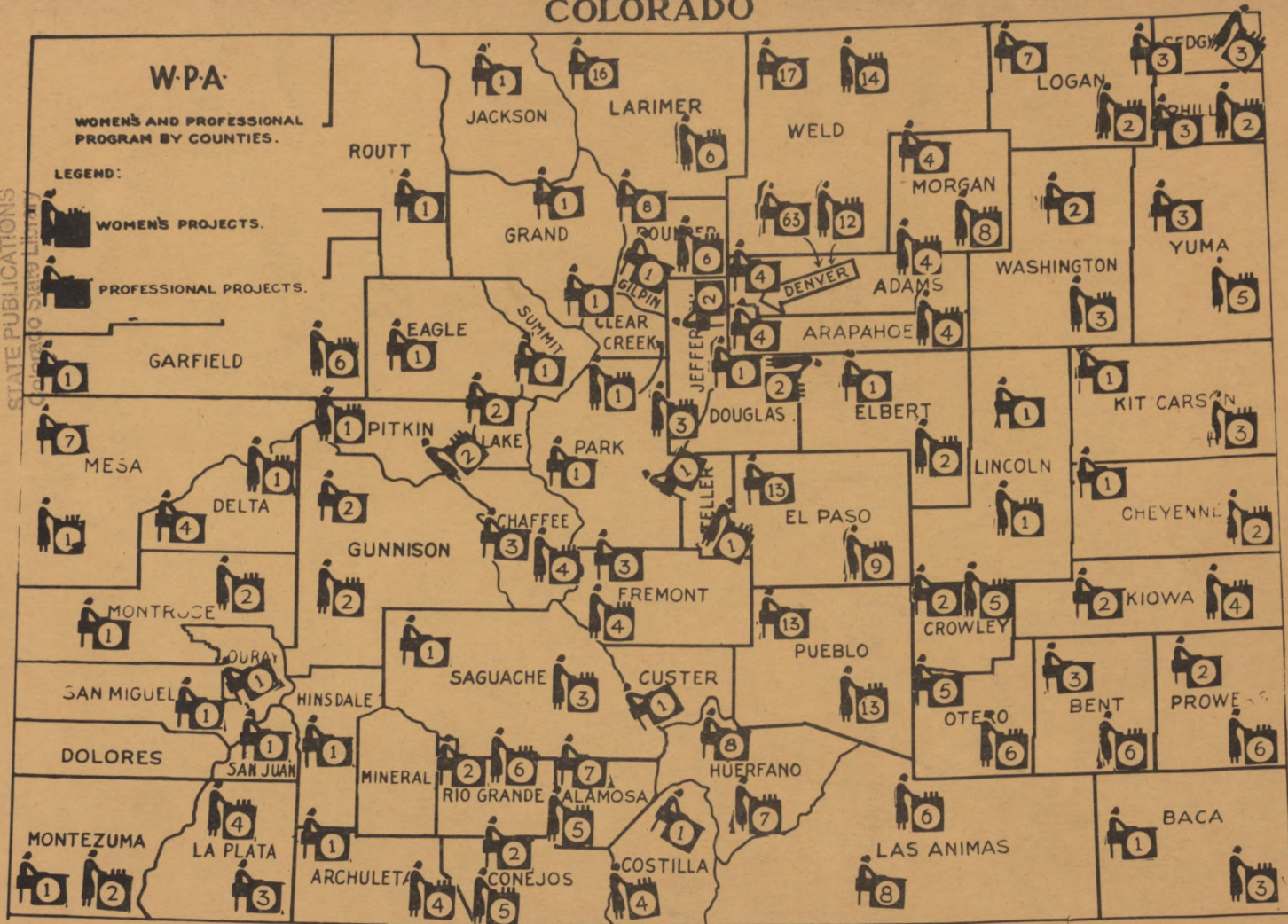
A fella' tole me:

That in spite of warnings and slow signs he saw some young smart alecks come tearin' thru a road job the other day at about 50 miles an hour. The young nut got a great kick out o' seein' the gang scatter. It was too bad he didn't hit a tractor or that some guy didn't throw a pick at him. Of course the best lesson for that kind is to turn in his license number to the Patrol. They'll do the rest. I'd sure get the license number of a car like that.

A fella' tole me:

That in lookin' over the accident record the other day he found how many got hurt from fallin' objects. What are "falling objects?" Well, everything from a brick house to the kitchen sink. Things are always falling around. Brick, stone, lumber, tools, bags of cement—yes, even men fall on other fellas sometimes. Most of this is just plain heedlessness. Everybody cares so it ain't carelessness. We just don't think. We can cure falling objects but it's goin' to take a heap of watchin' and a good deal more safe practice than we carry on some jobs now.

COLORADO



FIGURES INDICATE NUMBER OF PROJECTS IN RESPECTIVE COUNTIES.
74 STATE-WIDE AND 27 DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS ARE OPERATED IN ADDITION TO NUMBERS SHOWN.