

PLANNING NEWS

MAY 1937



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IOWA

PLANNING NEWS

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Des Moines, Iowa

May 1937

GOLF WINS PLACE IN PARKS

Recreation Planners Recognize Demand for Courses
in Designing Municipal Play Facilities

By J. David Armstrong, Supervisor
Recreation Project

Golf, once thought of as rich man's game, now is being played by hundreds of thousands of Americans. So popular has it become as a mass recreation that it now commands a definite place in municipal park budgets and other public recreational programs.

Many groups of citizens ask this question: "What can we do to make our community more desirable and enjoyable for all?" Then they answer their own question in this manner: "People long for happiness and a place to play during their leisure time, and well planned and organized industry requires space where workers will have a chance to live happily and improve their environment and raise their social and physical standards".

With a great number of young people employed in factories and workshops, the question of the use of leisure hours, in winter and summer, has been and is a constant problem. As a partial answer to this problem, the provision of open spaces for golf courses has been considered for many years. There should be no difficulty in providing adequately for sport and play fields, thus making community centers available for all

types of recreation.

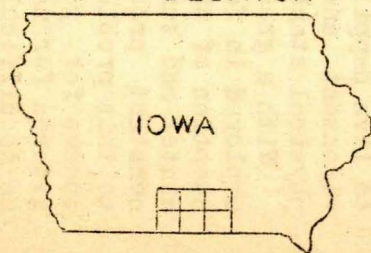
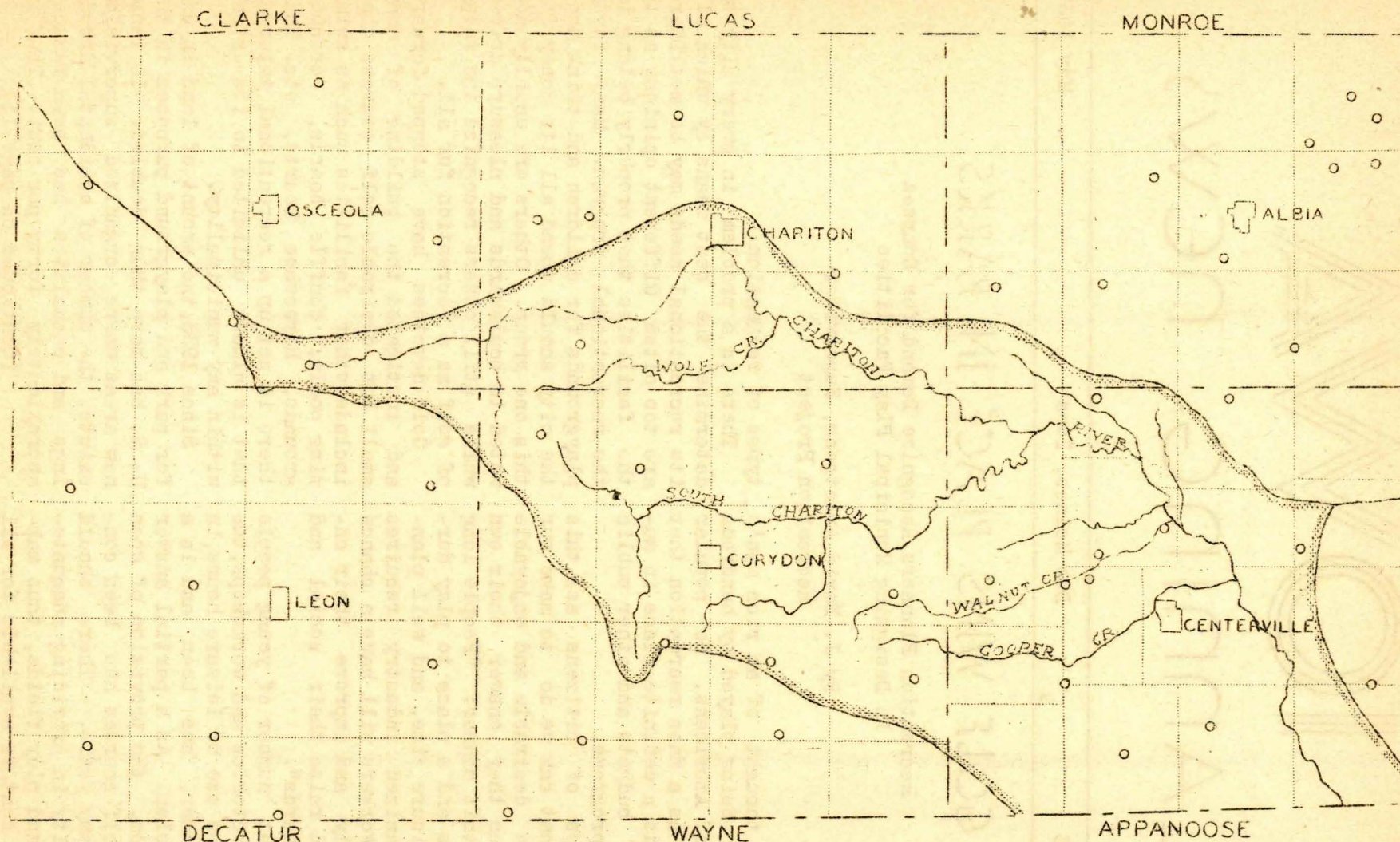
There is a problem in every city to determine the best means by which all its recreational needs may be met. There are too often different opinions as to the facilities that properly belong in the recreational program. Many favor playgrounds for children and think that the city should spend all its money for this one group. Others are equally devoted to boulevards and pleasure drives, while still others recognize the value of golf as a recreation for all.

Golf devotees have stepped forward and instigated the building of many small but desirable golf courses that include other facilities such as swimming pools, shuffle boards, croquet grounds, horseshoe courts, etc. Thus there is set up a recreational interest that is almost unlimited in its extent within any municipality.

Since 1933, the amount of land in use for park and playground purposes in the U. S. has more than doubled. In these new areas where organized supervision exists, the number of accidental drownings and casualties has been reduced approximately forty per cent. Thus is

(Continued on page 11)

SOUTHERN IOWA DEMONSTRATION AREA



Shown on this map is the Chariton River Basin area included in the Southern Iowa Demonstration Project being inaugurated under auspices of the Iowa State Planning Board. Many County, State and Federal agencies will cooperate in the coordinated planning and long-time development program which this project contemplates.

CHARITON PROJECT MOVES AHEAD

Club Groups Hear Explanation of Demonstration Area
Proposals; Field Engineer Appointed

The latest activity prior to completion of this month's issue of Iowa Planning News in the proposed project to undertake a demonstration of the coordination of activities of governmental agencies operating within the Chariton River Basin and in the six Southern Iowa counties, parts of which are included in the basin, took place in Chariton, May 20.

That evening, the Chariton Community Club held a dinner to which each member had invited a farmer friend. The program was devoted to a discussion of the Chariton Valley proposal, more properly termed the Southern Iowa Demonstration Area.

Speakers were Editor J. M. Beck of the Centerville Daily Iowegian and Sam V. Carpenter, Centerville, chairman of the Chariton Valley Planning Board. Also attending were two engineers representing the Iowa State Planning Board, sponsor of the project in cooperation with the area organization. These were O. J. Baldwin, chief engineer, and Laurence W. Murray.

Better Understanding

The Community Club dinner aided greatly in furthering one objective, a better understanding on the part of the people of Lucas County as to the purposes and program of the proposed demonstration.

Another recent news event was the announcement by Chairman Carpenter of the appointment by the Iowa State Planning Board of Mr. Murray as field engineer for the project. This appointment is the direct result of the request of the Chariton Valley Planning Board, presented to the State Board early in April, and supported by petitions from every township in the six counties involved, numbering in all nearly 5,000 signatures. (Location of

the area is shown on the map opposite.)

Mr. Murray has outlined three steps which should be taken first by the area organization in the development of a program. These are (a) determining the general needs of the area, (b) determining the extent, location and type of activities being carried on at the present time by various federal, state and local agencies within the area, and (c) suggesting the possible extension of activities now carried on by these agencies within the area.

Another discussion of the demonstration area project will take place in Chariton the evening of May 28, when the Rotary Club will devote its dinner meeting to the subject. Mr. Murray and Mr. Baldwin have been invited to speak

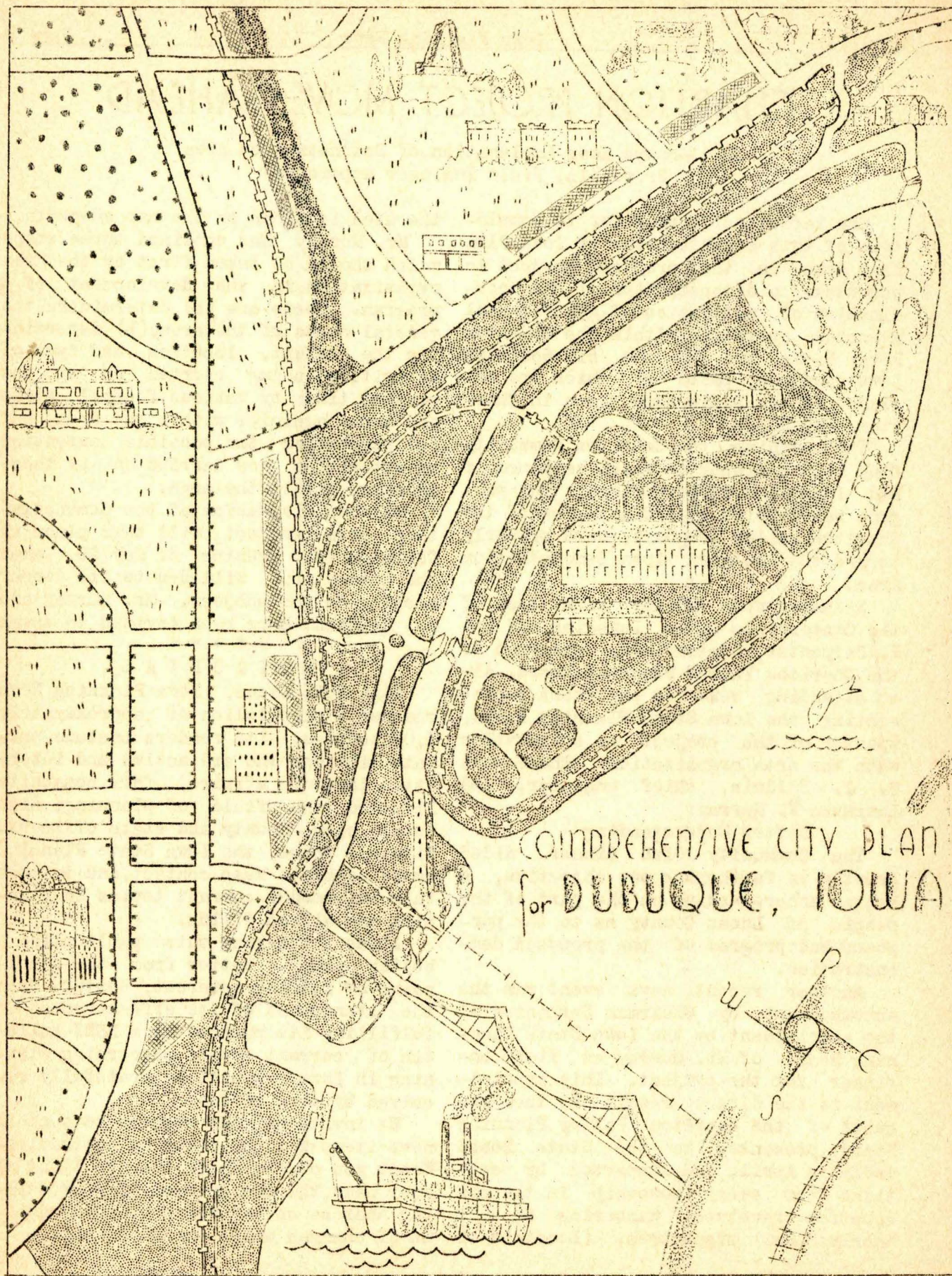
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EDITORIAL

With this issue, Iowa Planning News reaches a circulation of approximately 4,000 copies. Its readers include private citizens who are active and interested in civic affairs, farm community life and the field of planning; also town, city, county and state officers. With all these, the Iowa State Planning Board seeks to keep contact, and to keep them informed on current topics in planning and allied fields.

Ideas for making this publication a better one, -- better from the standpoint of reading interest, better from the standpoint of its effectiveness in fulfilling its purpose as a NEWS bulletin of current events concerning planning in Iowa, -- will be gratefully received by this office.

We invite all our readers to send in news items of local planning activities. Won't you please check the spelling of your name, the designation of your mailing address on the wrapper, and advise us of changes which should be made.



COMPREHENSIVE CITY PLAN
for DUBUQUE, IOWA

DUBUQUE SEES PLAN DEVELOP

Work of John Nolen Finding Expression in
Civic Center and City Zoning Program

By Carl F. Bartels
City Building Commissioner

The City Plan of Dubuque, Iowa, was prepared by John Nolen and Associates, nationally known City Planners, working in close cooperation with the Dubuque City Planning and Zoning Commission.

The City Plan combines the individual planning of the various city divisions into one comprehensive plan booklet, and by so doing correlates all planning activities into a unified program of development.

Dubuque's City Plan is not an economic plan, as some planning is referred to today, but deals distinctly with the physical features of the city. It is hoped that with the carrying out of this physical plan the social and economic side of city development may follow.

The principal recommendations of Dubuque's comprehensive City Plan are listed under the following headings: Streets and Traffic, Recreation, Public Schools, Public Buildings, Business Districts, Industrial Areas, Transportation, Waterfront, Civic Aesthetics, Zoning, Regional Development and Subdivision of Land.

Under "Streets and Traffic" are recommendations for the development and improvement of a thoroughfare system for the entire city which include types and width of streets, new boulevard locations and interconnecting streets, grade crossing elimination, and better highway approaches to the city.

"Recreation" is covered in the City Plan with the basic idea of making recreational facilities available to persons of all ages through the acquire-

ment and development of parks, playgrounds, swimming pools, drives, parkways and trails.

The planning for the development of the "Public Schools" has to do with acquisition of new school sites, consolidation of certain schools, coordination with recreational grounds and making the schools attractive by good landscaping.

The subject of "Public Buildings" includes the construction, location and coordination necessary to provide a new City Hall, Court House and Federal Building (latter since built and located as shown on the City Plan); Public Auditorium; Cultural Center, consisting of a Library, Museum, and Art Gallery; and landscaping and parking spaces in conjunction with same.

The future expansion of the "Business Districts" is outlined in conjunction with the expansion of facilities for handling of vehicle and pedestrian traffic, new street arteries from residential areas, and the establishment of local business centers.

"Industry" is extensively provided for, new as well as existing, by the provision of setting aside new industrial areas which are to be coordinated with the railroads and natural river transportation facilities.

"Transportation" is discussed and recommendations made in connection with public carriers on the streets of the City; development of a Union Rail and Bus Terminal and Air Port requirements.

The Mississippi Waterfront, of which the city has four and one half (4½)

Artist's Design

On the opposite page appears the cover design for the Dubuque City Plan Book, the work of M. K. Meisner. The printed 48 page book (with maps) containing the City Plan came from the press only recently. Copies are available at the office of the City Building Commissioner, City Hall, Dubuque, where the price will be quoted on request.

miles, is planned for a coordinated development of recreation, industry, river commerce, and for all other purposes. Filling up the lowlands and dredging of new channels for water transportation to industry's door is planned in detail.

"Civic Aesthetics" is discussed and recommendations made for making the city attractive from the standpoint of architecture of buildings, administrative center, protection of natural beauty, landscaping, tree planting, and elimination of unsightly features on certain streets.

"Zoning" (already enacted) is recommended to establish uses of land, providing areas for Residential, Business and Industrial Uses. It seeks to eliminate blighted areas, coordinate density of land with street capacity, and make provision for ample light and air.

"Regional Development" is an important phase of the City Plan, and includes coordination of the highways with the city streets, recreation areas, conservation and protection of natural features and scenic beauty, and the development of the land for uses to which it is best adapted.

The last principal recommendation of the City Plan is the subject of "Subdivision of Land" which has already been put in the form of an ordinance and is now being considered for passage by the City Council.

Space does not permit any discussion or the elaboration of the aforesaid principal points of the City Plan, but these can be read and studied in the new forty-eight (48) page booklet, just off the press.

The personnel of the Planning and Zoning Commission of the City of Dubuque includes: The Right Reverend Monsignor J. M. Wolfe, Chairman; Dr. Dale D. Welch, Vice Chairman; Frederick E. Bissell, William Avery Smith, Richard V. McKay, Secretary; T. DeWitt Waller and Louis C. Stoffregen.

The Commission works closely with all city departments, under authority of the City Council, (and all others having interest in the development of

Dubuque) to the end that as improvements are outlined they will be made and coordinated with the City Plan.

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PLANNERS MEET IN MICHIGAN

Two important national conferences in Michigan will find Iowa represented.

Prof. P. H. Elwood, National Resources Committee consultant for Iowa, attended a Land Use Research Institute at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, May 21 and 22, as one of 15 land use consultants and planning specialists summoned for that purpose. Prof. Elwood took part in the round table discussion, and also contributed a resume of the land use studies made in recent years by the Iowa State Planning Board, Iowa State College and other agencies.

Dean H. H. Kildee, for the past three years chairman of the Iowa State Planning Board, Prof. Elwood, R.H. Matson, director of the State Planning Board, and O.J. Baldwin, chief engineer, expect to attend a National Planning Conference in Detroit, June 1-3. While there, Prof. Elwood will attend a conference of National Resources Committee consultants and other field personnel.

A planning short course will find Prof. Elwood on the campus of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, June 4 and 5. He is to deliver a lecture on the influence of European planning procedures upon American planning activities, with special reference to European garden and landscape architecture. He also will participate as a member of the panel in round table discussions.

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"People of Kansas"

The Iowa State Planning Board Library has received a copy of "The People of Kansas", by Carroll D. Clark and Roy L. Roberts, with a foreword by William Allen White (\$2.00, Kansas State Planning Board, Topeka). This work is a most thorough and competent analysis of the people of a midwestern state and the factors influencing their lives, occupations and dwelling places. -- H.C.

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EDUCATION SURVEY COMMENDED

Head of Vocational Education at Iowa State College
Sees Great Need for Data

"I am very happy to have an opportunity to commend the Iowa State Planning Board's survey of the availability of secondary education in Iowa. It is my opinion that this is one of the most fundamental pieces of educational research that is being carried on anywhere in this country. I hope that this study may be carried on until the entire state has been covered and the data completely tabulated.

"While I was in Washington recently, serving on the staff of the President's Committee on Vocational Education, I felt a great need for this type of information, but it was not available anywhere." -- Letter to the Iowa State Planning Board by Dr. Barton Morgan, Head of the Department of Vocational Education, Iowa State College.

The Iowa State Planning Board for the past six months has been operating a public education survey designed to assemble research material for analysis to show what factors influence the attendance of Iowa boys and girls in the secondary, or high schools of the state.

The eighth grade class of 1932 is being used as a sample for this study, records of pupils before and after graduation being scanned for the information desired. This educational history is being gathered from the offices of county, city, consolidated, town and village school superintendents and principals.

Certain basic information is being recorded for approximately 40,000 pupils in Iowa who completed the eighth grade in 1932, to determine factors which may have influenced the attendance of those pupils in high school. Some of these factors on which conclusions are expected are:

Type of district in which the pupil completed the eighth grade.

Distance he traveled to attend high school.

Age of the child upon completion of the eighth grade.

Transportation of pupils by school districts.

Mobility of families during the years children would normally be in high school.

Type of school organization within the school district where the pupil attended, or would have attended high school.

For pupils completing the eighth grade in rural schools, the enrollment or size of the school as a factor in high school attendance.

Supplementary data concerning further education beyond public school, whether pupils attended the high school nearest their residence, and whether pupils lived away from home during high school attendance, will be studied.

This material will be tabulated by individual counties and for the state as a whole. From these tabulations it will be possible for each county and school district to make certain comparisons with each other and with the state as a whole relative to local situations.

The survey is being sponsored by the State Department of Public Instruction and conducted by the Iowa State Planning Board under a Works Progress Administration project.

Started last November, the work of gathering data from the field is now completed in 60 counties. Tabulations of these data has recently been started in the Planning Board's central tabulating office in Des Moines.

It is expected that a preliminary report will be available during the next few months. Much of the material submitted may be correlated with work previously done, and with future research in the field of public education in Iowa.

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IOWA LEARNS HOW TO PLAY

Fifty Thousand Adults and Children Participate
in Recreation Activities Directed by WPA

By Valeria Winkler

District Supervisor of Recreation

In eighty communities throughout Iowa some 50,000 persons each week participate in recreational activities sponsored and directed by the Works Progress Administration. Under the leadership of 532 WPA recreation leaders, boys and girls, men and women, take part in an extensive program of leisure time activities.

Before the advent of the WPA, little had been done in the field of recreation in the majority of Iowa communities. Most of the towns had parks, nearly all had school grounds equipped with playground apparatus, and some few had community houses of one type or another. Hardly any of the smaller communities, however, had any systematized plan or program of recreational activities.

During the last year the recreation division, cooperating closely with the public spirited and far sighted leaders of these communities, has established and developed programs suited to the needs of each particular community, as well as adapted to the abilities of the directors.

A typical program for an average community includes supervised playgrounds, instruction in arts and crafts, music, nature study and dramatic art. During the summer months WPA directors conduct recreational activities in parks and on

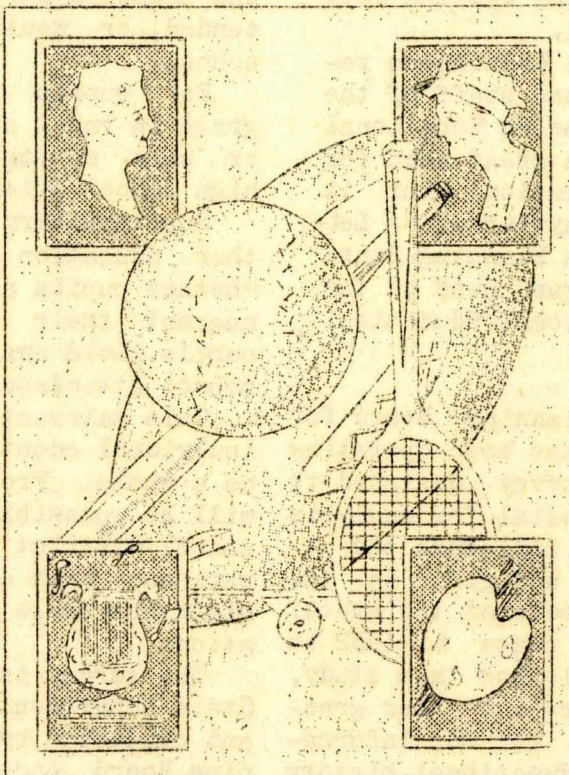
school playgrounds. In localities where there are public swimming pools, life-guards are assigned.

A large share of the program is devoted to physical activities; marble and tennis tournaments, hikes and track meets are special features on every program.

Craft work is one of the phases of the program which is received enthusiastically by all communities. Innumerable articles are made from scrap and tooling leather by adults and children alike. Plaques, book-ends, ash trays, etc., are molded of cement, and many different articles are turned out in the woodcraft shops.

One of the latest developments of the music program has been the organization of bands in the various communities. Directors who have had

previous training are placed in the charge of an experienced band director. After completing an intensive training course each director is located in a community to take full charge of the band. In the majority of these localities there has been no previous band organization and consequently there are very few persons who have received instrumental instruction. Many new bands are composed largely of beginners who are just being taught to play their



instruments by the directors.

In a number of localities, Little Theatre groups have been organized and developed as a part of the WPA recreation program. Patterned after model Little Theatre groups throughout the country, these organizations have their directors, governing boards, actors and back-stage crews. During the winter season a number of very creditable productions were presented by these groups. Puppet shows and story-telling hours are features of the dramatic program, dearly loved by the little children.

Institution Programs

Some of the outstanding work of the recreation project has been done in State and local institutions. At a girls training school, a complete and varied program is sponsored. The girls are given craft training, are taken on nature hikes and are taught needle craft. Programs of one-act plays, readings and musical numbers are frequently presented and the evening sing is an established and well-liked part of the recreation program.

The same general procedure is followed in organizing all recreation projects. Requests for projects are sent to the state office. The Director of Recreation, Elston R. Wagner, refers these requests to various district supervisors who visit the communities and ascertain the type of program desired and the possibility of starting such a program. A lay committee is organized, composed of those persons who are interested in the development of recreation in their community and who are willing to devote time and energy to the advancement of such a project.

Duties of Committees

It is the duty of these committees to cooperate with the supervisor in establishing locations for recreation centers, arrange for the procurement of materials needed and to select the best available persons to supervise the program. Since the ultimate success of a recreation project depends on its directors the selection of such persons is undertaken very carefully.

After the WPA directors have been assigned to the project, a training staff from the state office is sent into the community to instruct these leaders in the fundamentals of recreation, as well as to give them a course of training in craft work, physical activities, etc. At the completion of this course of training the directors are qualified to undertake the actual supervision of the program. Many persons who come to the project with little or no experience, soon develop into outstanding directors.

Underlying Objective

The underlying objective of the entire recreation project in Iowa is to educate the people to appreciate the vital need of a systematic recreation plan to help them develop for themselves a permanent program. We are looking forward to the day when each Iowa community will have -- just as it has its churches and schools -- a well regulated community house and a carefully supervised program of recreational activity.

The growth and development of a complete recreational program in this and other states will provide permanent employment of thousands in this comparatively new field. Such activities help not only to relieve present unemployment but to create new opportunities. The field of outdoor recreation has grown tremendously in the past four years and will continue in increasing proportions as the people learn to realize and appreciate its great value.

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County Planning Guide

A booklet, "County Planning Procedure" which the Iowa State Planning Board issued last year, is in the process of being re-run, and copies will be available for distribution this week. Requests may be sent to the Director, Iowa State Planning Board, Third Floor, Oransky Building, Des Moines. There is no charge for the booklet. Those who previously requested copies will receive them as soon as they are ready.

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"SERVICE" SMALL TOWN SLOGAN

Community Which Serves Its Patrons Best Most
Likely to Survive Economic Onslaughts

By Harold L. Gaunt, Supervisor
Trade Area Survey Project

Of particular importance and interest in any social or economic study of Iowa is the present status and the probable future of the small town. Many persons who were born and reared in small towns, even though they have left these towns for larger cities which they believed offered greater business and social opportunities, still retain an attachment for the "home town".

Much has been said and written about the decadence of community life, and the exodus of the younger generation to the larger cities has led to the prediction that a large percentage of the small towns will disappear with the passing of the older generation. Whether or not this conjecture is valid, it is heard so often that it is fast carrying the conviction of truth. Too little is known definitely of the position of the small town in the existing social and economic order, and indeed practically no reliable information is available upon which to forecast the future of the small town.

Farmer's Social Need

The passing of the "husking bees" and "barn-raisings" has been mourned by the students of rural life, and has been pointed to as evidence of the decline of community spirit and enterprise. Rural community bridge parties and dances notwithstanding, it is apparent that the farmer is fast becoming a participant in recreational activities not of his own making. By making himself dependent upon the services of others his opportunities for entertainment are limited by the choice of others. And while there may be a wider assortment of goods from which to choose, a better

school in which to train his children, and a larger church in which to worship in the nearby city, still he does not feel that he is a part of that community or that the merchants, the teachers and the ministers are particularly interested in his welfare. There is some reason to believe that certain small towns which satisfy the community feeling of the rural residents will have a definite and profitable future.

Habit Knowledge Essential

In an attempt to provide at least some of the data which will be necessary to answer questions regarding the future of the small town, the Iowa State Planning Board has sponsored a number of surveys throughout the state during the past three years. Any efforts in the direction of community planning must start with a knowledge of the habits of people, and also their desires. Knowing the desires of people -- as to shopping, recreation, and so on -- an attempt should be made to satisfy these desires. Probably to the extent to which the small town continues to meet the requirements of its community, that small town will justify its existence and survive.

In 1934 and 1935 approximately 90,000 farmers and residents of small towns throughout the state were interviewed with regard to the towns in which they purchased various types of goods and where they marketed various farm produce. The results of this survey have been tabulated and reports published. Based upon these data, attempts have been made to determine the factors which influence the size of trading areas, and particularly the role played by the

automobile and paved roads in the changing complexion of Iowa communities. Studies also have been made of the shifting of population between rural and urban centers.

Definite Conclusions Possible

In 1935, questionnaires were circulated throughout the state attempting to determine what lodges and clubs people affiliated with; where they attended movies, band concerts, and dances; what towns they went to for medical and legal services; what library facilities they used, and so on. When final tabulation of these data are complete, rather definite conclusions can be drawn as to the existing social aspect of community life in Iowa.

At the present time the State Planning Board is sponsoring a trade area survey which is intended to include every rural resident. The persons shopping in each town or city or availing themselves of other services offered by the city will be determined by an enumeration of license plates of automobiles parked in the city during shopping hours and on special occasions. Counts will be taken over a sufficiently long period to give some indication of the frequency of the persons' visits to the town.

Merchants Seek Farm Trade

While the primary purpose of the survey is to furnish data for economic analysis of Iowa communities, the results of the study will be of great value to merchants in helping them locate their present markets and perhaps revealing potential markets which could be cultivated profitably. The present survey, however, can be regarded only as a preliminary to market research.

Transportation and communication facilities have so enlarged the radius of influence of cities and towns that the community can no longer be considered as that area within the corporate limits, but also includes the surrounding territory which depends upon it for recreation and shopping services. Realization of this fact has led to ef-

forts on the part of merchants to foster a spirit of cooperation and understanding of the farmers' problems, and a feeling among the rural residents that they are a part of the city or town. Commercial clubs and chambers of commerce give dinners for neighboring rural patrons; city and rural churches on special occasions exchange congregations, and band concerts and other features are held to encourage a mutual understanding and interest.

These community activities are evidence of an awakening interest in the community problem. Adequate and profitable community development requires careful and intelligent planning, which in turn must be based upon a broad knowledge of human habits and desires and the extent to which these are influenced by existing facilities.

The Iowa State Planning Board has consistently emphasized the interdependence of rural and urban interests and feels that the formation of County Planning Councils is an important step in bringing representatives of all county wide interests together for frank consideration of mutual and related problems and programs.

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GOLF WINS PLACE IN PARKS

(Continued from page 1)

conserved our most valuable human resource, our children. Municipal authorities are recognizing these facts and are planning community recreational programs that will furnish enjoyment for adults as well as the younger generations.

In furthering such municipal play programs and as demonstrations of workable recreation park plans, the Iowa State Planning Board during the past three years has prepared approximately nine park, playground, golf and recreational plans for the smaller cities and communities of Iowa.

One example of such recreational planning is shown on the cover of Iowa Planning News for this month, the Lenox Waterworks recreation park.

LOW-COST HOUSING DISCUSSED

State Conference Revives Hope for Action in Iowa
Through Municipal Housing Commissions

A program of action along two lines presented itself before a state-wide housing conference held at the call of Dr. Robert O'Brian, Secretary of State, in Des Moines, May 14. These lines are:

1. Study of present legislation and needed legislation to permit organization of non-profit corporations in Iowa to engage in a program of low-cost housing.

2. Development of plans for a "minimum standard house" within the economic reach, without subsidy, of the average low-income family.

Possibilities for self-help were stressed particularly by the Rev. J. M. Campbell of Ames, who as an officer and organizer in the national credit union movement, described the credit union concept by which local capital may be put to work locally at less overhead cost, thus permitting lower interest rates.

"The collective economic power of a group organized for common purposes may be tremendous," Father Campbell said.

Mayor Ralph B. Slippy of Waterloo told the conference of various municipal problems relating to housing, particularly the auto trailer situation. Mayor Slippy has since called a conference to study housing conditions in Waterloo.

W. W. Beal, representing the Waterloo Real Estate Board, suggested that the general public should become better informed as to housing problems and proposed programs for eliminating bad conditions.

"Real, practical homes within the

reach of the slum dweller's purse" are the goal of the housing committee, it was reported by the Des Moines Register.

"Housing programs sometimes fail because the finished product is still too expensive for the people they are supposed to benefit," said Prof. P. H. Elwood, National Resources Committee consultant. "The houses we propose will be cheap enough for lower-bracket renters to rent or purchase and will still be comfortable."

Professor Elwood explained that the program will be non-competitive with private business. "This is a public trust and should be carried on by the public," he said.

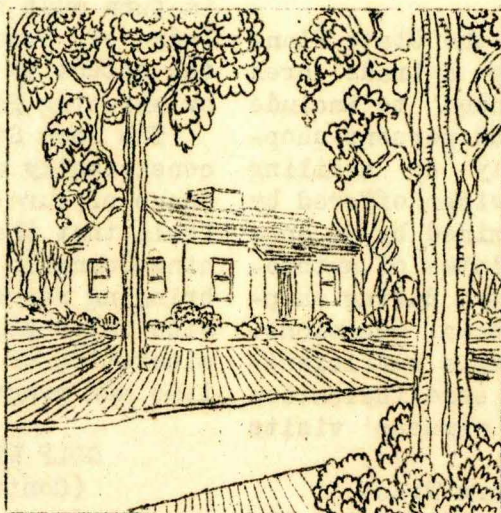
Dr. O'Brian, who presided over the conference, has long had a great personal interest in housing problems in large urban centers. It was his desire that some action again be started in Iowa to study and make use of any possible program for bettering

housing conditions among the low income groups in the state.

An exceptional contribution to the day's discussions was that of Edmond Hoben, assistant director of the National Association of Housing Officials, who came from Chicago to attend and participate in the conference.

Organized activity is expected to follow during the coming months as a result of selection of new officers and appointment of committees.

The organization sponsoring the conference was the Municipal Housing Commissions of Iowa, set up informally about three years ago. It had instigated



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FLASH

* As Planning News was being com- *
 * pleted, tentative plans were afoot *
 * for three conferences of interest *
 * to the general public, to be held *
 * during the next month or six weeks *
 * in North Iowa. One is to be a con- *
 * ference for fish and game enthusi- *
 * asts, probably to be held at Garner; *
 * the second will be a planning con- *
 * ference for Northeastern Iowa, at *
 * Mason City, and the third a similar *
 * planning conference for Northwestern *
 * Iowa at Gull Point State Park, West *
 * Okoboji Lake. *

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(Cont'd from Page 12)

the appointment of housing commissions by the mayors of several of the larger cities of the state. Dr. O'Brian was the state chairman.

Elected as the new state chairman was Mrs. Charles E. Palmer of Sioux City; Mrs. Robert Lappen of Des Moines was named secretary.

Three committees were selected, as follows:

Legislation: Mayor Joe H. Allen of Des Moines, chairman; Mrs. L.R. Elliott, Des Moines; the Rev. J. H. Dawson, Des Moines; E. W. Daily, Burlington; and Attorney J. B. Weaver, Des Moines.

Public relations: Dean Alfred J. Pearson of Drake University, Des Moines, chairman; Mayor Slippery of Waterloo; Mrs. Bert McKee, Des Moines, and A. L. Sarccone, editor of the American Citizen, Des Moines.

Demonstration and collaboration: Leland McBroom, Des Moines architect, chairman; Otto S. Muntz, chairman of the Greater Iowa Commission; Father Campbell of Ames; and C. W. Brockman, Ottumwa city building inspector.

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Clarion Park Dedicated

Of special interest was a celebration held at Clarion, Wright County, May 14, on the occasion of dedication of Clarion's new recreation and athletic park. Plans for the park were prepared by the Iowa State Planning Board.

PLANNING BOARD TAKES DES MOINES OFFICE

The general offices of the Iowa State Planning Board were moved, late in April, from Elm Lodge on the Iowa State College campus at Ames, to more commodious quarters on the third floor of the Oransky Building, 314 West Eighth Street, Des Moines.

Since organization of the Iowa State Planning Board early in 1934, the Iowa State College has provided space, light, heat and water facilities for the main offices of the Planning Board. This broad policy of cooperation of the Iowa State College, of the State University of Iowa and all other state agencies has made possible the work of the past three years, and promises greater things for the future.

All persons interested in the work of the State Planning Board are invited to call at the offices at any time during business hours.

Special effort is being made to provide facilities which will make the Planning Board library available to all who desire to use it. The library contains a large amount of information about Iowa in addition to the reports and other publications issued by the Planning Board during its three years existence.

Work on a new bibliography is progressing. It will be ready for distribution about June 1. Those desiring copies are invited to send in their requests any time.

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Water Resources Volume Ready

Distribution is being made of the second volume of a series of six covering the Iowa water resources report made to the National Resources Committee on request of the President. Only a limited number of copies will be available, the price being \$3 per volume, or \$15 for the complete set of six. Volume I (the new volume) is a report of the Iowa-Cedar River basins; Volume II (first issued) covers the Des Moines-Skunk River basins.

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SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE CONDUCTED AT ATLANTIC

About 80 persons representing 16 Southwest Iowa counties attended the Southwest Iowa Conference on Planning, held at Atlantic, April 16. This was the fourth of a series of regional and state-wide conferences held within 12 months for the purpose of acquainting local county and town officials and the general public of the aims and purposes of planning as applied to government administration, and to the preservation and proper use of natural and human resources.

The Atlantic conference was sponsored and conducted by the Iowa Conference on Planning, of which Walter W. White of Spirit Lake is State Chairman. Mrs. K. H. Rinehart of Winterset, member of the executive committee, was in charge of arrangements and presided.

From Appanoose County

Acclaimed by many as the outstanding contribution to the day's program was the story of planning as applied in Appanoose County, presented by J.M. Beck, editor of the Centerville Daily Iowegian. Mr. Beck related the experiences of his county, how action had followed realization of acute needs in agriculture, and how today his county has been the inspiration for the spread of planning activities and coordination of efforts in five other counties in a Southern Iowa demonstration project along the Chariton River basin.

Impressive also were talks given by others on the day's program, including State Chairman White; Prof. P.H. Elwood, National Resources Committee consultant; John R. Fitzsimmons, landscape architecture consultant to the Iowa State Conservation Commission; Dean H.H. Kildee, chairman of the Iowa State Planning Board; Dr. H.E. Stroy of the State Board of Health; Otto S. Muntz, chairman of the Greater Iowa Commission, and Dr. Robert O'Brian, Secretary of State.

The spirit of the conference was well expressed in two newspaper editorials appearing the day following the meeting, one by Mr. Beck in the Centerville Io-

wegian, and the other by Editor E. P. Chase in the Atlantic News-Telegraph.

Copies of these editorials and of the resolutions passed by the conference may be obtained without charge by writing to the Iowa State Planning Board, Des Moines.

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DICKINSON COUNTY SETS UP PLANNING COUNCIL

Alive to the dangers of deterioration that have threatened Iowa's Great Lakes region, and feeling a large share of responsibility for that and other results of exploitation and the draining of agricultural resources, the people of Dickinson County have set up a permanent county planning organization to study causes and means of correcting improper uses of resources.

Attorney K. B. Welty of Spirit Lake was elected chairman of the Dickinson County Planning Board, at a meeting largely attended by representatives from all parts of the county, May 10. The organization is a definite result of efforts on the part of Walter W. White of Spirit Lake, chairman of the Iowa Conference on Planning, who has worked for several months to acquaint the people of his county with the purposes of a county planning program.

State Senator Lester Gillette and State Representative W. A. Yager lent prestige and influence to the movement by attendance at the meeting and participation in the discussions.

A large executive committee, including representatives of all townships and towns, was named, and other committees which will take up the study of special subjects will be established later.

Other officers elected were: Vice Chairman, R.A. Furman, Dickinson County engineer; Secretary, L. E. Hendrickson of Spirit Lake.

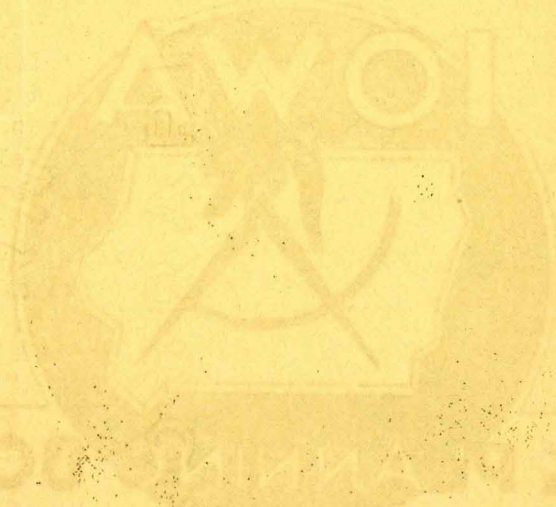
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Speaks Over Radio

R. H. Matson, director of the Iowa State Planning Board, was a speaker on the North Iowa Forum program of Radio Station KGLO, Mason City, May 22.

I O W A P L A N N I N G N E W S

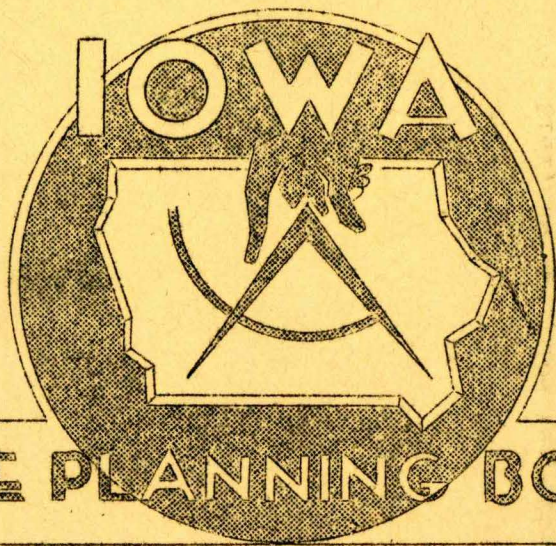
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R. H. Matson Director
Iowa State Planning Board
P. H. Elwood Consultant
National Resources Committee

Project Operation

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