

Public Invited To Visit WPA Sewing Project



PICTORIAL VIEW OF
SEWING PROJECT

Top:- Cutting Dept. Mid
dle: Stitching Dept. Bottom:

Sewing Dept. Single pictures
Top to Bottom: Mr. Michael
E. Rose, Sponsor's agent of
WPA Sewing Project. Mary

E. Golden who supervises at
the Project and Mary D.
Ritcey, timekeeper.
Complete story on back page

Gloucester Has Fine WPA Sewing Project

**More Than 20,000 Garments Produced Last Year
Valued At \$35,000 - - - Every Garment Given
To Needy - - - Is One Of The Best Conducted
Projects Under WPA - - - Larger Production
For 1940.**

In 1935 when the Federal Government first set up the WPA, a sewing project was started in Gloucester as a means of supplying work for women who were entitled to work in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Works Program which was, in this year, instituted by the Federal Government. The women on this project have been engaged in making various types of garments which, when completed, are given to people on relief in this City and the nearby towns. This project serves a double purpose - - it provides the unemployed with work, and supplies the needy with clothing. Since 1935 thousands on top of thousands of garments have been distributed to the people who are on relief.

Open House For All Visitors

During the week of May 20th the Federal Government requested that an open house be maintained on these projects, in order to familiarize the people of the communities in which these projects are operated, with the work of these projects, and that a special effort be made to invite inspection of this type of work by the people of the community.

During recent weeks there has been installed with the co-operation of the City and Federal officials, modern, up-to-date, factory type machines which will greatly increase the production of this project. Both City and Federal officials who are responsible for the operation of this unit, would be very pleased to welcome any and all people who may be interested in inspecting the work of this project during the week of May 20th.

Project Is One Of City's Best Conducted

This project, located at 10 Pearce Street, Gloucester employs 50 women at the present time. During the year 1939 this unit produced over 20,000 garments, having a cash value of more than \$35,000. Each one of these garments were given to people who are on relief in the City of Gloucester. In the opinion of the City officials, this project is one of the best that the WPA has set up in their work program. The people who work on this project, knowing the value of the work they do, would be more than happy if the people of Gloucester and surrounding towns would inspect this project and familiarize themselves with the work which they do.

City and Federal employees will be on the project during the week to show visitors the work being done. They would welcome any and all people and would be more than happy if hundreds of people would take advantage of this opportunity to inspect this project.

VETERAN'S GRAVES REGISTRATION OPENS

Under the supervision of Mr. William S. Anderson, Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars a complete mapping and recording of all vital data of veterans buried in local cemeteries will be done as part of a state wide WPA Project. These records when completed will be furnished to the city and can be carried on for ever, furnishing a complete index and service history of the veterans of all wars since the Revolution.

The members of this project were in Salem on Monday of this week and were instructed by Mr. Attridge, the division supervisor, on how to coordinate the work of the local project with that of the rest of the State.

Next week is National Visitor's Week on WPA Professional and Service Projects and the members of the Project and Mr. Anderson extend a cordial invitation to the general public to come to the old Continuation School at 48 Washington street and observe the Project in operation.

MONDAY, MAY 20, 1940.

VITAL STATISTICS AND WPA

The world offers a strange contrast today. Human lives on battlefields are being wiped out by hundreds of thousands, on the one side. On the other, the census figures appear, and instinctively we rejoice at a growth in population. Every detail of every individual that hints at a certain quality in him is precious. We record his birth and death; his name, history and adventures. He isn't mere cannon-fodder—he's a human being that is meant to count in the world!

WPA people have been doing something to help us keep this realization. We've liked the humanist specialization of its so-called "white collar" branches—which are inviting us this week to inspect their work. They've dealt with books and old buildings and people in their human interests old and new. Personally, we don't think they've always hit it in their state and section guide-books. Of course, you've seen them. But though we differ from some of their judgments expressed, the idea of publishing these sectional pictures of the country was excellent. The books deal with human beings and all the deeds and dreams that make people's lives on earth so worth the living. They're often good reading.

Boston WPA workers announce a specially good exhibit of a similar sort for this week's public inspection. They have collected and transcribed—and some of the original records will be presented at 150 Causeway street—all Boston's vital statistics from its beginning in 1630. A lot of interesting people of course have been born in Boston—among them, surprisingly enough, Madame Perkins of the Department of Labor. We didn't know that she came from these parts. There's Benjamin Franklin and Edgar Allen Poe, Cotton Mather and Mr. Ambassador Kennedy. And lots of others have been baptized, married or died there.

All these vital statistics—what queer spelling some of the older ones show!—used to be kept chiefly in churches—and still are kept there to suggest their spiritual and eternal meaning. Church records still figure largely in collecting vital statistics. Gradually, however, cities and towns took their share in keeping them. We think the WPA has done a useful work in insuring the preservation of these facts that define the identity and meaning of human beings. Go to your public library and see if there isn't some exhibit of the sort there, to stir your thought and faith. This is a sad time for people. But people all the same, are pretty valuable things.

Gloucester

1-8

Gloucester Times

3-6

OFFICIALS PAY VISIT TO LOCAL WPA PROJECTS

Alderman George H. Newell, acting mayor; Alderman Allan C. Gerring, and George E. Hodsdon, WPA coordinator, this forenoon formally inaugurated WPA White Collar Project week, which is being observed nationwide this week by visiting WPA rec-

reation headquarters, 21 Main street, the sewing and household aid projects and WPA surplus commodity depot on Pearce street, WPA recreation arts and crafts project at 158 Main street and the graves registration project at the Continuation school. The visits will be continued after lunch.

"OPEN HOUSE" FOR NURSERY PROJECT

The Nursery School WPA project will have "open house" this week in connection with WPA's "open house week." The nursery school is located in the Hildreth school and the public is invited to visit it any day from 8.30 a. m. to 2.30 p. m. Attending are children of pre-school age with an appropriate program that includes a free play period from 9 to 9.30; mid-morning lunch from 9.45 to 10; singing from 10 to 10.20; outdoor activity from 10.20 to 12, noon. Then the noon day lunch is served and the children have their nap period from 12.45 to 2 o'clock. The teachers are Mary Baptiste and Marguerite D. Thurston, while Marion Sunderburk is the cook.

*Follow Jim
5/20*

Gloucester

1-9

WORTH OF WPA "WHITE COLLAR" PROJECTS ARE EXTOLLED AT DINNER

The worth of W. P. A. "white collar" projects was extolled at a dinner attended by some 125 local employees of the projects and guests held in Mansfield hall last evening. The dinner was one of thousands held all over the country.

As part of the program, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt spoke over a radio hook-up, concerning the projects.

Dinner, for which a charge of 25 cents was made, was enjoyed along with informal remarks under the toastmastership of Capt. Sherman G. Harriman, supervisor of the W. P. A. Recreation project. Projects represented were recreation, sewing, household aid (nursing), and veterans' graves census.

The Speakers.

Among the speakers and guests introduced were George E. Hodsdon, local W. P. A. co-ordinator; Alderman George H. Newell, acting mayor, who took as his theme the slogan of the national W. P. A.'s "This work pays in your community," and pointed out what the salaries paid local employees mean to the city; Robert Balcome, chairman of the playground commission; William E. Coull and Howard

F. Corliss, the other commissioners; Robert R. Surrence, superintendent of playgrounds; Michael Rose, local welfare investigator; Miss Mary Ellen Golden, sewing supervisor; William S. Anderson, veterans' graves supervisor; Miss Ruth Murray, household aid supervisor; Miss Nellie Curtis, assistant supervisor of the recreation project; and Frank L. Cox of the writers' project.

For entertainment the Recreation Players directed by Lester F. Day presented a dramatic skit entitled "The Man Who Wouldn't Talk" in which Russell Gagnon and Harlan Dann had the leading roles of a criminal sentenced to death and a prison warden, assisted by Robert Cove, June MacDonald, Alfred Powers and Lores McCloskey; and a humorous bit entitled "Counted Out" with Carroll Smith and Kay O'Keefe acting.

The diners remained for sociability long after the program was over. In charge of the event were Capt. Harriman as chairman; Miss Curtis, Owen N. Parsons and Mrs. Gertrude Olsen also of the recreation project; Miss Golden, Miss Murray, Mr. Anderson, Miss Maude MacDonald, who handled registration, which was required; and Michael Rose.

Island Times
5/21

Gloucester
1-2

WPA Week.

Rockport will observe the WPA "This work pays your community" week, being observed throughout the nation this week, with a supper to-night at 8 o'clock at the WPA recreation project headquarters at Dock square when the recreation and nursery school projects will be the diners, as well as the sponsors of both projects, including the selectmen and the school authorities.

During the remainder of the week "open house" will be observed on both projects, for all people who wish to inspect the work that is being done.

Gloucester Times
5/20

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Blane J. Miller
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Plowater Diner
5/20

Jee B

GLoucester Daily Times, SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1940.

PROCLAMATION

"THIS WORK PAYS IN YOUR COMMUNITY"
WEEK, MAY 20 to 25.

Work Projects Administration consists of two types of projects; the one known as Manual and the second termed as Professional and Service or better known as "white collar" projects. Now one may ask of what benefit are these so-called "white collar" projects and my answer is, they must be seen in operation to be actually appreciated.

May 20-25 is National Visitor's Week on WPA Professional and Service projects.

The municipal council, coordinator, sponsors, federal government officials, and last but not least the many sincere and faithful members participating in these projects are anxious that the coming week shall prove in reality, "This Work Pays in Your Community" and, therefore, cordially invite everyone to visit the projects now in operation and in particular, those better known as "white collar" projects, named below.

The sewing project located at 10 Pearce street and organized in 1935 has become, indeed, a most valuable asset to our city, when we consider the quality and quantity of its productions and their value to the many recipients in our own and surrounding communities.

The household aid project located at 10 Pearce street is another valuable and much appreciated project. Its duties consists of aiding in a general way those on relief who are unable to carry on their household duties, because of illness, or for other good and sufficient reasons.

The recreation projects with locations at 158 and 21 Main street have become a very important feature in our program for the mental and physical development of our younger generation. These projects really have to be visited in order to appreciate the amount of patience, tact and experience necessary for successful recreational results.

At 158 Main street the Arts and Craft classes may be found learning wood carving, metal working, basketry, sewing, fancy hand work and paper working.

At 21 Main street one may find another form of recreational work in operation. Here, we find during the winter months a Play Assembly class wherein children not over five years old are cared for and taught to harmoniously mingle with their playmates in the little games of childhood. In the summer, these same little children are supervised in their play at out-of-door playgrounds. We also find here classes in dramatics, navigation, old-fashioned dances, nature studies and various forms of athletics.

The Veterans project located in the old Continuation School at 48 Washington street will be appreciated for its complete mapping and recording of all important data of veterans buried in local cemeteries. These records will furnish an index and service history of the veterans of all wars since the Revolution, and are sure to become of great value to all students of history, present and in the future.

This is a nationwide observance of "This Work Pays in Your Community" week and Gloucester joins with the nation in reviewing the splendid work that the Professional and Service projects are performing.

Therefore, I urge the good people of Gloucester and neighboring communities to visit and familiarize themselves with the working of these projects, thereby, participating in this week's demonstration of "This Work Pays in Your Community."

May I remind you on Monday, May 20th, between 10 and 11 o'clock p. m., there will be a radio broadcast which will furnish you with more detailed information regarding the value of this work.

DR. GEORGE H. NEWELL,
Acting Mayor