More than 8,000 musicians formerly on relief are now employed with the cooperation of State and local sponsors on 162 Federal music projects in 19 States, according to Dr. Nikolai Sokoloff, Director of Federal Music Projects.

Musical auditions, or examinations, are being conducted frequently all over the country, the announcement stated, and when project reports from all States are completed, it is estimated that between 16,000 and 17,000 musicians will be employed at the various kinds of musical work for which they have been especially trained.

There are now projects for 29 concert and symphony orchestras, 22 bands, 25 chamber music ensembles, 43 choruses and quartets, 28 dance orchestras, and three light operas; five music-teaching projects, six projects employing trained music copyists, librarians, tuners, and music binders; and one project for soloists.

Five relief orchestras of the symphonic type are located in Florida; one each in Duval County, Highlands County, Pensacola, Tampa, and West Palm Beach. There is also a concert orchestra in Miami.

Symphony orchestras are located in New Orleans, La.; Salem, Newton, and Worcester, Massachusetts; Grand Rapids, Jackson, and Lansing, Michigan; Omaha, Nebraska; and Buffalo and Yonkers, New York. There are five symphony orchestras in New York City. Durham, North Carolina has one, Portland, Oregon, two; San Antonio, Texas, one; and Richmond, Virginia, one.

Group teaching of instruments, voice, chorus, theory, music history, and appreciation have employed 900 teachers, it was reported.

One teaching project of especial interest, it was pointed out, is the contribution of Madam Olga Samaroff Stokowski in supervising a class in instruction to teachers in a "layman's music course." These teachers are being trained and equipped to enter a new field as teachers of groups of adult listeners desiring to understand music.
Music centers offering teacher-training courses through a composers' forum laboratory are planned, with one in New York City already attracting "overflow" audiences. The purpose of such a program is to "provide an opportunity for serious composers residing in America, both known and unknown, to hear their own compositions and test the reactions of auditors, as well as to present their own particular viewpoint, and thus benefit by a public discussion of their works." An enthusiastic response upon the part of composers and much favorable comment upon the program has been reported.

The report pointed out that the Federal Music Project cooperates in supplying music for CCC camps; forming orchestras in conjunction with the National Youth Administration; combining the facilities of theatre and music projects in plays with light opera and opera; and also a comprehensive plan for rural music education.

Dr. Sokoloff declared that "the development of symphony and concert orchestras portends a possible continuance in some form of the best talent as an additional outlet for employment of local musical ability and also an enrichment of community life. Similar to the best of European tradition that almost every city or district should have a symphony orchestra, the Federal Music Project, while primarily meeting the needs of the economic emergency by employing relief musicians, is developing as an inevitable by-product an institution germane to the musical life of the country."

Another project commanding wide interest, Dr. Sokoloff pointed out, is that which will provide an opportunity for young conductors to try their abilities and for composers to hear their compositions through rehearsals and performances of relief symphony orchestras, bands, dance orchestras, chamber music and choral groups.

One young composer of outstanding talent has written the director of the Federal Music Project, as follows:

"It is indeed encouraging and an inspiration to the young American conductor and composer to be given thought, consideration, and opportunity through the work you are doing for the advancement of music played and composed by Americans. Please accept my most sincere and deep thanks for consideration of my musical efforts in the field of conducting."