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PROGRESS REPORT
OF
IOWA STATE PLANNING BOARD PROJECTS
FOR
MARCH 16-31, 1936

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In this report the progress of the Planning Board projects during the latter half of March is described, with figures on the numbers of workers employed, brief statements as to the nature and location of the work, the status of projects which are not yet in operation, and other pertinent information.

A brief summary is given at the end of the report.

Business and Industry,
Project No. 00-85-477

Nature of project: State-wide tax survey to determine effects of proposed homestead tax exemptions.

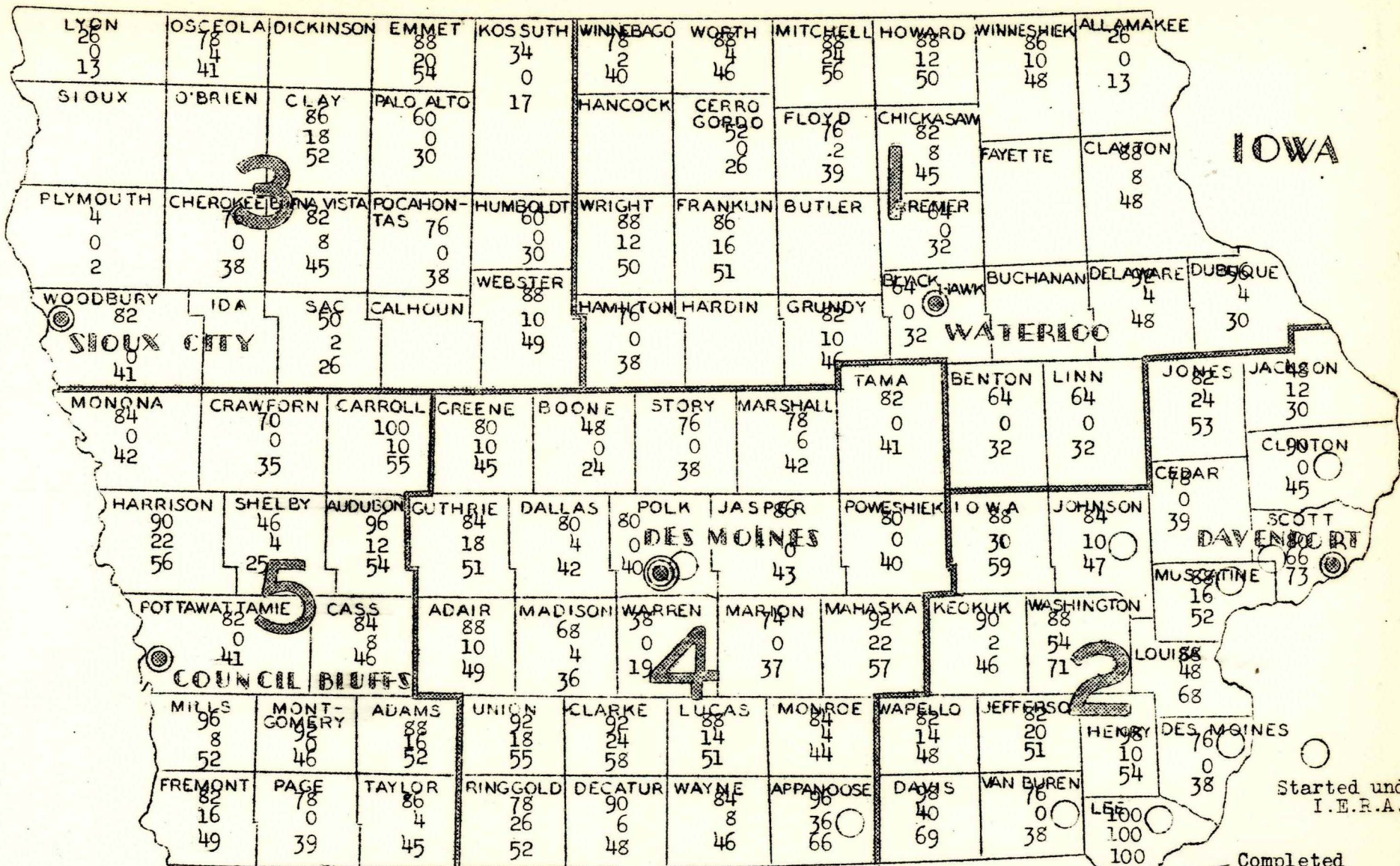
During the latter half of March this survey continued to operate in nearly all counties of the state. In four of the 87 counties included in the preceding report (Cherokee, Plymouth, Madison and Marion), work was temporarily suspended during part of the period. One new county, Lyon, was added to the list. In 10 counties in the upper half of the state the survey has not yet been started.

Progress of the field work (copying tax data and obtaining information on occupancy) and of the tabulation and analysis are shown in the following table:

Period	No. of Counties in Which Field Work Was in Progress	Total Per Cent (Approximate) of Work Completed, to End of Period		
		Field Work	Tabulation & Analysis	Entire Project
Dec. 16-31	19*	1	0	1
Jan. 1-15	48	20	0	10
16-31	83	35	0	18
Feb. 1-15	83	40	0	20
16-29	83	54	0	27
Mar. 1-15	87	62	0	31
16-31	88	77	8	42

* Av. of 5 days' work per Co., Dec. 16-31.

The last row of figures, representing the progress as of March 31, are broken down by counties on the map on page 2. In each county, the figures show per cents completion; upper figure, field work; middle figure, tabulation and analysis; lower figure, entire project. For purposes of calculation, the field



PROGRESS OF TAX SURVEY AS OF MARCH 31, 1936

Significance of the figures in each county:

Figure	Per Cent Completion of
Upper	Field work - - - - - (Previous progress reports show
Middle	Tabulation and analysis only this figure)
Lower	Entire project

In counties where no figures are shown, work has not been started.

Started under I.E.R.A.

Completed under I.E.R.A.

work is taken to represent 50 per cent of the total project, tabulation and analysis 50. Therefore the lower figure is equal to half the sum of the upper and middle figures. In previous reports, only the upper figure (field work) was reported.

The average numbers of workers during the period were: relief, 190; non-relief, 16; total, 206.

Urban Zoning and Planning Studies,
Project No. 00-85-3011

Nature of Project: City traffic surveys in 9 cities; land use surveys in 7 cities. (Complete description given in report for Mar. 1-15.)

During the last half of March, the traffic surveys were continued in all the cities (9) previously reported. As a whole, these surveys were about 32 per cent complete on Mar. 31. The land use surveys were continued in Muscatine and Webster City and were brought to approximately 90 and 45 per cent completion, respectively. These figures represent 15 per cent of the total work in land use surveys planned for 7 cities. The entire project is 24 per cent complete.

More detailed data on the surveys are shown in the table on p. 4.

The average number of relief workers employed was 314, non-relief workers 25, total 339. The total for the preceding half month was 330. The N.Y.A. Workers who assisted in the surveys at Ottumwa, Marshalltown, Davenport, and Sioux City are not included in these figures.

N. Y. A. Projects
Supplementary to
Urban Zoning and Planning Studies

Nature of Projects: Assisting in W. P. A. traffic surveys carried on by Planning Board at Ottumwa and Marshalltown and in similar city-sponsored W.P.A. surveys at Davenport and Sioux City.

The four N. Y. A. projects here represented are sponsored by the Planning Board. The workers at Davenport and Sioux City are used on the city-sponsored zoning and planning studies (traffic surveys, to date) which are being given technical supervision by the Planning Board.

The number of workers in each city is shown in the following table:

(table at top of p. 5)

Traffic and Land Use Surveys
 Urban Zoning and Planning Studies
 Project OO-85-3011
 March 16-31, 1936

City	County	Type of Survey	Date Work Begun	Per Cent* of Work Completed March 16-31	Average No. of Employees March 16-31	
					Relief	Non-relief
<u>District #1</u>						
Cedar Rapids	Linn	Traffic	Feb. 3	35	36	1
Dubuque	Dubuque	Traffic	Feb. 3	30	38	1
Webster City	Hamilton	Land Use	Feb. 4	45	6	
<u>District #2</u>						
Burlington	Des Moines	Land Use	-----	0		
		Traffic	Jan. 27	35	24	
Keokuk	Lee	Traffic	Jan. 27	35	24	
Clinton	Clinton	Land Use	-----	0		
		Traffic	Feb. 3	35	25	
Ottumwa	Wapello	Land Use	-----	0		
		Traffic	Feb. 3	35	30	1
Muscatine	Muscatine	Land Use	Jan. 27	90	11	
Davenport	Scott	(Tabulations only)	-----	0		
<u>District #3</u>						
Fort Dodge	Webster	Land Use	-----	0		
		Traffic	Jan. 20	40	24	
<u>District #4</u>						
Marshalltown	Marshall	Land Use	-----	0		
		Traffic	Jan. 15	40	30	
Des Moines	Polk	(Tabulations only)	Jan. 27	15	41	4
Ames	Story	(Headquarters County)	Jan. 8		1	17
<u>District #5</u>						
Council Bluffs	Pottawattamie	Traffic	Jan. 29	35	24	1
Approximate per cent completed to March 31, including field work, tabulations and analyses		Traffic Survey, 9 cities		32		
		Land Use Survey, 7 cities		15		
		Total Project, both surveys		24		
Total average number of persons employed - - - - -					314	25

* Not including tabulations and analyses, except as indicated at Des Moines and Davenport.

N.Y.A. Projects (Cont. from p. 3) -

City	Project No.	Average Number of Workers			
		Relief		Non-Relief	
		Actual	Equiv*	Actual	Equiv*
Marshalltown	1668-Y3	5	1.7		
Ottumwa	1810-Y1	20	6.7	5	2.3
Davenport	1693-Y3	15	5.0		
Sioux City	1743-Y1	10	3.3		
Totals - - - -		50	16.7	5	2.3
Total relief and non-relief:		actual -----		55	
		equivalent *-----		19	

*Equivalent number is one-third the actual, since all except 1 non-relief supervisor work only 10 hours per week.

Biological Survey
Project No. 00-85-475

Nature of project: Conservation of wild life by improving lakes and streams, making game cover plantings, establishing management and nesting areas, etc.

As stated in previous reports, this project carried on, until in the first half of March, the work of cutting holes through the ice on our northern lakes and aerating the water to save the fish population. Without doubt, tens of thousands of fish desirable for game and food were kept from suffocation. Yet many fish died, especially in some of the shallower lakes which, unusually low because of the drought, were frozen nearly or quite to the bottom. These dead fish pollute the water and are otherwise offensive. During the last half of March some work was done in Cerro Gordo, Buena Vista and Dickinson Counties, in helping collect and bury these fish; particularly on Clear Lake, in Cerro Gordo County, where the work was urgent.

In District 3, where operations were most extensive, relief workers were engaged in filling and riprapping lake banks, in sign painting, in disposing of dead fish, and in securing willow cuttings for planting. Approximately 29 men did bank filling and riprapping on the south shore of Silver Lake, near Ayrshire. The county (Dickinson) furnished trucks for transportation and materials for riprapping. In Clay County, 7 men were employed in sign painting. About 16,000 willow cuttings, to be used in planting game areas and dry lake beds, were collected and stored at Ruthven and Graettinger, in Palo Alto County. In Emmet County work will be started soon after April 1 on East Swan, Birge, Grass and Ryan Lakes, developing them for upland game.

In District 1, the work consisted of lake bank improvements and collecting aquatic plants, besides the disposing of dead fish at Clear Lake, already mentioned. The bank improvements were at Crystal Lake in Hancock County, where sloping, planting and riprapping were done. In Wright County 10 men worked on Big Wall Lake, collecting aquatic plants such as giant bulrushes, round bulrushes and cattails. These are transported to Iowa's new artificial lakes by the C.C.C. Camp workers, where they are used to hasten plant growths which would require many years if left to unaided natural development.

The following table summarizes the work for the half-month period:

Biological Survey

Nature of Work	District and County	Lake	No. of Workers	
			Relief	Non-relief Supervisors
Collecting and burying dead fish	<u>District 1</u> Cerro Gordo	Clear	10	} 1
Bank sloping, planting and riprapping	Hancock	Crystal	8	
Collecting aquatic plants for planting at artificial lakes	Wright	Big Wall	7	
	<u>District 3</u>			
Collecting and burying dead fish	Buena Vista	(various)	4	} 1
Sign painting	Dickinson	(various)	8	
Bank filling and riprapping	Clay	-----	7	
Collecting willow cuttings	" "	-----	29	
(Development for up-land game areas to begin soon after April 1.)	Emmet	Birge Grass Ryan		
Total No. Workers -----			73	2

Analysis of Farm Statistics,
Project No. 00-77-2875

Nature of Project: Studies based on available farm statistics, involving the distribution of percentages of farm land in various uses, trends in acreage and yields of the major crops, and the effects of various leasing systems on farm practices and on the distribution of income and expense. (These studies are fully described in the progress report for Feb. 16-29.)

Little headway has been made in this project to Mar. 31, due principally to the temporary necessity of limiting the work to Story County. Some further work in tabulating of data on the uses of farm land, from township assessors' reports, was done, partly for the purpose of testing the tabulation methods. The analysis of tenant farm records is well under way. The work has been carried on by 3 relief workers.

When the principal tabulating office can be established in Des Moines, the progress of the studies will be much more rapid.

Lake and Stream Improvement,
Project No. 00-85-484

Nature of project: Surveying state-owned dry lake beds, establishing boundaries, and developing the beds as game refuge and nesting areas. The project as originally planned also included lake soundings and borings and the planning and supervising of improvements on lakes and streams. (For a fuller description, see the report for Mar. 1-15.)

This project was begun in Clay County the early part of the month, with surveys on Mud Lake and Pickerel Lake. The shore line of Pickerel Lake was surveyed and staked out. Mud Lake is a state-owned dry lake bed that is to be developed this spring by the State Conservation Commission and the Works Progress Administration as a nesting and producing area for upland game. As a preliminary to this work, it was necessary to survey the area and establish boundary lines, since all the surrounding land is privately owned. The work, during Mar. 16-31, employed 7 relief laborers and 1 non-relief worker, with 1 non-relief man connected with the project "Biological Survey". When the survey of Mud Lake is complete, the party will move to Dickinson County to survey and establish the boundary lines on Jefferson Slough and to finish some incomplete surveys on Hottes and Marble Lakes.

Approved Projects, Not Yet Operative

Five projects approved by W.P.A. are not yet in operation. The status of each is as follows:

Transportation,
Project No. 00-00-2967

Initiation of the surveys and studies included in this project again has been unavoidably delayed. Work is not expected to begin before May 1.

Recreation and Historic,
Project No. 00-85-483

It was expected that a wood-working shop would be established in Dubuque during the last half of March, to construct markers for recreational and historic sites. It was necessary to delay this until a little later.

This work is a minor part of the project, which includes the preparation of topographic survey maps, plans and details for recreational areas; a survey of factors influencing the location of such areas; the layout, design and marking of historic and archaeological sites; supervision of construction of parks; excavation and study of archaeological sites; and the establishment of county historical societies and promotion of historical educational programs.

Public Service,
Project No. 00-85-482

Nature of project: State-wide survey to obtain data to be used in revising or checking township base maps showing roads, electric lines, farmsteads, etc.; completion of tabulation and analysis of data previously obtained on gas, water and electric service.

Allotments from the state W.P.A. were received for Districts 4 and 5, on March 25 and 30, respectively. Work will begin the first week in April in 8 counties in District 4 and 5 counties in District 5.

This project has had to wait for good weather and good roads, since it involves open-country enumeration and since Iowans, in common with citizens of other states, travel both paved and unpaved roads.

The surveys and studies which make up this project will be described in the progress report for April 1-15.

Highway Traffic Accident Survey,
Project No. 00-00-3117

This survey is sponsored jointly by the Iowa Motor Vehicle Department and the Planning Board. It is expected that work will begin in April.

Population and Social Trends
Project No. 00-85-478

It is hoped that authorization to begin this project will be received about April 1, so that work can be started soon after that date.

Projects on Which Approval is Pending

Washington approval of the projects "Public Education" and "Survey of Public Health Resources" had not been received up to March 31.

Projects Under Technical Guidance of Planning Board

The traffic surveys being carried on under the W.P.A. urban planning projects sponsored by Sioux City and Davenport continued throughout the latter half

of March, under guidance of the supervisors of the Planning Board survey, "Urban Zoning and Planning Studies". Per cents completion and numbers of employees were as follows:

City Planning Surveys and Studies,
Project No. 2-82-1001
(Sponsor, city of Davenport)

Traffic Survey. Per cent completion March 31, 20 (approximately).

Number of employees:

30 W.P.A. and 15 N.Y.A. relief workers
2 " " 1 " non-relief supervisors.
Total, 48

City Planning Surveys and Studies,
Project No. 3-97-956
(Sponsor, city of Sioux City)

Traffic survey. Per cent completion Mar. 31, 15 (approximately).

Number of employees:

30 W.P.A. and 10 N.Y.A. relief workers.
1 non-relief supervisor.
Total, 41.

Federal Writers' Project

While the Planning Board is cooperating in this work, it was comparatively inactive during the half-month period ending Mar. 31.

In the next report a definite account of the progress of this work will be given.

Summary

During the latter half of March, the Iowa State Planning Board conducted five projects under the Works Progress Administration and four under the National Youth Administration. Of the five W.P.A. projects, three are statistical surveys and studies, two are designed essentially to aid in wild life conservation. The N.Y.A. projects are much smaller and are set up to furnish additional workers on the other surveys.

The total numbers of workers were approximately as follows:

Project	Average No. of Workers Employed		
	Relief	Non-relief	Total
Business and Industry	190	16	206
Urban Zoning and Planning Studies	314	25	339
4 N. Y. A. Projects	17*	2*	19*
Biological Survey	73	2	75
Analysis of Farm Statistics	3	1	4
Lake and Stream Improvement	7	1	8
Totals	604	47	651

*Equivalent number of full-time workers.

It is expected that two new projects, "Public Service" and "Population and Social Trends", will be begun the first week in April. Three others are approved and will be begun later.

Final approval of W.P.A. is pending on two surveys, "Public Education" and "Survey of Public Health Resources".

Technical supervision was given two city planning surveys, at Sioux City and Davenport.

On the whole, the work of the various projects progressed very satisfactorily during the half month. A great deal was accomplished and employment was furnished to a large number of relief and non-relief workers.

George E Davis,
Statistical Coordinator.

Average No. of Workers Employed		Project
Total	Non-union	
108	16	Business and Industry
338	82	Urban Planning and Planning Studies
15	2	A. N. Y. A. Projects
75	8	Biological Survey
4	1	Analysis of Farm Statistics
8	1	Labor and Social Improvement
581	47	Total

*Equivalent number of full-time workers.

It is expected that two new projects, "Public Service" and "Population and Social Trends", will be begun the first week in April. Three others are approved and will be begun later.

Final approval of F.P.A. is pending on two surveys, "Public Education" and "Survey of Public Health Resources".

Technical supervision was given two city planning surveys, at Sioux City and Des Moines.

On the whole, the rest of the various projects progressed very satisfactorily during the half month. A great deal was accomplished and equipment was furnished to a large number of union and non-union workers.

George E. Davis,
 Statistical Coordinator.