WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

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WPA IMPROVING HUNDREDS OF WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMS MONTHLY

Works Progress Administration employees completed 1800 projects extending or improving sewerage systems and 600 projects extending or improving water supply systems between July 1 and November 1, according to a survey of physical accomplishments made public today by Colonel F. C. Harrington, Works Progress Administrator.

The survey of accomplishments covered the entire field of publicly-owned utilities, including sanitation and public health facilities and conservation work, in addition to water and sewer systems.

Each month, at the rate of operations during this period, WPA has been completing projects providing:

- 284 miles of sewers, 5898 new service connections and 8,000 manholes and catch basins;
- 141 miles of water lines and 5079 new consumer connections;
- 97 storage dams, 44 wells, 32 reservoirs, tanks or cisterns, 10 pumping stations and 14 sewage treatment plants;
- 300 miles of mosquito control ditches;
- 1025 dams other than storage dams;
- 759 retaining walls and revetments.

In addition, WPA workers each month reconstructed or otherwise improved:

- 47 miles of sewers, 99 service connections and 2851 manholes and catch basins;
- 163 miles of water lines and 4373 consumer connections;
- 9 reservoirs, tanks or cisterns, 9 sewage treatment plants, 7 pumping stations and 6 storage dams.

The survey showed that 456,000 persons were employed on WPA projects of the type covered by the survey at the close of the period. More than half
of them, or 247,000, were engaged on projects connected with water and sewer systems. Flood control and other conservation projects accounted for 122,000 and sanitation and health for 87,000.

The water and sewer system projects completed during the four months provided 555 miles of new water mains, aqueducts or distribution lines and 20,315 new consumer connections; and 1,133 miles of new storm and sanitary sewers and 23,594 new service connections.

Improvements to existing water and sewerage lines and new or improved plant facilities benefited thousands of additional residents and businesses. Such works completed during the four months, in addition to those already cited, included construction of six water treatment plants and repairs and improvements to 10 such plants. WPA also constructed 10 garbage incinerators and improved two others.

WPA workers completed during the four months 4,100 dams, other than storage dams, for conservation purposes. The ditches dug to drain the breeding places of malaria-transmitting and other mosquitoes totaled 1,190 miles, greater than the distance from New York to Kansas City. Improvements were made to 459 miles of such ditches.

Also in the interest of conserving natural resources and protecting life and property, the survey disclosed, WPA project workers completed 244 miles of firebreaks, 239 miles of forest trails and reforestation of 1,998 acres. They built 23 miles of levees and embankments and four miles of bulkheads and improved 92 miles of levees and embankments and three and one-third miles of bulkheads. Various river bank improvements totaled 134 miles and stream bed improvements 242 miles.
Sanitary work included the construction of 139,768 sanitary toilets in areas lacking public sewer systems, 3,895 cesspools and 325 septic tanks. Sealing of 862 mine openings, to prevent pollution of streams by acids, also was completed during the four months.

Construction of 12 miles of flume or canal and improvement of 54 miles provided irrigation water for 3,055 acres and improved the irrigation of 164,416 acres. Twelve fish hatcheries with an annual fingerling capacity of 106,660,000 were built and 16 with a capacity of 79,025,000 were improved.