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RECOVERY

SOUTH DAKOTA
STATE COLLEGE
AUG 27 1936
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

With the
W. P. A.
in
South Dakota

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Aug.
1936

August 1936

Drought-Riddled Farmers Receive Government Aid

An empty bread basket but full, broad smiles will greet President Franklin D. Roosevelt on his visit to South Dakota's drought area.

Farmers who were despondent six weeks ago over their barren fields, hungry livestock and sullen families are "alive" again.

By the thousands, the Works Progress Administration has employed farmers who were robbed of every other source of income by the tenacious, devastating drought.

Since President Roosevelt announced early in July that western farmers would be aided by the federal government, the WPA in South Dakota alone had 22,000 drought-riddled farmers working at the time of the chief executive's personal visit this week. The Resettlement Administration was taking care of about 14,000 more.

So complete is the drought damage that in most sections of the state small grain crops were too short even for hay, while corn has struggled all summer to reach a one-foot stage, only to be ravaged by searing winds and hordes of marauding insects. In many regions farmers were already destitute from three disastrous years; now they are completely dependent upon government aid for subsistence.

And in addition to the 22,000 farmers on WPA projects, there are 9,700 certified relief clients in cities, towns and villages, making the total WPA working load 31,700. There are 1,212 WPA projects in operation, about 600 of which employ farmers.

Besides working for a living, the farmers on WPA projects are preparing against future droughts by making lakes, both large and small, for stock watering and human water needs. Small lakes are planned in every county—by the dozens. With the 600 lakes already built or being built, about 800 new, small lakes will be constructed to hold water for livestock in the future, saving herds and the industry so cognizant in South Dakota. Too, the WPA is digging about 50 wells where citizens are without water for themselves and their stock. Extremely important is the value of the lakes and wells to human lives. In Murdo, for instance, the town is getting its only water from a new WPA dam; Indians on the Cheyenne Reservation would be completely without water but for the WPA-sponsored wells; other cities and communities are tapping new lakes for water supplies, and others have found them invaluable for respite from the insufferable heat. In moving livestock from burned out areas to greener pastures, the intermittent lakes saved many herds. In Harding County had it not been for a new WPA lake at the end of a day's hard drive, a herd of a hundred head would have turned hoofs upward.

Turning from unused hayforks and binders for spades and dump wagons, farmers are also building roads in their communities to facilitate better farm-to-market transportation. Again the program is a double-barreled local benefit: first, it gives them paychecks so badly needed; and, second, it improves marketability of their products. Projects operate with from five to seventy men at one place, depending upon the accessibility of the certified workers.

Both types of projects—water conservation and farm to-market roads—are strongly recommended by the President, and in South Dakota he may view splendid examples of each type of work.

RECOVERY With the WPA in South Dakota

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This pamphlet is prepared by the Division of Information, Works Progress Administration, Pierre, S. D., and copies may be received by writing that department.

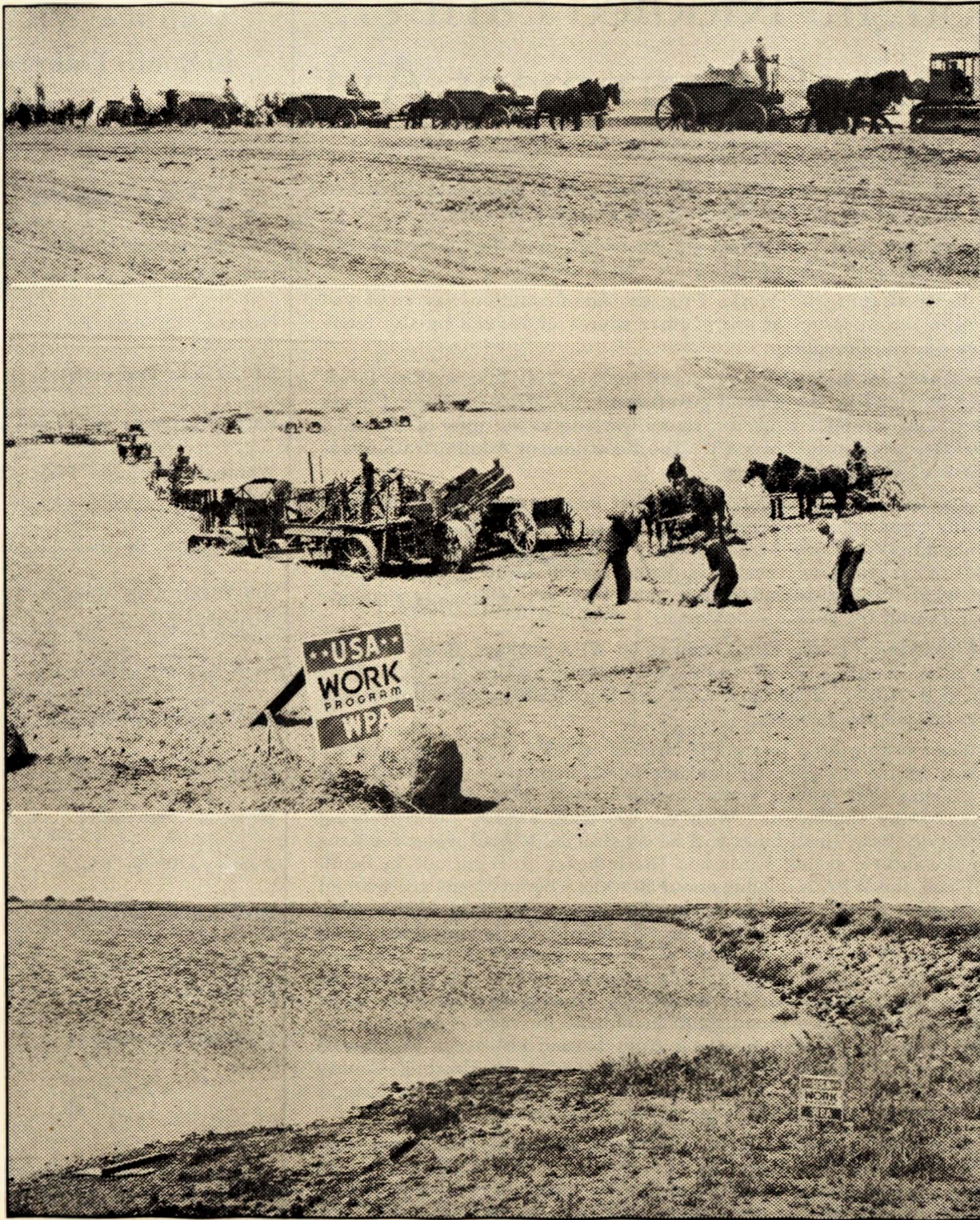
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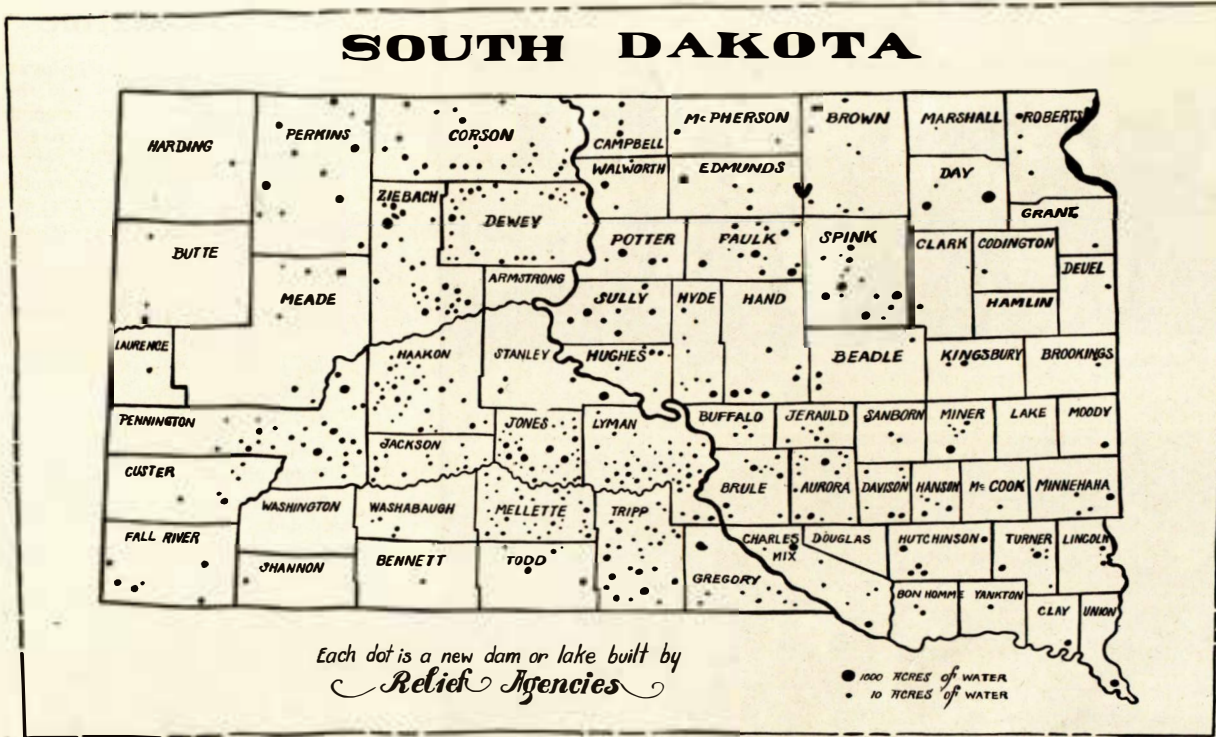
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Farmers Building Roads, Lakes

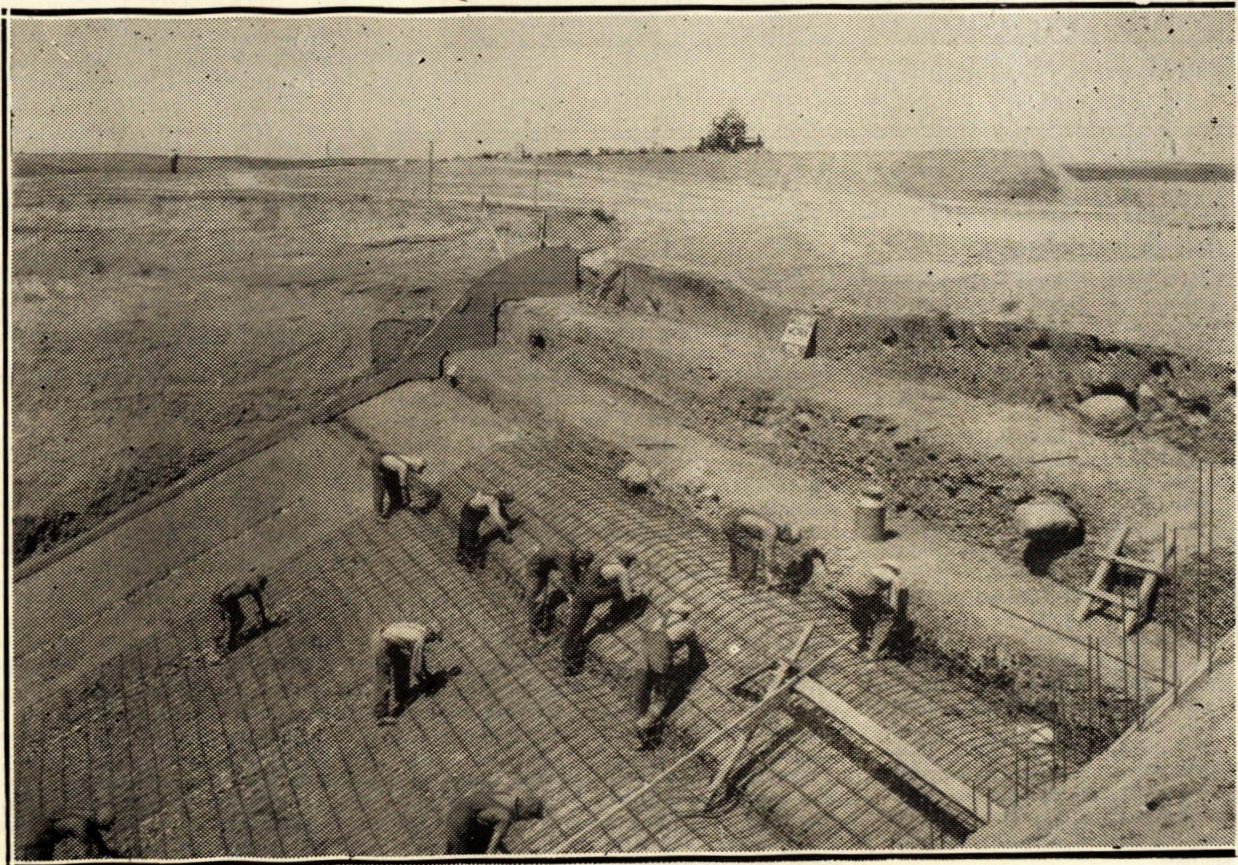


Pictured above are farmers working on WPA drought relief projects. The top picture shows a road building crew near Hayti making an improved road for farmers to transport their products; in the middle is a view of farmers working on the Amsden dam project near Andover which will form a large lake; and in the lower picture is Fordham Lake, formed by a WPA dam.

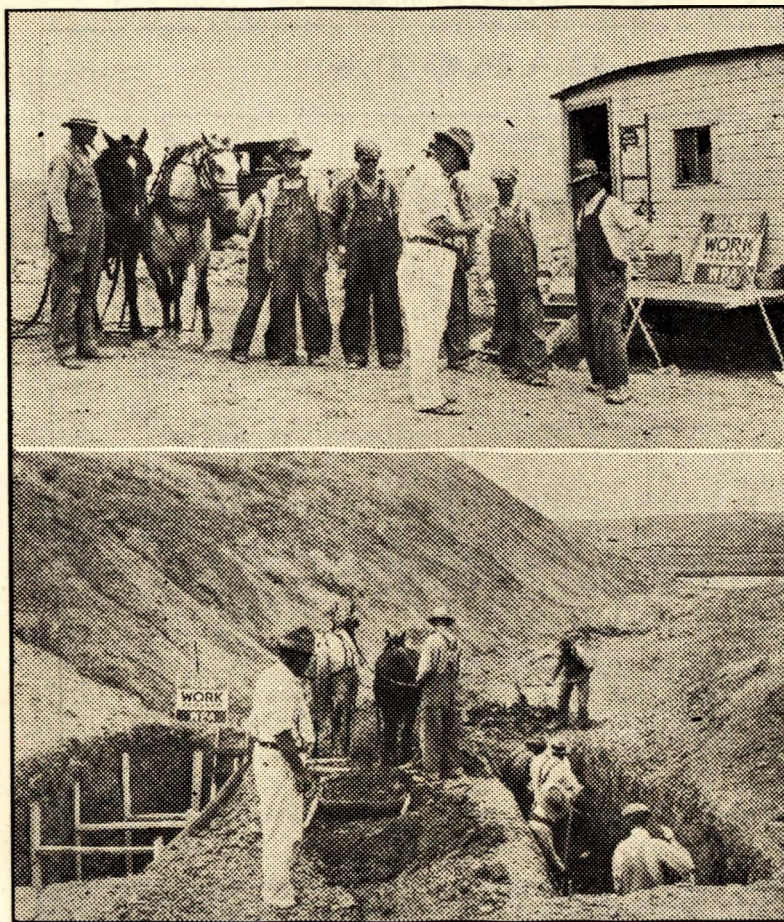
New Lakes Pepper South Dakota



The men pictured below are working on the huge Amsden dam spillway in Day County; the layout above shows the locations of the 600 lakes already constructed or under WPA construction and about 800 more new lakes are planned by the WPA.



Farmers Report to Work



Here are farmers reporting to work at the Lake Arickara project near Pierre. One man brought his horses; all were glad to get the work.

State WPA Women's Projects Play Dual Role

The division of employment for women has a secondary function as important as the primary accomplishment of giving employment to 2,877 needy women of the state. The reason for its importance is the service rendered.

Material service from output projects, distributed through the welfare boards, to the needy of the state, is as follows:

- 1,232,000 articles of wearing apparel.
- 57,790 articles for the home, including rugs, curtains, etc.
- 71,032 comforters.
- 81,773 sheets.
- 14,325 mattresses.
- 78,465 pillow cases.
- 9,437 pieces of furniture were reconstructed.
- 6,038 pieces of furniture were constructed from boxes, etc.
- 3,166 pieces of furniture have been repaired.

288,860 books have been rebound or repaired and turned back into circulation.

Less tangible service but of even greater importance are shown by the following figures:

Home nurses have served 2,896 homes during sickness, have given instructional service and object lessons in 3,632 homes, have assisted in the operation of clinics serving 14,683 children.

Five hundred three persons are employed as community leaders for supervised leisure in 61 counties of the state, serving more than 58,000 boys and girls. Crafts are taught, hobbies encouraged and arts developed. Games and outdoor activities are promoted.

Rest rooms for rural wives and play-rooms for rural children are maintained in community centers.

W. P. A. Builds Large Baseball Diamond At Aberdeen

Baseball fans of the state will be entertained on one of the finest baseball fields in the country the first week in September at Aberdeen when winning teams from each region compete for the state championship on the new diamond built by the WPA.

Home run artists will have to clout the ball more than 350 feet for a circuit blow, so large is the field. The grandstand, which will seat 2500 persons, will be supplemented on either side by portable bleachers large enough to accommodate a large number of fans. WPA work on the grandstand is rapidly nearing completion.

Under the grandstand will be lockers, showers and dressing room facilities for two teams. A radio booth on top the stand will provide broadcasting facilities.

When the field is completed it will represent 28,000 man-hours of WPA work and an expenditure of \$23,000, according to figures from M. A. Kennedy, state Works Progress Administrator. The city is furnishing \$7,900 and the federal government \$20,100.

Man-Made Lake Nears Completion In Clark County

A man-made lake which will drain an area of 30 square miles and impound enough water to cover 90 acres 16 feet deep is nearing completion in Clark County, 10 miles south of Raymond.

The dam, known as the Fordham Dam, is being completed by the federal government at a total cost of \$2585. Completion work by the WPA consists of building a rubble masonry spillway and secondary spillway. The original work on the dam was started under the FERA in 1934.

The principal benefit of the 450-foot long dam will be the curbing of drainage in the area although the lake will be used as a game refuge, wild fowl retreat and recreation spot. More than 1500 ducklings have been hatched on the margins of the lake which is already large enough to cause an overflow down the secondary spillway.

The spillway work has been done with the use of local labor. Eight men, supervised by a foreman, have been used on the project, according to M. A. Kennedy, state Works Progress Administrator.

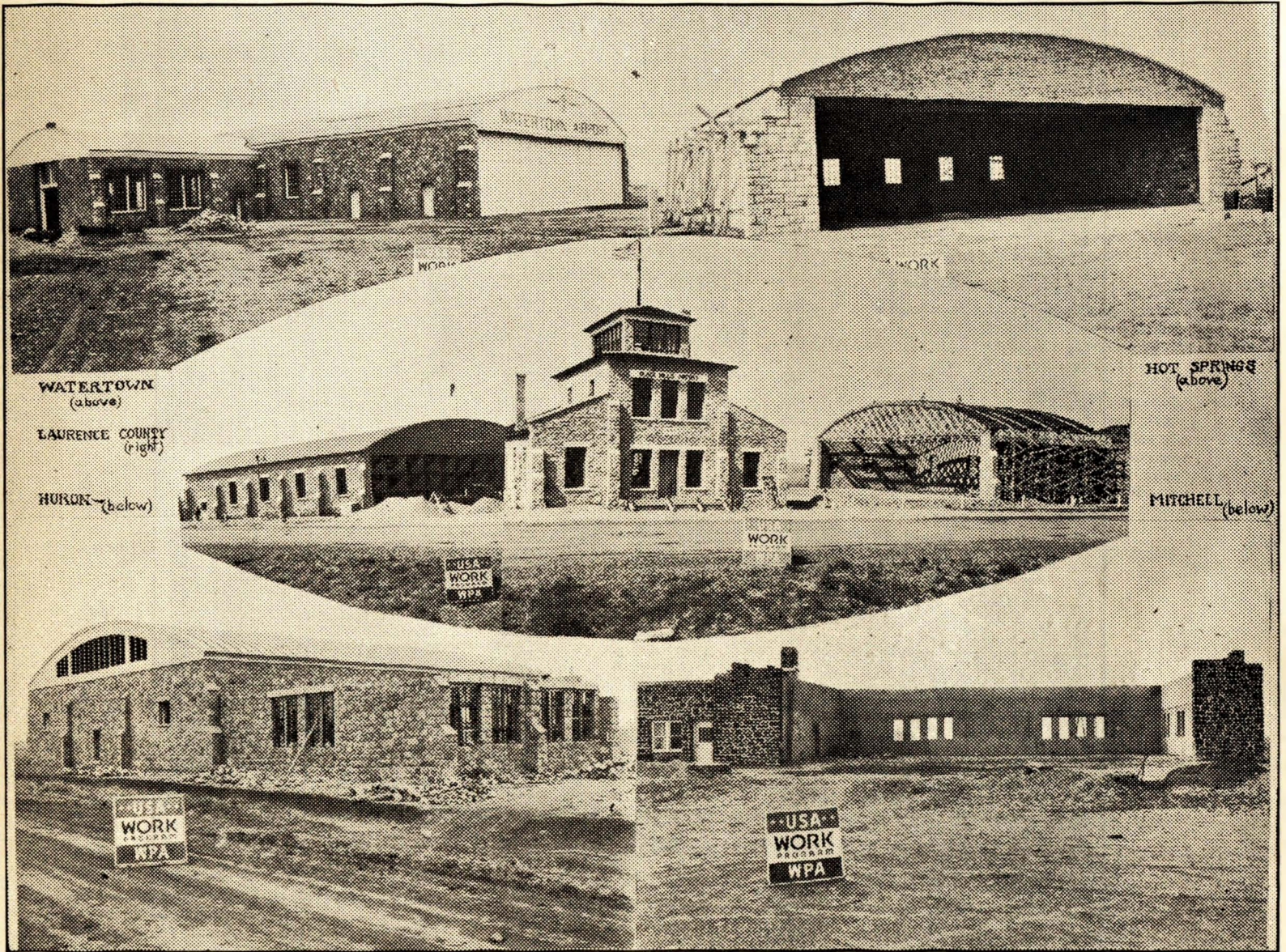
Reservation Wells Will Provide Safe Water Supply

On the Cheyenne River Indian Agency, where the drouth has created a serious water supply situation, the federal government is working to stem a possible outbreak of typhoid fever, a disease comparatively rare among Indians.

The water supply, made dangerous by the continued drouth, has already caused a few cases of typhoid fever on the reservation.

Twenty wells are being dug on the reservation by the WPA in an attempt to establish pure water sources. The wells, some of which must go far underground to strike water veins, are located at strategic spots over the territory and are expected to do much to lessen the danger of disease contracted from unsafe water.

WPA Aiding Cities With Modern Airports



Seven air-conscious cities in South Dakota are completing modern, permanent airports with the cooperation and assistance of the WPA. Lawrence County, Hot Springs, Aberdeen, Watertown, Mitchell, Huron and Brookings are sponsors of the major port projects.

The dedication of the new Black Hills airport near Spearfish during the Air Fair recently formally opened one of the most modern and complete fields in the Northwest. The center picture above shows the hangar large enough to house 30 planes, administration building with accommodations for pilots and travelers and modern workshop fully equipped. With the concrete apron in front of the buildings and oiled runways, aviation au-

thorities call it outstanding in the Northwest.

It was from the Black Hills airport that rescue flights with food and medical aid to marooned ranchers were made by WPA last winter. The Lawrence County port serves Spearfish, Deadwood and Lead.

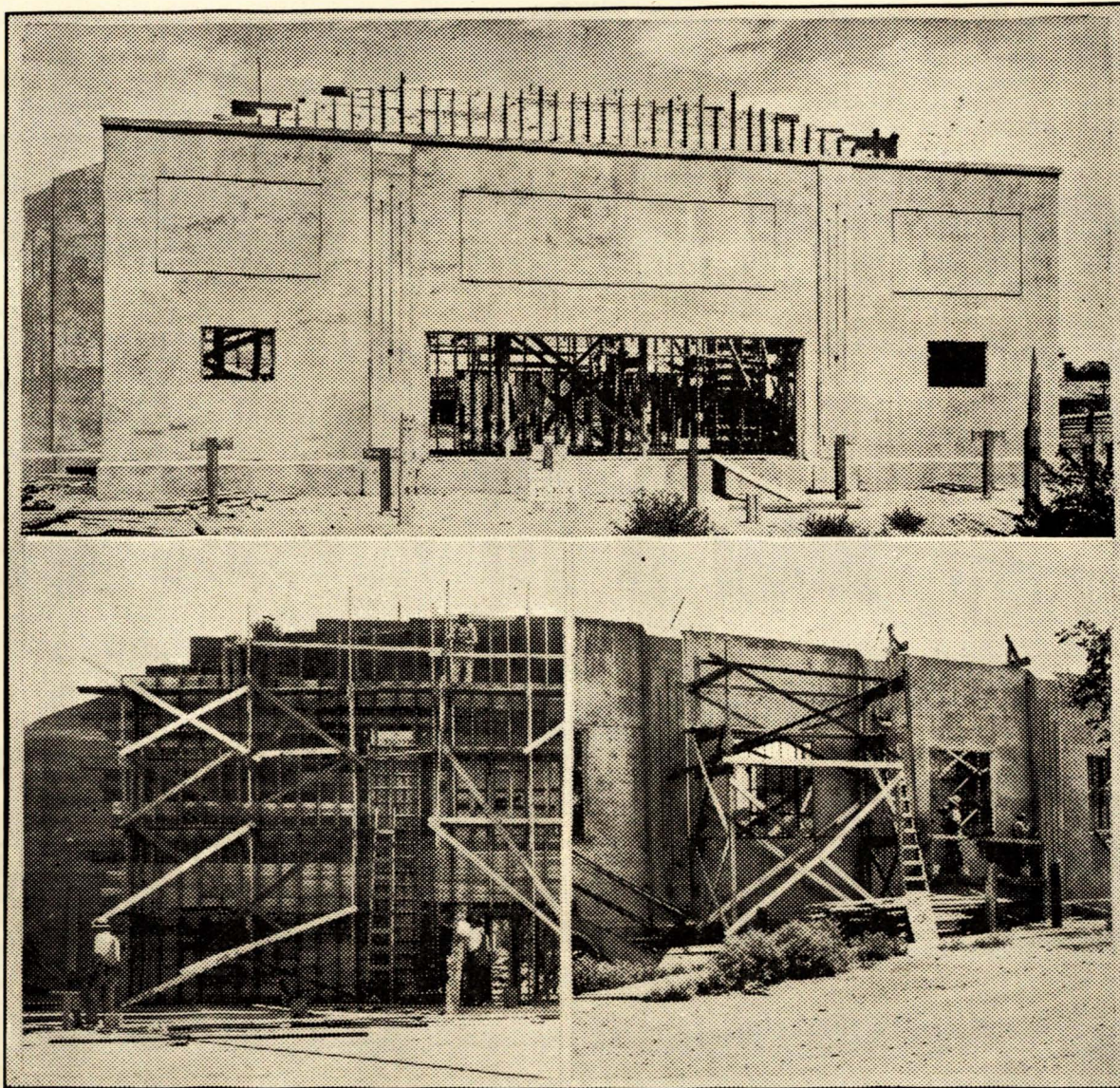
The layout above pictures the Black Hills, Huron, Watertown, Hot Springs and Mitchell ports with the latest transportation facilities now in use.

The tri-city airport in the Hills was completed with approximately \$15,000 from the county and \$27,519 contributed by the WPA. The large hangar was built under the FERA program. At Hot Springs the federal contribution amounted to \$3,880. The city furnished \$895.

At Mitchell field, shown above, the city furnished \$3,875 and the federal government carried the additional \$15,328 needed. On the Watertown field where an administration building is now under construction the city is spending \$2,655 while the WPA has given \$44,310. The Huron airport cost the city \$8,616. The federal government contributed \$67,399. On this field additional sums of \$800 from the city and \$17,810 from the WPA will be spent for the construction of a new administration building.

The up-to-date equipment, buildings and level landing fields made possible by city and government cooperation promise an encouraging air transportation business future for South Dakota.

New Armory--Auditorium at Pierre



Pierre, the Capital City, will no longer be embarrassed by the lack of proper auditorium facilities for political and social functions.

The old, inadequate auditorium which had long served as a gathering place, has been torn down and a new, spacious building is nearing completion in its stead.

WPA, in co-operation with the S. D.

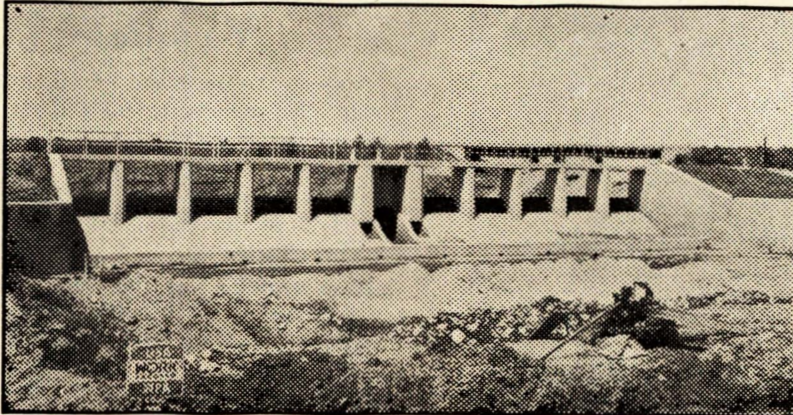
Armory Board and the city of Pierre, has nearly completed the \$29,728 structure which will totally over-shadow the old frame auditorium. The new auditorium and armory will be modern in every respect. Massive 8-inch concrete walls, one of which is 20 feet high, make the structure outstanding from the construction point of view in the state.

Over 128 feet long and 80 feet wide, the auditorium will provide excellent

facilities for the Capital City. The full basement will be quipped with a rifle range, dining room and kitchen for the National Guard unit. The first floor will be given over entirely to seating accommodations. A built-in stage will occupy the north end. A public address system may be installed later.

WPA is furnishing \$23,660 while the sponsors are contributing \$6,115.

Big Stone Lake Raised by WPA



If Big Stone Lake goes dry it will not be the fault of WPA engineers.

The elements erred seriously when the region around Big Stone Lake was formed, but the mistake is being corrected as WPA workmen are re-directing the course of the Whetstone River, forcing it to pour its waters into the lake.

A huge dike is being built across the lower end of Big Stone with a narrow outlet on the eastern side, directly in

line with the Minnesota outlet. The Whetstone, obstructed by a dam, is being diverted by channel directly to the outlet of the dike.

The project is made possible through the cooperation of Minnesota, South Dakota and the federal government. This state's share of men on the project is more than 30 workers. WPA is furnishing \$18,728 for the project.

The picture above shows the excellent workmanship in the project.

Enrollment Increases In Adult Education Classes

With a 75 per cent increase in enrollment in adult education classes during the period from Feb. 1 to July 1, the popularity of this phase of the WPA program speaks for itself. During the interval the number of teachers was reduced from 280 to 240.

On Feb. 1 approximately 7,500 pupils were enrolled in the various classes under the adult education division. On July 1 the figure stood at more than 12,000. This total is divided equally between rural and urban families. Requests from rural homes have multiplied since drought has reduced farm duties to a minimum.

Of the 12,000 total, a survey revealed the fact that only 20 per cent had finished the eighth grade, 19 per cent the twelfth grade and but 6 per cent had gone to college. Of the group enrolled about 5,500 were between the ages of 16 and 25, while 370 were more than 66 years old.

The efficacy of the program has been shown. Thousands of people, unable to go to continue their education because of financial difficulties, and other reasons, are now given an opportunity to go to school.

W. P. A. Co-Operates to Give Astoria Modern Water System

The "old town pump" will soon be a thing of the past at Astoria where the city and the federal government are co-operating in building a modern 50-thousand-gallon capacity water reservoir.

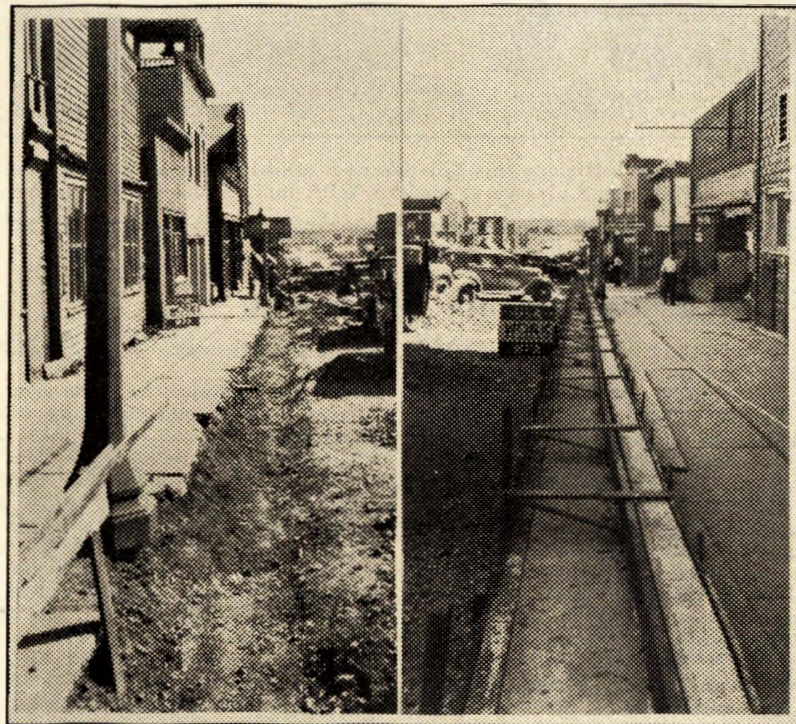
The new water system which will be centralized 90 feet above the town's street level will completely supplant the antiquated system which has been in use. Twenty-one men and one foreman have been working on the 18-sided reservoir which will be 15 feet deep, 23 feet in diameter and will rise 5 feet above ground level.

A novel feature in construction has been introduced with the use of transite, a composition of asbestos and cement, which does away with the usual cast iron pipe and can be laid without the use of skilled labor. M. A. Kennedy, WPA administrator, said today. A substantial saving is expected to be made with its use.

A centrifugal pump with an average capacity of 100 gallons a minute will feed the reservoir from a 15-foot well, providing Astoria with an adequate water supply.

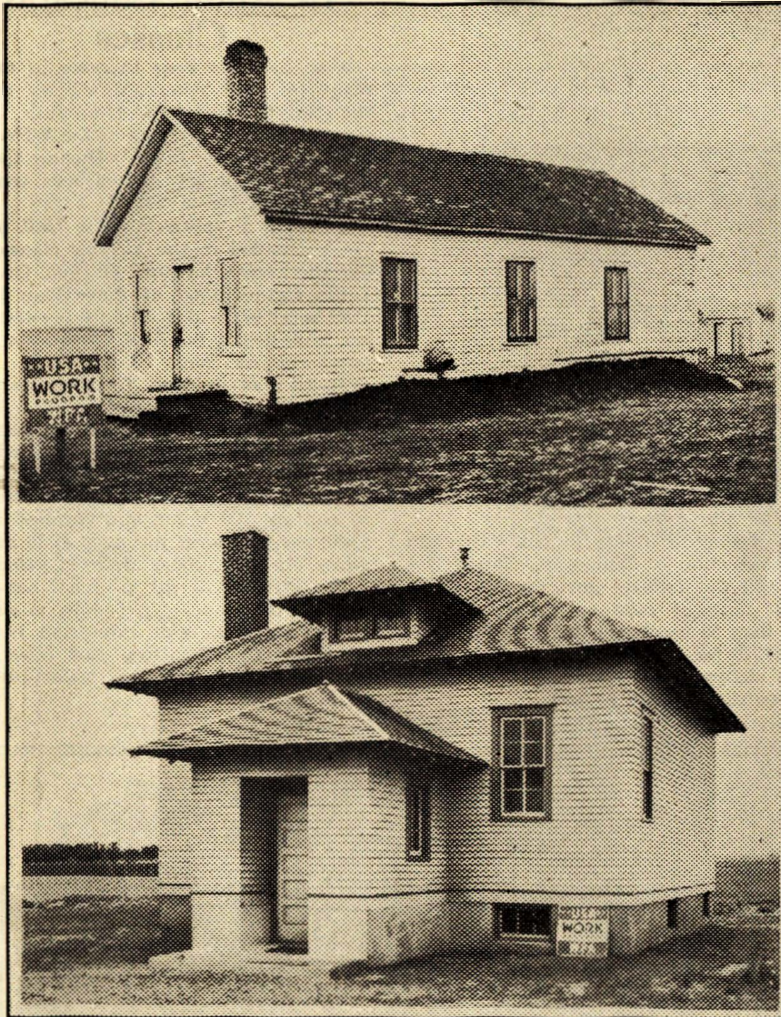
The new water system will cost the city \$1,888. The federal government furnishing the additional \$11,100 needed.

Before and After



WPA has just completed this new sidewalk and curbing project at Sisseton, giving the street and entirely new appearance. WPA contributed \$2860 and the sponsors \$1584.

The Old and The New



When the school bell rings this fall this new school house at Lily will be open for business. This is one of several modern WPA-built school houses in the state.

Writers Issue Literary Magazine For Workers; Honor S. D. Author

The Federal Writers' Project of the WPA has been widening its scope of late. In addition to its regular task of getting out the State Guide, it has engaged in literary work in two other directions.

In association with the Northeastern South Dakota Historical Society and the Community Club of Ordway, it sponsored the erection and unveiling of a memorial to Hamlin Garland, "the dean of American letters," on the site of the homestead which he claimed as his residence from 1181 to 1884. The homestead was a mile and a half northeast of Ordway and approximately twelve miles from Aberdeen.

As its contribution towards this occasion, the Writers Project issued a stencilled booklet containing an extended biography of the author by a member of

the Writers' Project of Aberdeen, with corrections and additions by Hamlin Garland himself.

The other venture of the Writers' Project is the issuance of the first number of a monthly magazine to be called appropriately "MSS." The purpose of this little magazine is two-fold: to acquaint the members of the project throughout the state with the type and style of material desired for inclusion in the forthcoming Guide; and secondly, to encourage them to send in contributions of their own in prose or verse and thus develop self-expression and writing ability and further bind the entire project into one homogeneous whole. Ultimately it is hoped to extend the circulation of the magazine widely among the WPA projects of this state.

Surplus Commodities Given To Needy Families

Surplus commodities furnished to state relief agencies by the Federal Surplus Commodity Corporation are intended to assist those who are in need and to expand domestic consumption, according to J. M. Haggardt, director of commodity distribution.

It is expected that the state agency will make suitable arrangements for approved case investigation and certification of eligibility of all cases to receive these supplies in order that surplus commodities will be made available only where the need exists as determined by accepted standards.

Certifying agencies charged with the responsibility of determining the eligibility of surplus commodity recipients must bear in mind the fact that the commodities are to be issued in addition to rather than in substitution for other relief or income.

Priority is given to full requirements of general recipients and resettlement recipients in the distribution of surplus food commodities.

Institutions and other agencies are to be supplied only in the event that ample quantities are available and in excess of requirements of preferred groups.

Resettlement clients who have been assigned to WPA work are not eligible for surplus commodities after receiving their first check.

Surplus commodities made available for relief during August were as follows: Regulation amount of canned meat, large quantities of fresh Bartlett pears, good supply of flour and dried beans, and peas, evaporated California French prunes and Bermuda type onions.

On account of the flour supplied being made from soft wheat, bulletins have been released instructing clients how to make good bread from this flour, same procedure is being used for fresh pears.

Safety Dept. Reports Few Accidents On WPA

A report from the safety department of WPA reveals only 209 loss-of-time accidents during the period July 1, 1935 to July 1, 1936.

During this time there have been three deaths, and these only indirectly attributable to work on WPA projects. The compensation department records would show about half the above 209 accidents because there loss-of-time begins after the third day of absence instead of one as counted in the safety department.

Personnel Directory

The South Dakota

Works Progress Administration

STATE OFFICE, PIERRE

M. A. Kennedy, Administrator
E. J. B. Longrie, Deputy Administrator
J. H. Byrne, Office Manager
W. R. Edgington, Director of Operations
Marvin Reedy, Construction Engineer
Joseph J. Schwarz, Architect
Frank H. Davis, Supervisor of Purchases
H. E. Ahlen, Safety Consultant
Carl E. Boe, Director of Finance and Statistics
Ray Wickware, Ass't Dir. of Finance
Al Weisbecker, Ass't Dir. of Finance
Merle J. Brown, Compensation Officer
James R. Kerper, Director of Employment
Ellery E. Kelley, Ass't Dir. of Employment
Ethel M. Dowdell, Director of Women's and Professional Projects
Amos E. Rogers, Director of Education
Lisle Reese, Director of Writers' Projects
Director of Information

DISTRICT 1, ABERDEEN

J. R. Foran, District Administrator
R. J. Welsh, Dir. of Finance
A. E. Cooper, Ass't Dir. of Finance
Glen Matteson, Dist. Engineer.
Thomas L. Craven, Senior Engineer
E. A. Ortmayer, Senior Engineer
Hazel Hobart, Dir. Women's and Prof. Projects.
Kenneth C. Gebhard, Dir. of Employment
Jesse G. Smith, Ass't Dir. Employment

DISTRICT 2, WATERTOWN

Floyd W. Stephen, District Administrator
T. H. Crampton, Dir. of Finance
Harold Hughes, Ass't Dir. Finance
S. J. Mondlock, Dist. Engineer
Harold Van Ornum, Resident Engineer
Mrs. Evelyn Keane, Dir. Women's and Prof. Projects
Henry A. Dickinson, Dir. of Employment
Arthur L. Metcalfe, Ass't Dir. Employment

DISTRICT 3, SIOUX FALLS

John P. Biehn, District Administrator
J. H. Talish, Dir. of Finance
Earl A. Martens, Ass't Dir. of Finance
W. H. Crampton, District Engineer
Ed. L. Griffin, Ass't Engineer
W. C. Aegerter, Senior Engineer
Robert Hynes, Senior Engineer
Dave H. McAuley, Senior Engineer
Gertrude E. Flyte, Dir. Women's and Prof. Projects.
Wendell C. Fritzel, Dir. of Employment
Bob Butts, Ass't. Dir. Employment

DISTRICT 4, PIERRE

Clyde R. Smith, District Administrator
A. W. Crockett, Dir. of Finance
E. B. Kenefick, Ass't Dir. Finance
Charles F. Malven, Dist. Engineer
T. R. Zimmerman, Senior Engineer
Tansy Boorman, Dir. Women's and Prof. Projects.
Leonard Jennewin, Dir. of Employment
Ralph Humphrey, Ass't. Dir. Employment

DISTRICT 5, RAPID CITY

F. H. Brown, District Administrator
Neil Simpson, Dir. of Finance
Adolph Schroeder, Ass't Dir. Finance
J. H. Lake, District Engineer
L. A. Daugherty, Senior Engineer
Frank F. Soutar, Senior Engineer
Walter Walkling, Senior Engineer
Eva Morgen, Dir. Women's and Prof. Projects
William F. Donnelly, Dir. of Employment
Mary Heumphreus, Ass't Dir. Employment