

Morris County Library Great Depression Project

From the pages of the [Daily Record](#) (Morristown NJ)

September-December 1937

“The October enrollment for CCC in Morris County will take place as usual in Morristown, and the number of vacancies to be filled is greater than usual because all men who have already served two years and those who have reached their 24th year will be discharged. William J. Ellis, State director of selection, estimates that 4,000 men will be called for. A larger number of vacancies than usual for Negro boys will need to be filled, estimated at 500....Every effort is being made by the Trenton Area Commander Major Hawley to secure employment for the young men coming out of camp whose record shows them to be good workmen, following their years of training. The employment managers of many of the large business establishments in the State have agreed to look to the CCC offices for references for employees. All young men are advised to register with the State Employment offices now located in every county before they enlist in CCC. Such registration will help in locating a job even if the man is away at camp. The enrollment in October will be of great advantage to boys living on farms for they can earn \$30 per month over the Winter and get back home for the Spring planting in April. During the past year 10,031 men have been enrolled from New Jersey. More than 650 have been honorably discharged to accept jobs in the last nine months. The camps have been kept full to their complete quota and several hundred men have been sent to the Ninth Corps Area in the Far West, to New York State and Delaware. This large enrollment for the year brings into New Jersey a total of \$250,000 per month....” (Sept. 8, 1937, p.3)

“Morris County’s finances are in better shape than in any year since 1930, Chairman A. S. Kirkpatrick of the finance committee reported to the Board of Freeholders yesterday....To date there has been \$697,567.24 of the total levy of \$907,856.37 in taxes collected, leaving \$210,289.13 which is not due until November 15. It indicates a much improved financial situation, Mr. Kirkpatrick said. There has been paid \$217,205.62 on the bonded debt, leaving \$50,000 part due on October 1 and November 1. In addition \$35,000 of term bonds, not due until 1942, was paid, saving about \$8,000....” (Sept. 9, 1937, p.1)

“Citizens of Morris County are very glad to learn undoubtedly that the finances of the County are in better shape than they have been at any time since 1930. This reflects a combination of sound business methods by the Board of Freeholders and a return toward better business in the County which has permitted taxpayers to make better tax payments. It is of course most interesting and most fortunate that the statement is made just at the time when two of the members of the Board are seeking re-election [sic] and facing opposition in the Primary. No better campaign material could be devised and yet it is perfectly legitimate and aboveboard.” (editorial, Sept. 10, 1937, p.4)

“The October enrollment for CCC in Morris County is taking place as usual in Morristown....It is important to examine the system of discharge and enrollment carefully....There is ground for assuming that all applications are not carefully considered and checked. There are cases reported of camps which through political pressure and bureaucratic mismanagement are forced to accept men of doubtful character with possible delinquent [sic] and criminal tendencies....Now assuming that only men of good character and health are taken. Does it mean that when they are

discharged a job will follow in the natural course of events? Unfortunately there are all too many cases of men leaving camp who are forced through circumstances to resume their old ways and habits. Idleness and bad environmental condition breed disillusion and discontent. Camp training is soon lost on young men who have no tasks to perform....Let us...bend every effort to find jobs for men who have gained so much from camp life.” (editorial, Sept. 10, 1937, p.4)

“DENVILLE – At a regular meeting of the Denville Chamber of Commerce last evening at the Wayside Inn...the members went on record as favoring every effort being made for the retention of the CCC camp....which the government has announced it will close early in October....when the CCC camp was first proposed for Denville, the Chamber of Commerce was opposed to it on racial grounds. However, the camp has proved exceptional and a truly worthwhile addition to the township....Although now the Dutch Elm work is completed, there is still need of a CCC camp if the proposed Jersey City Water Project goes through. This project if approved would clean and beautify the Rockaway river area....” (Sept. 11, 1937, p.1)

“America’s lot in the depression was bad enough to suit the most discriminating pessimist, but along with the hard jolts came a few innovations which proved their value not only as emergency trouble-shooters but as semi-permanent projects as well. One of these was the Civilian Conservation Corps. Its immediate service was to take thousands of boys off the highways, out of railway yards and slum districts, away from the evils of idleness and give them a job to do and a decent place to live. Through all the pitfalls of changing government policies, through the criticism of skeptics, and the dangers of possible exploitation by militarists, the CCC was kept respectable. And it earned its place as probably the noblest of all the New Deal alphabetical agencies, both in purpose and in practical accomplishment. For those reasons, citizens have a personal interest in a proposal made by the Veterans of Foreign Wars at their recent national convention. A resolution “demanded” that the 300,000 youths now enrolled in the CCC be signed as a permanent corps and “be recognized as a complement to our national defense.” This plan...would mean...that every boy seeking the advantages of the CCC as it stands today would have to admit the government’s right to call him out for military duty in case of war....out of it all would come the inevitable growth of a junior military clique patterned after those now in vogue with the European dictatorships. Of course, the CCC candidate himself would have to approve this plan before it could be put into successful operation, supposing, naturally, that enlistment would be voluntary. But the blessing of the American public would be necessary, too. And it is extremely doubtful whether that blessing would be forthcoming...the CCC was accepted as a depression emergency measure and should be continued only as long as the emergency exists....” (editorial, Sept. 11, 1937, p.4)

“WHARTON – The Mayor and Council spent \$500 to condition the Borough Hall several months ago after being assured that the WPA sewing room project would start as soon as the building was approved by State authorities, but to this date the project has not started nor will there be one for the funds appropriated were used elsewhere, was the disclosure made by Mayor Frank J. Porter at the regular monthly meeting of the Council held last night. After the fire escape and fire alarm system were installed in the Borough Hall the building met with the approval of the authorities and the WPA offices were informed repeatedly that all was in readiness for the sewing room project. Weeks passed and no action was taken by the WPA and Mayor Porter communicated regarding the matter with the authorities in Washington and still there were no results. The mayor was informed many times that the project would be launched soon and that the money had been appropriated. Three weeks ago Mayor Porter went to the Newark WPA headquarters and there he learned that the money was there up to about six weeks

before his arrival. He also learned that the money was turned over to Elizabeth's accounts to keep the project going there....Mayor Porter also went to Morristown regarding the project a number of times but did not get any satisfaction. He said that Orville V. Mesler, member of the State Committee, did not assist Wharton in any of the WPA projects, and that he certainly did not help in the sewing project. As matters now stand, the mayor explained, Wharton theoretically has the money at Newark on the books but actually it is not there and there will be no project unless there is sufficient funds left over from some other account....Treasurer Andrew Osworth brought to the Council's attention that the payment of WPA wages on Saturday mornings causes much confusion and delay. Officer E. Dibble, he said, has to go around Saturday mornings to get the vouchers signed by the finance committee. This causes much delay and at the same time the men are waiting at the office and the people who want to pay their taxes find it difficult to do so. A number of plans were discussed and finally Attorney Shuback's plan was adopted. The payrolls according to the plan, will be made out Friday noon and the vouchers can be made out and signed with ease during the afternoon and the payments are to be made Saturday mornings...." (Sept. 14, 1937, p.7)

"On October 1 the Civilian Conservation Corps will abandon nearly 250 of its camps, reducing the number to the lowest level since the corps was organized in 1933. The number of enrollees will fall below 200,000 for the first time—although new enrollments will quickly bring it far above that figure....It gave some hundreds of thousands of young men the break they had been looking for—jobs, incomes, the feeling that the country could, after all, use their services...it put our woodland and soil resources in better shape than they had been in for decades....the fact that it is beginning to shrink simply mirrors the fact that the emergency which called it into being is no longer so pressing." (editorial, Sept. 21, 1937, p.4)

"The largest CCC enrollment in three years is in full swing throughout Morris County. A cross section of the County's youth is making application for the October enrollment at the office of the local selecting agent, Room 402, 10 Park place....It is no longer necessary for a young man's family to be in need before he will be considered. The law reads simply that he shall be unemployed and in need of employment....Under present regulations a boy may bank \$25 per month with the Army Finance Officer instead of sending it home so that a young man enrolling now for six months will get an honorable discharge in April, be in the pink of physical condition and have \$150 in his pocket. A golden opportunity is also offered to the 17 year old high school graduate who wishes to go to college but lacks the necessary funds. He may join the CCC for two full years, gain valuable experience and enter a university at the age of 19 with a nest egg of \$600 to start him off...." (Sept. 25, 1937, p.3)

"For a long time the people of this country had one question which they were constantly asking: "When will the depression end?" There seems to be general agreement now that the depression is pretty well over. So the old question has been dropped, to be replaced by an equally anxious one: "When will the next depression begin?"....must we accept the old depression-and-prosperity cycle as an immutable law of nature? Is there no way in which we can avoid these disastrous dips into misery and want?....It might be a good thing for us to stop thinking about recovery and start thinking about prevention." (editorial, Oct. 2, 1937, p.4)

"The Morris County Welfare Board has announced that since taking over the management of CCC enrollment for this County it has never before experienced such an enthusiastic answer to its call for young men....Those who have not completed their educations will find educational facilities have been greatly increased and that far more interest is now being shown in that part of

the life at camp. Lt. Koehler, commanding officer of the Morristown camp, has requested the local selecting agent to keep a sharp look out for young men who can use a typewriter and have a knowledge of filing. By reason of the practical training these boys receive acting as company clerks, they are continually being absorbed by private industry. This leaves the camps short of clerical help and gives others an opportunity to get advancement. Clerks receive \$36 per month instead of the \$30 paid the regular enrollees. They are also eligible for a further advancement to the position of leader which pays \$45 per month....” (Oct. 5, 1937, p.12)

“More than 2,500 miles of roads, highways and other public thoroughfares throughout Morris County are being completely verified, indexed and tabulated according to revised legal definition and description by the Old Road Returns Survey, a WPA professional project sponsored by the Morris County Board of Freeholders. A road return is a formal report certifying the establishment or elimination of any portion of a public route, with full description, to properly define the public way opened or abandoned. It serves as the original deed of the road and is filed as the basis of public title. The specific purpose of the project has been to render useful more than 2000 road returns made obsolete by time which have a direct bearing upon practically all the deeded property in the county. Another result of the work has been the compilation of historical data from the returns in relation to the location and names of forges mines churches schools bridges grist mills saw mills and streams which were designated as terminal and other points in the legal description of the early roads....While this single operation of the Federal emergency works program is one of the smallest in New Jersey, from the point of view of appropriation and personnel, the value of the work already accomplished is apparent in the files of modernized records available to public inspection at the survey office during project hours at the county hall of records here. Numerous officials of municipal, county and state departments as well as private citizens, regularly consult the completed transcriptions in their search for legal modifications of original designations and limitations of public rights of way....Originally instituted through the interest of Mr. Hopkins [Winfield Hopkins, county engineer], and the recommendation of Major George W. Farny, chairman of the National County Roads Commission, and supported by real estate dealers, and title attorneys, the freeholders initiated the work under ERA. In the two years since the close of the earlier works program, WPA has continued the survey with its original personnel of three workers. Through the cooperation of E. Bertram Mott, county clerk, and Surrogate William Thompson, and their staffs, the record libraries and valuable colonial documents have been made available to survey workers. Comparisons of names and other exact information in original road returns has been made with wills, deeds and other legal instruments in the hall of records. Confirmation of findings has been afforded by extensive analysis in the development and change of place names during two centuries of property-title registration at Morristown....Transcribed data in the new records spares the originals....When the survey is completed, the revisions will enable surveyors, civil engineers, lawyers, title searchers and other interested citizens to ascertain terminals of all roads in the county, traced through the years to the present day. Historical data revealed by the project studies will be available for use of the Department of Public Records in the custody of Dr. Carlos V. Godfrey at the State House in Trenton. Thus far, Federal funds made available for this project total \$7,640, of which 84 percent represents wages of the project workers. The sponsor’s contribution amounts to \$1,713.” (Oct. 6, 1937, p.2)

“Two Morris County CCC camps will join six other New Jersey units this week in breaking camp and moving to an unknown destination in the Far West. Denville Company 1256 will be the first to break camp...leaving tomorrow morning on the 10:10 o’clock train... while the Whippany Company 1212 camp leaves on Saturday morning....The Whippany group...is

expected...will move to Utah....” (Oct. 6, 1937, p.7)

“The business world wants the small liberal arts college to supply it with “men who are citizens first and business men second.” Dr. Luther A. Harr, Pennsylvania State secretary of banking, made this remark before some 600 educators...at Muhlenberg College....”Men with an awareness of the pressing problems of our distressed world; men with the desire to grapple with the most dangerous and difficult issues; men with enough historical background not to be deluded by the sirens of Fascism or the vigorous claims of Communism; men who realize that business is not the be-all and end-all of life, but a part of a larger whole.”...Life has grown almost unimaginably complex in this modern world. The national welfare depends on the mutual adjustment of an infinite number of individual selfish desires—which boil down, in the end, to the varying ways in which each of us tries to get as many of the good things of life as he can possibly lay his hands on....We are all links in a chain, which describes an endless circle. No trade, business or profession can settle its problems without reference to the larger whole. It is hardly going too far to say that our national future depends on our ability to see our personal concerns in their relation to the national pictures....” (editorial, Oct. 9, 1937, p.4)

“The depression may be over, but the young chap fresh out of college is still apt to find it hard to get a job. So says a report issued by investigators at the University of Buffalo, who find that although there are more jobs now than formerly, employers are getting increasingly careful about the men they pick to fill them. “Employers, through improved personnel services, are requiring that graduates ‘sell themselves’ more than ever,” says the report. “This means partly the possession of good manners, neatness, confidence and apparent ambition. Above all, it is dependent on submissive willingness to work hard as an apprentice.”....(editorial, Oct. 15, 1937, p.6)

“...Josephine Roche, assistant secretary of the treasury....revealed that there is a direct and tragic relationship between the death rate and the annual income. Between 40,000,000 and 50,000,000 Americans get along on incomes of less than \$1,000 a year, said Miss Roche. Their death rate from the 10 major diseases which cause 75 per cent of the deaths in the United States is twice that of the rest of the population....The death rate from respiratory tuberculosis, for instance, is seven times as great among unskilled laborers as among professional people. Pneumonia’s death rate is three and one half times as great among unskilled workers as among professionals; the death rates for syphilis and diarrhea are twice as great; cancer kills at a 50 per greater rate. Nor does it stop there. Illness that is not fatal but that takes a man away from his job is far more common among the low-income groups. One of 20 family heads on relief is unemployed because of physical disability; among the higher income groups, the rate is one in 250. The unemployed in general have twice the disabling illness that the employed have. WPA workers have a disabling illness rate 40 per cent above that of other employed personsMedical science today is better able to keep people sound and well than ever before....Yet all of this does little good to the man who can’t afford to take advantage of this new knowledge. If doctors did not in so many cases give their time and skill without thought of fees, the situation would be far worse than it is....we can’t figure out how to make the more abundant life pay its way.” (editorial, Oct. 16, 1937, p.4)

“**NEW YORK** (AP) – The Stock Market rallied after a two-and-a-half hour tailspin under huge selling today and leading shares recovered a portion of wide early losses. The sell-off, which followed yesterday’s break, was on the heaviest volume in more than four years, with 3,890,000 shares traded between 10 o’clock and noon....A 1 P.M. the Stock Exchange reported 5,040,000 shares had changed hands at that time, the heaviest volume since the Securities Exchange

Commission began “policing” the market in 1934....There were scenes of wild confusion at the opening as shouting brokers rushed to execute orders pouring in from all over the country and abroad. Prices dropped by as much as from \$1 to \$15 a share, but the recovery cut many of these losses....” (Oct. 19, 1937, p.1)

“Assurance by State Relief Director Arthur [Mudd] that a special session of the legislature is not necessary in order that unemployment relief may be financed adequately during the remainder of the year should resolve whatever doubts Governor Hoffman may have concerning the necessity for immediate action on this issue. Many of the objections to a special session during the campaign have had their origin in political considerations. It has been maintained that candidates and party leaders would become involved in serious embarrassments if required to deal with relief financing at this time, also that Democrats in the house are prepared to throw the problem back into the hands of the governor and that the absence of control by either party in the senate would make actions by that body virtually impossible. If a crisis existed in the relief situation, however, these difficulties would have to be met and overcome regardless of political consequences. No one in New Jersey is better informed on relief needs than Mr. Mudd, however, and his word that action may safely be deferred is all that is needed to justify postponement....In Atlantic City, which suffered more seriously than most of the state’s municipalities from the effects of the depression, the relief load is down to the 1931 level. Many other municipalities report a corresponding improvement, due in some measure to the efficient administration of relief. Also, proper consideration should be given the situation in Newark, where the people of New Jersey as a whole have been paying for the incompetent management of relief and also for abuses involving the use of relief funds for the advancement of the interests of local politicians. Another factor that enters into the relief picture in an important way is the persistent rejection of opportunities for employment by physically able men who would prefer to subsist on public funds without the necessity of working. More than 200 men in Trenton have refused during the last few weeks to work on farms. Obviously, New Jersey has been and still is furnishing relief to persons not entitled to it....There should be no funds for political wasters or for shirkers.” (editorial from the Trenton State Gazette, published in the Morristown Daily Record Oct. 19, 1937, p.4)

“**TRENTON** (AP) – The New Jersey State League of Municipalities, warning that relief financing threatened to unbalance municipal budgets, urged legislators today “to give serious thought to this subject” before reconvening November 15....Samuel S. Kenworthy, its executive secretary...said that unless the Legislature, which has allotted approximately \$9,000,000 as the State’s share of a relief bill now estimated at \$15,000,000, does not vote an additional \$3,000,000 municipal tax rates for 1938 will increase “automatically.”....Many communities, the secretary wrote, are unable to pay or borrow anything further toward financing relief....” (Oct. 19, 1937, p.7)

“The best news in a long time is the fact that the Farm Credit Administration will call and retire more than \$70,000,000 worth of Federal Land Bank bond issues November 1 without refunding. That is, instead of paying them off by new borrowings, they are to be paid off from cash on hand and from short-term loans which should be paid as soon as further loans are paid off by farmers. ...It will be a great day when the treasury itself can make the same announcement regarding the general federal debt.” (editorial, Oct. 22, 1937, p.14)

“Do you want your Hallowe’en party to pack the most fun for your guests into the least amount of trouble and expense for yourself ? Then give a Hobo Party. It will be the talk of the town for

a long time afterward. With a heavy black pencil, write this invitation on the backs of labels torn from tin cans—tomato labels are funniest....Arrange the biggest kettle you can find over an imitation campfire in the center of the room or yard. Decorate with festoons of empty tin cans. Provide a movable seat for each guest—small kegs, wooden packing boxes, or cushions made by stuffing burlap bags with straw. When the guests arrive, seat them around the fire, holding their vegetables on their laps....After the stunts are completed, the scraps of vegetables are dumped into the kettle over the fire. “Gathering the Wood” is the next stunt, and is sure to get a laugh.... A “Tin-Can Stilt Race” will create a fun riot....“Putting Cares on the Bum” will calm things down a bit before lunch is served. With chalk, draw a tramp’s head and back on the fence, barn door or on a sheet of wrapping paper tacked to the wall. Have a number of small cards lettered with amusing ailments, such as Headache, Bunions, Stiff Neck, Broken Rib, Cauliflower Ear, Dandruff, Charley-Horse, etc. Blindfold each player in turn and start him toward the tramp’s picture with a pin stuck through one of the labels. The player who gets his ailment pinned nearest the proper place on the tramp’s back wins a bottle of candy pills. Serve appropriate refreshments in keeping with the hobo idea. If the party is held indoors, wrap up a sugar doughnut and a tasty sandwich or two for each guest in blue or red bandanas, which are tied to the end of sticks, hobo-style....After each guest has taken one of them, stage a parade with each “hobo” carrying his lunch over his shoulder....” (Oct. 23, 1937, p.3.)

“When the State turned the relief job over to the municipalities there was a lot of talk about how well Newark would fare under the new system. Other municipalities began to show desired results almost immediately, but Newark is worse off financially than it was at any time under the ERA. Yesterday scores of storekeepers and landlords descended on the City Hall in another effort to collect more than \$1,200,000 due them for credit extended to relief clients since last May. For five months the city commissioners have been wrangling over the proper method of meeting the situation. But nothing is being done to lower the costs of relief work....” (editorial from the Newark Star Eagle appearing in the Morristown Daily Record Oct. 25, 1937, p.4)

“**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – A Denville and one Butler CCC enrollee are among the leading candidates for the CCC All-American baseball team to be selected the end of this month....They are Joseph Wigglesworth, a catcher, member of CCC Company 256 at Denville; and, Charles Dost, a pitcher, member of CCC company 239 at Butler....Medals are to be given to each of the CCC enrollees chosen for the All-American squad. In addition, records of the men chosen are to be brought to the attention of big-league club owners, managers, and scouts, and officials of many minor league clubs. Several CCC boys already this year have been signed to play for Class A teams, and one enrollee, Roy “Duke” Finocchiaro of Centaur, Missouri, has been signed by the St. Louis Browns.” (Oct. 25, 1937, p.9)

“**DOVER** – More than 100 applicants stormed the new employment office in the Municipal Building here yesterday afternoon and Miss Marion R. Dunn, who was in charge, worked until well after closing time to attend to the applicants. The office is a branch of the Morristown office and will be open each Thursday afternoon from 1 to 3 o’clock. The branch was opened here to make it easier for the unemployed to register for jobs, as heretofore all applicants had to go to Morristown to seek employment and register.” (Oct. 29, 1937, p.1)

“Advertisement paid for by F. T. van Beuren, Jr.” appearing in the Morristown Daily Record Nov. 1, 1937, p.7: “**To the Friends of the Sick Poor of Morris County.** You can be of real assistance to the sick poor people of Morris County by voting for Archibald Kirkpatrick and for William Spargo for Freeholders. These gentlemen have expressed themselves as being

in favor of an increased appropriation in the County Budget for the care of the Sick Poor in the hospitals of the County. The cost has heretofore been borne largely by the hospitals and by the Community Chest but it has become perfectly evident that it can no longer be borne by these organizations. The Hospitals no longer have the money and the Community Chest can no longer secure the totals it could when money was easy. There remains the County Government to appeal to. They have the taxing power. Do you want it used on behalf of the Sick Poor? If you do, **VOTE FOR KIRKPATRICK AND SPARGO!**”

“Because its recent campaign for funds was successful, the New Jersey Consumers Co-operative will be able to open its new Madison store this Saturday, Professor Earl A. Aldrich of Drew told an audience at the Morristown Women’s Club last night....During his talk...Professor Aldrich traced the rapid two-year growth of the NJCC to its present position as the leading co-operative in the North Jersey area and outlined the economic principles upon which the world-wide “co-op” movement is based....”In this new economic system,” he said, “dividends—profits—are shared in the locality and by the people by which they are made. Compare that to the present regime which gives to nation-scattered stockholders the profit made locally.” “Instead of cutting down the purchasing power of consumers by permitting it to be absorbed by outside control, co-operatism gives it to the immediate consumer to buy more goods,”....Aldrich...is professor of English Literature at Brothers College and one of the founders of the NJCC....” (Nov. 3, 1937, p.2)

“One of the unnoticed by-products of the depression—unnoticed, except by those directly involved—has been a rise in the death rate from tuberculosis. Dr. Kendall Emerson, managing director of the National Tuberculosis Association, pointed this out the other day, remarking that the death rate from tuberculosis in the United States rose from 54.5 per 100,000 in 1935 to 55.4 in 1936. The rise is small, of course, but significant; as Dr. Emerson says, it should be taken as “a call to arms.” The country has made great strides in its fight against the white plague in the last few decades. It cannot afford to see its gains diminished even slightly. You might remember this, when the Christmas seals go on sale next month.” (editorial, Nov. 4, 1937, p.16)

“Jobs may be short these days, in the professions as well as the trades, but there is still an unfilled need for men and women of outstanding ability and training. So says William R. White, New York state superintendent of banks, in an address before Bucknell College students. This, of course, is simply another way of phrasing the old saying that “there’s always room at the top”; and the old saying is just as true now as it always was. The really superior person can always make a place for himself. But only a few of us, unfortunately, are really superior persons. It is the opening for the average person that we’re interested in; and unless there is some assurance than an ordinarily intelligent and skillful youth can have an ordinarily good chance of finding a job for himself when he starts out, young collegians—and other youngsters as well—may eye the future with misgiving.” (editorial, Nov. 5, 1937, p.4)

“Governor Hoffman is acting with sound judgment and for the best interests of workers, employers and the state in general in opposing at the time the elimination of employee contributions from the provisions of the state unemployment compensation act. It is natural that such a demand should arise. The greater number of other states do not make employee contributions a requisite to participation in the benefits of the system. Nevertheless, the act as it stands represents, under existing circumstances, the most judicious approach to this notable philanthropic experiment and there should be no change in the system until the necessity and advisability of change have been established through practical experience with the functioning of

existing legislation. New Jersey has had its fair share of misfortune with weak pension funds. Most of the existing public systems are insolvent, due principally to the fact that they were established on an unsound actuarial basis which permitted participants to escape payment of a just proportion of the costs. Now in consequence, the taxpayers are required to make up the deficits so that the various funds may be saved from collapse. The state unemployment compensation act is still in an experimental stage. It is believed to be a strong and effective piece of legislation and has received the unqualified approval of the federal social security commission. But it is nevertheless an unknown quantity. Governor Hoffman's position in the matter cannot successfully be challenged. New Jersey should wait until it has had some actual experience with the payment of benefits before making any fundamental change in policy." (editorial from the Trenton State Gazette, published in the Morristown Daily Record Nov. 5, 1937, p.4)

"We Americans don't know how lucky we are. The contrast with Spain and China is obvious enough, of course....But we often overlook the luck which becomes evident when our own lot is contrasted with the lot of European peoples who are still at peace. Almost without exception, the great powers overseas are living in fear of war. They are straining every resource to prepare for it, and are calling on their people to make all manner of sacrifices to that end. We are doing nothing of the kind. The rising tide of industrial prosperity coincides this fall with a bumper harvest; and since we are not gripped by the fear of war, we can use these increasing riches to provide more happiness and security for ourselves. And that leads us to consider the obligation which goes with good luck. Not everyone in America is sharing in these blessings which better times bring. There are people who still lack jobs; there are people who are loaded with debt, who have been hit by accident or illness, or who by some other stroke of bad fortune are unable to get along by their own efforts. The federal government has pledged that no one shall go hungry, so we do not need to contribute our dollars for soup kitchens. But there are many other ways in which we can and must help. There are agencies which seek to help the underprivileged—to keep their hope alive, to care for them in ill health, to do the thousand and one things which must be done if good citizenship and ordinary human happiness are to be built up and preserved. Our chance to help comes in the annual appeal of the community chest—the Mobilization for Human Needs....America is blessed by good fortune beyond other lands. Shall we not accept the duty which that fact places upon us...." (editorial, Nov. 9, 1937, p.4)

"The first meeting of the newly-appointed Citizens Unemployment Census Committee of Mountain Lakes will be held this evening in Borough Hall at 8 o'clock. According to Frederick T. Rubidge, chairman of the committee chosen by Mayor Halsey A. Frederick the purpose of the meeting is to discuss phases of publicity and to secure names of any unemployed of which the members may have knowledge...." (Nov. 9, 1937, p.14)

"**DENVILLE** – A partial survey of Denville Township's municipally-owned water supply and distribution system has been completed and a permanent map record of wells, pumps, storage tanks, distribution lines and hydrants has been established by WPA workers, sponsored by the township committee. Presidential approval was announced this week for an additional \$3,940 to complete maps of underground utilities within the township. Field surveys covering 35 miles of underground conduits and mains, street plans, consumer services, pipe sizes, with locations of public rights of way and vertical and horizontal connections, and the drafting of revised maps to cover this information, begun in March this year, occupied a personnel of seven relief workers over a period of nine months, at a total cost of \$7,696. Federal funds allotted [sic] were \$5,096, and the sponsors contributed \$2,600...."The survey and record work was essential," Charles W.

Rodgers, chairman of the water and finance sub-committees of the township body, says. "Many of our lines and extensions were not specifically recorded, and we had to depend on the knowledge and experience of two members of our water department to remember all the details of these units...." The township prides itself on the possession of one of the most complete municipal water supply systems in rural New Jersey....Service lines have been installed to the Union and Rockaway Valley sections, where most of the consumers are farmers. Present facilities are adequate to accommodate double demands in future residential development and population growth....The original well of the system on Morris avenue, is held in reserve. With an eight-inch shaft 100 feet deep, it has a constant capacity of 320 gallons per minute. The newer well has a 10-inch shaft 139 feet deep...with a constant capacity of 660 gallons per minute....The original 250,000-gallon storage tank, with base elevation of 686 feet, is supplied under regulated head from the second well and its tank, which has a base elevation of 760 feet and capacity of 500,000 gallons. Excellent faucet and hydrant pressures are maintained.... Denville's water is given the highest rating by the State Board of Health. One of the principal extensions of the system was installed under an earlier WPA project....This project embraced the installation of an eight-inch line 1,340 feet from Pocono road to Norris road, thence 7,340 feet of six-inch main to the Boonton Township boundary. This Norris avenue addition, which brought township water into a section badly affected during periods of drought by dry wells, due to drainage of strata water by Mountain Lakes wells, has been declared by WPA engineers to be one of the outstanding projects of its kind in New Jersey. The project was completed with the expenditure of \$17,298.29, of which the Federal government contributed \$13,337.88. The sponsors contributed \$3,960.41, \$,205.59 less than the original estimate. Ten PWA workers, using hand labor only, accomplished the work, with pipe installation made by the regular employees of the water department." (Nov. 10, 1937, p.3)

“WASHINGTON – Almost a half ton of turkey meat—approximately 800 pounds—is the Thanksgiving allotment for the two CCC camps in the Morristown area, it was learned today. Twenty-seven cents per man is the extra Thanksgiving food allowance, and by buying 40,000 turkeys, the Army has stretched that 27 cents so that each CCC enrollee and officer will get dressing, mashed potatoes, vegetables, oysters, pickles, celery, and cranberry jelly. All enrollees will be on hand for the dinner, because the comptroller general has ruled CCC workers won't be allowed time off for the traditional American holiday. Thanksgiving and Christmas are the only days on which the CCC kitchens get an added "feast allowance," officials said." (Nov. 11, 1937, p.1)

“Breadline His Heritage” is the headline of a striking photograph of an older man looking stolidly upward, the planes and lines of his face making an arresting portrait. The caption reads: "When a Washington, D. C., relief worker saw James B. Sloan, 61, in a breadline, he was impressed by the infinite strength and character of Sloan's face that the above picture portrays. Questioned, Sloan revealed that his great grandfather was a member of George Washington's staff, and that deafness and decreasing business had wiped out Sloan's paint business, put him in the breadline. The above picture was made, the living symbol of needy persons—and Sloan was taken out of the breadline." (Nov. 12, 1937, p.1)

"Last minute details are being completed for the taking of the Unemployment census in Morristown. In a statement issued today, Mayor Clyde Potts emphasized the fact that the names of unemployed persons or partially unemployed persons will not be published or made public in any way....The information given by the unemployed or other signers of the cards will not be used to their disadvantage in any way, such as in tax matters, questions of citizenship, or relief....

Positive action was taken to exclude from the census any supplementary enumeration or registration which might be imposed on the regular unemployment census by those seeking to take advantage of the government's undertaking for their own purpose. The census taking in Morristown is under the direction of Postmaster Russell Noncarrow...." (Nov. 12, 1937, p.1)

from the **Daily Washington Letter** by Rodney Dutcher, Nov. 13, 1937, p.4: "Higher wages for the most exploited, poorly paid classes of labor, shorter hours which would spread work in many industries and control over child labor – these are objectives in perhaps the administration's most important proposal to the special session of Congress. At the last session the Senate macerated and passed a once-ambitious administration wage-hour bill. The House labor committee made further changes and approved this measure. Then a combination of Republicans and Southern Democrats on the rules committee stifled it"

"A serious problem confronts the Board of Freeholders in the request of directors of the Morristown hospitals for additional funds to operate the institutions. It is claimed by these directors that the county is paying but 30 percent of the cost of indigent patients while 70 percent falls upon the hospitals through donations from the Community Chest and private gifts which have been greatly reduced. Unless the Freeholders provide more money these hospitals will probably be compelled to suspend some portion of the work now being done....There is a tendency on part of the Freeholders to think of county work only in terms of road building. For this the public is responsible because of its insistent demand for roads and more roads. The Board points with pride, and perhaps properly so, to its fine highways and feats accomplished by the engineering department. Has it ever thought of calling the public's attention to what is really needed for hospitals, for fighting tuberculosis, for the welfare work? Of speaking plainly that these things are of greater need than the patching of this road or scraping of that highway?.... There is no question but what the Freeholders are willing and want to aid these deserving institutions. And they naturally ask: "where are we going to get the money?"....It remains, therefore, for the Freeholders to do what they ultimately must do: further curtail expenses or increase the tax rate to a point where the poor in these institutions can be cared for. The public will never offer any objection to new taxes or bond issues where human life is at stake." (editorial, Nov. 13, 1937, p.4)

"The Morristown Daily Record is cooperating with the Unemployment Compensation Commission of New Jersey in the presentation of a series of questions and answers relating to the administration and enforcement of the law. The first of six installments appears today. Readers are invited to submit questions through the Record or to James G. Robinson, Executive Director, Unemployment Compensation, Trenton Trust Co. Building, Trenton. "

I—General and Administration (Nov. 15, 1937, p.2)

II—Coverage (Nov. 16, 1937, p.9)

III—Contributions (Nov. 17, 1937, p.3)

IV—Handling and Management of Funds (Nov. 18, 1937, p. 15)

V. Benefits (Nov. 19, 1937, p. 2)

VI. Employment Service (Nov. 20, 1937, p.12)

"Before we can get finally straightened out on the problem of unemployment, we might as well face the fact that there is a lot of it which isn't really due to the depression. This kind of unemployment simply arises from a gradual tightening up in the world of jobs; a process which you can attribute to increased efficiency, to machines, to the increasing rigors of a more competitive business era, or to anything else you choose but which is keeping a good many willing men off

the payroll no matter what you call it....a sample case....a man of 45 or 50 in a large city...lost his job a couple of years ago. It was...just an average white-collar position that paid perhaps \$50 a week and kept the man in decent comfort....he set out to get another. He has been trying for two years, and he hasn't succeeded yet....because there haven't been any jobs open for him. The vacancies he might have filled have been occupied by men a little bit younger, a little bit more energetic, a little bit more efficient. So he is still in the market for a job, and he would have starved to death long since if it had not been for the WPA. That organization has given him a series of jobs...and has kept him alive....what he is going to do when the WPA finally is discontinued he has no faintest idea....this luckless chap must be representative of a pretty large group of the unemployed. he isn't such a terribly good worker, and yet he is nobody's dumbbell either; he is well past his youth, and yet he is capable of years of hard work; he is willing enough, and pathetically anxious to get the sort of job he is trained for—and he just can't land one....What's the answer, for men like him? Are we going to have to have a permanent work-relief program, in good years and bad, to care for the people who drop out of the procession and can't find their way back in?" (editorial, Nov. 15, 1937, p.4)

“WASHINGTON, D. C. – President Roosevelt has put his stamp of approval on a Morristown WPA project which calls for the installation of sewers along three thoroughfares, it was learned today at the office of U. S. Senator A. Harry Moore. The Chief Executive has approved the expenditure of federal funds totaling \$37,063 for the project which consists of the installing of sewers along Mr. Kemble, Colles and Wetmore avenues, and includes the placing of pipe lines, manholes, etc...The Presidential approval, however, does not mean that funds will be made available immediately. The final approval of the project rests with the State Director of the Works Progress Administration at Trenton. He will also have to set the time for the actual commencement of the work....” (Nov. 15, 1937, p.14)

“TRENTON – Fat men, thin men and huskies, together with women unkempt and somewhat battle-scarred, picketed the front entrance of the State House last night in protest of threatened meal tickets for relief. They were members of what is left of the Workers' Alliance and they wore banners in front of them bearing such slogans as “We Can Eat Mud,” “We Are Hungry,” “Vote for the Relief Bill,” and “What About the Millions Unemployed.” Fearful they might start a little trouble in the Assembly and Senate, extra State Troopers were placed at strategic points inside the capital building, but nothing happened....It was expected when the legislature went into session some action would be taken to provide additional funds for relief, but the Democratic controlled House decided in conference to pass the buck to the governor who has power to divert \$2,000,000 per month from any source....” (Nov. 16, 1937, p.1, article by Wood Vance)

“...the publicist, William Feather, in an article in Nation's Business. In spite of unemployment, says Mr. Feather, the nation today suffers from an acute shortage of skilled workers....And why? Because the average ambitious high school lad of today has his heart set on a dignified white collar job, and scorns the prospect of being an expert turret lathe operator, a first-class pattern maker, a skilled machinist or anything else that requires manual labor. It isn't the ambitious high school lad's fault. We have glorified the white collar man....The result of all of this is that the swollen middle class is jammed with people who simply can't make a decent living in their chosen occupations. We have penniless young lawyers who wait with desperate anxiety for the practice that never materializes; hopeful young dentists who can find no teeth to fill; salesmen by the score and the gross who skimp along on a hand to mouth basis...; clerks who get along on day laborers' pay; and a whole army of luckless mortals who try half a dozen jobs in the course

of a decade, succeeding in none of them and eternally driven by the haunting fear of poverty. Yet all the while the skilled trades lack men, and the skilled worker goes along happily and comfortably on an income that would look like very heaven to these harassed white collar misfits. What's the answer? Mr. Feather suggests simply, that we devise uniforms to take the place of overalls; and before you start laughing, just consider the prestige which a neat uniform gives to the job it goes with. We have an abundance of good technical high schools to prepare boys for the skilled trades. It would be a fine thing if we could find some way—whether Mr. Feather's, or some other—to show young men that the white collar is not the only badge of distinction in this country. Maybe the uniforms would do it. Maybe a universal return to common sense would. Whatever the solution, it is high time we found it. (editorial, Nov. 18, 1937, p.14)

“It now seems certain hospitals of the county will receive additional financial aid from the Board of Freeholders, and the Shongum Sanatorium a new building to take care of the overcrowded condition there. This assurance is from Freeholder William C. Spargo....Such a fine spirit of cooperation deserves commendation for Mr. Spargo is chairman of the County Road Committee, one of the best informed men in the State on road construction, and naturally is primarily interested in highway work. But he sees in requests of these institutions something more than mere routine supplications. It's an opportunity to do a great service for humanity: the saving of human lives and the building of better and healthier citizens for the future. The Record felt that when the needs for the hospitals were brought to the Freeholders' attention, thereby reflecting public sentiment, there would be no hesitancy on the part of the Board to act at once. It was never with the feeling that the Freeholders were antagonistic in any way, but that they needed assurance of public support. The Board has done a good job in economies. It has lived within the means of its budgets at the same time kept abreast with the demands of county government. Now comes the promise of a still greater service to be performed.” (editorial, Nov. 19, 1937, p.4)

from the **Daily Washington Letter**, by Rodney Dutcher, Nov. 19, 1937, p.4: “Secretary “Honest Harold” Ickes has just undertaken to assure top officials of PWA and the Interior Department that they are not being subjected to wire tapping, dictaphone planting and other espionage. Ickes acted to solve a cockeyed situation. Responsible, highly-paid officials were complaining to each other of tapped telephone conversations, of surveillance of visitors to their offices and of being shadowed outside. Some officials even had private electricians search their offices for possible dictaphones or hidden wires. Ickes himself, apparently to make sure no one was snooping without his knowledge, had the telephone company check important offices recently—including his own.....Senator Harry Byrd of Virginia criticized a rural resettlement housing project in his state so violently that some drastic economies were made. Scheduled plumbing installations were abandoned in favor of small houses to the rear. The tenants now call these structures “Byrd houses.” “

“The Unemployment Compensation of New Jersey announced this morning that a considerable number of applicants for the compulsory insurance had been received and that from all angles it appeared as if the unemployed from all sections of the state were going to get behind the idea and make it a success....About Morristown, although the official number is unknown, it is reported that over 75 percent of the unemployed have filled out their blanks and sent to the local post office, while many more are expected today. This unemployment compensation...is really a form of compulsory insurance....It is to the benefit of the unemployed worker to become connected with this system as its benefit will work two-fold, in paying the worker when

unemployed and in finding him work after he has been laid off. The New Jersey Unemployment Compensation Law provides for a system of merit which reduces the amount of contributions of the part of the individual employers on the basis of experience and thus encourages them to stabilize operations in their respective establishments and industries. Also the Federal Government will co-operate with the State in its system of unemployment, in three ways, namely, by allowing credit to employers against the Federal tax levied on employers of eight or more employees; by making Federal grants to cover the cost of administering the unemployment compensation law; and in sharing the cost of operating a State-wide system of public employment exchanges. All salaries, supplies, rentals and purchases of equipment are paid by the Federal Government, with the exception of the State unemployment service division. For the maintenance and operation of the Employment Division, the Federal Government matches State funds. It has been shown that the employer may credit against the Federal tax—up to 90 percent of that tax—the total amount of any contributions paid by him to the unemployment compensation fund, and he may credit any reduction in contribution made to him under the State law by reason of favorable unemployment experience.” (Nov. 20, 1937, p. 1 & 6)

“**TRENTON**—Governor Harold Hoffman has been appointed to the position of executive director of the Unemployment Compensation Commission. He will assume his new duties shortly after the expiration of his term as governor on January 18. The new post carries with it a salary of \$12,000. Hoffman’s new appointment was voted at a secret session of the commission held last week. It was made possible by the forced resignation of James G. Robinson, governmental expert. The resignation of W. Warren Barbour as commission chairman is also linked with the appointment of Hoffman. Democratic members of the commission were in sympathy with the Hoffman appointment, presumably on orders from Mayor Frank Hague of Jersey City. The Democrats could have blocked the appointment had they wished.” (Nov. 23, 1937, p.1)

“Postmaster Russell J. Noncarrow announced this morning that the National Unemployment Census committee has selected Morristown as one of two towns from Morris County to be represented in a census of postal districts throughout the State. The district in Morristown that will be covered has not been divulged but it was reported that over 600 stops, more than the average, will be made. This census is being taken so that a file of the unemployed from each division of the State may be made and an idea as to how many are on relief roles [sic] or have other types of support....Under the law, village, rural and star-route carriers cannot be paid for any overtime used in connection with this work....there may be instances in connection with the village delivery service where it would work a decided hardship on the carrier to perform all of the duties set forth in the instructions and in that case substitute carriers, all who must be under Civil Service, will be added. This census will get underway on Monday morning and be carried through until Saturday, when it must be completed. All persons living in the household which is visited by the census taker, who are over the age of 14, will be interviewed and given a National Unemployment Census card to fill out....If the individual is working, he will be asked if he was working full-time, how many hours he worked and if he would like more work. If not working for pay he will be asked whether he wanted work, was able to work and if he was seeking work....” (Nov. 23, 1937, p.8)

“The usual elaborate Thanksgiving Day dinners will be served at hospitals and county institutions tomorrow. At the two local hospitals, All Souls and Memorial, there will be the usual turkey dinner with all the fixin’s for the patients who are well enough to partake of a heavy meal, and for the staff and employees. The menu at Memorial Hospital included avocado with

orange ice, consome [sic] with noodles, melba toast, roast turkey with baked klum [sic] kuats, cranberry sauce, dressing, giblet gravy, buttered peas, cauliflower in Hollandaise, glazed sweet potatoes, celery hearts, queen olives and gherkins, hard rolls, pumpin [sic] franchonettes*, coffee and mints. All Souls Hospital has received a gift of turkeys for the patients and entire staff. The full menu includes consomme, roast turkey, dressing, cranberries, mashed potatoes, creamed onions, fresh peas, coffee and pumpkin pie. Chief Chef William Walton of the State Hospital at Greystone Park has 5,500 pounds of chicken to get ready for the Thanksgiving dinner at that institution. The menu includes cream of celery soup with croutons, roast chicken with apple sauce, dressing and giblet gravy, sweet potatoes, creamed onions, celery salad, pumpkin pie and milk. The patients and staff at Shonghum Sanatorium will enjoy a dinner of roast turkey, chestnut dressing, cranberry sauce, cauliflower, squash, mashed potatoes, pumpkin and mince pie, celery, olives, mints, nuts and coffee. Fricassee chicken will be the main dish at the Welfare House. Accompanying this will be mashed potatoes, creamed onions, squash, coffee and homemade pumpkin pie. In addition there will be extra tobacco for the men and candy for the women. The 80 prisoners who will be at the Morris County Jail over Thanksgiving will have a dinner consisting of fresh ham, cranberry sauce, turnips, pumpkin, potatoes, bread, coffee and mince or pumpkin pie.” (Nov. 24, 1937, p. 1 & 7)

*franchonette, correctly fanchonette, is a mini pie or individual tart made with puff pastry or other rich pastry with a filling such as lemon curd, egg custard, rhubarb, or pumpkin, and covered with meringue or whipped cream.

“**WASHINGTON, D. C.** – About one fifth of a pint of pneumonia serum was on its way today from the Army’s medical laboratories in Washington to the veins of approximately half of the enrollees in the Morristown Civilian Conservation Corps Camp. A CCC spokesman stressed that the experimental vaccine against the dread lung disease will be administered only to those volunteering to take it, but that a full half of the camp was expected to volunteer. Only enough serum for half the men will be immediately available, it was said, as the Army’s resources for extracting the immunizing substance from the dead pneumocci [sic] or pneumonia germs have been severely taxed by the order for one-half a cubic centimeter [sic] for each of the 150,000 CCC enrollees....Army doctors will keep a close count of pneumonia cases and deaths this winter in the groups that take the serum and compare the record with that of the “control” group, those that don’t take it....In the last four years, it was pointed out, 32,000 enrollees have been immunized with the new serum, and there were only 31 cases of pneumonia and one death in the group. In a “control” group, of about the same number and over the same period, there were 70 cases and 8 deaths.” (Nov. 26, 1937, p.8)

“**WASHINGTON, D. C.** – Several streets in Dover are going to have some much needed improvements, it was learned today at the office of Senator A. Harry Moore. Senator Moore... has been informed that President Roosevelt has approved the expenditure of federal funds amounting to \$17,765 for the project which is designed to put many unemployed unskilled workmen to work. The work will include excavating, grading and surfacing of streets wherever such improvements are needed....the final approval rests with the State director of the WPA.... No additional taxes or assessments are to be levied to cover the federal funds expended it was explained at Moore’s office.” (Nov. 27, 1937, p.1)

From the **Daily Washington Letter** by Rodney Dutcher, Nov. 27, 1937, p.4: “...the people who are administering the Social Security Act insist that the principle of the Old-Age Reserve Account, under which 36,000,000 persons now have “insurance policies” with the government, is both honest and sound. If you have confidence in your government, its future solvency and

honesty, they say, you shouldn't worry about old-age benefits and the method being used to finance them. The 36,000,000 employees now pay one per cent of their incomes (up to the first \$3000) and their employers pay a tax of the same amount, which is collected by the Treasury. This will be graduated to an eventual combined tax of six per cent. Employers also pay two per cent of payrolls as an unemployment compensation tax. The Treasury puts the money in its general fund and spends it along with other receipts, meanwhile depositing government bonds to a corresponding amount in the old-age reserve and unemployment trust funds. Lately from many directions have come charges: 1. That the government is spending social security tax money as fast as it gets it to finance deficits....3. That the result is merely more debt, which will have to be paid by more taxes....5. That instead of a cash reserve or an investment earning money for the government, the reserve fund is merely a collection of IOU's. But Chairman Arthur J. Altmeyer of the Social Security Board asks why should the government sterilize or earmark a dollar paid in any more than a bank or insurance company does? Social Security tax money isn't being used to pay this fiscal year's \$700,000,000 deficit any more than any other tax receipts. Since the reserve plan contemplates gradual purchase of all outstanding government bonds for the reserve fund, the results look better when the budget is balanced....By 1980 annual payment of old-age benefits would reach a peak of three billion a year, which would be paid 50-50 from government interest on the reserve bonds and payroll tax collections. The policy-holders would have taken over the government debt and interest on the debt would be paid out in benefits rather than to coupon-clippers...."

"More than one million New Jersey workers will receive a reduction in pay beginning with January 1, 1938, and continuing as long as they are employed. The reduction in their pay will be for their own benefit, however, for with the beginning of next year they will begin paying into the New Jersey Unemployment Compensation fund, the deduction being made from their pay envelopes by their employers, as provided by law. Approximately 14,000 employers have been paying contributions on wages payable in 1936 and 1937. Now the worker joins in building up the fund from which eligible unemployed workers will receive benefits after January 1, 1939. Out of the New Jersey Unemployment Compensation fund—which may total \$75,000,000 by the end of 1938—benefits will be paid on the basis of one-half of the regular weekly wage received by the unemployed worker during his unemployment. The maximum payable to an unemployed and eligible worker will be \$15 weekly for not more than 16 weeks per year. When a worker is unemployed, the principal objective of the commission...will not be the payment of benefits. Rather, every resource of the commission will be devoted toward the speedy elimination of benefit payments by returning the worker to employment. In the two-week waiting period prior to the payment of benefits, the New Jersey State Employment Service, through its 23 centrally located offices, will make every effort to find suitable work for the worker who is registered upon becoming unemployed. Such efforts will continue while the worker is receiving benefits....New Jersey in 1935 spent \$65,000,000 on relief. In 1936, the New Jersey Social Security Commission....reached the conclusion that employe participation eliminated the stigma of the dole, state socialism or paternalism. Already New Jersey employers have paid in excess of \$26,000,000 into the Unemployment Compensation Fund. Employer contributions started at the rate of nine-tenth of one per cent of the local wages in 1936, rose to 1.8 per cent in 1937, and will be 2.7 per cent in 1938 and subsequent years. Employer contributions for 1936 amounted to \$10,135,044. It is estimated that 1937 contributions will reach \$22,000,000. Employer contributions for 1938 are expected to total \$32,000,000, while it is estimated that during the same year employees will contribute approximately \$10,000,000...." (editorial from the Paterson Call, published in the Morristown Daily Record Dec. 1, 1937, p.4)

“BOONTON – The Board of Education will consider definite action on clinical care of needy children with defective teeth as the result of action taken last night by the board at a regular meeting in the John Hill School. The matter came up when Mrs. George P. Igleheart gave a health report citing that only 15 out of 90 pupils with defective teeth had them attended to. Mrs. Charles A. Norris pressed the matter, pointing out that other school systems had provision to take care of such children. One of these was Morristown where there is a public school clinic. On inquiry, by Mrs. Norris, Supervising Principal M. Burr Mann declared one system was to have schools pay dentists a nominal fee for voluntary work. Another method given was to have the dentists appointed in a similar capacity through the school physician. Edward J. Nugent, chairman of the finance committee, estimated the cost of such an undertaking, including salary and material, would be about \$1,000. Mr. Mann was instructed to canvass the local dentists to find their views on the subject....” (Dec. 2, 1937, p.1)

“WASHINGTON, D. C. – Uncle Sam is not going to let his CCC charges in New Jersey freeze this winter, for no matter how cold the wintry blasts scooting across camps, both youths and veterans will go right on working in heavy flannel underwear. This and other apparel to keep the CCC workers warm are included in new supplies now being issued to enrollees at the two camps in the Morristown area, by the Army’s quartermaster corps. The winter wardrobe for each of the CCC workers will include a winter cap, a wool coat, a lumber jacket, a mackinaw, three wool drawers, two flannel shirts, three wool undershirts, one pair of wool trousers, six pairs of wool socks, heavy shoes and one pair of leather wool-lined mittens. Speaking about the flannel underwear, an official of the quartermaster department of the Second Corps Area said “They might not be red, but they’re just as warm as red flannels.” The 1,500,000 undershirts issued to CCC enrollees throughout the country are expected to bring about the desired results, even though it is admitted they may be a trifle itchy at times.” (Dec. 2, 1937, p.1)

“Morristown Lodge of Elks No. 815 will present its annual entertainment at the Welfare House on Wednesday, December 22, at 8 P.M. Jacob Greenberg is again the chairman in charge of the affair. The committee assisting him includes...[many names follow]. The usual gifts will be presented to the inmates and the program will include music, entertainment, moving pictures and refreshments.”

“MILLINGTON – Mrs. Elizabeth Eisel, relief director, in a report to the Passaic Township Committee at a meeting held last evening...stated that the cost of relief took a sharp rise during the month of November to \$336 or \$100 more than the preceding month. The WPA sewing project costs an additional \$110. The committee discussed the question of local WPA workers being used on projects in another community and decided to try once again to have the WPA officials begin the Pleasant Plains road improvement, a project already approved. It was pointed out that WPA workers now have to be transported at township expense to Harding Township....” (Dec. 7, 1937, p.7)

“TRENTON (AP) – State Relief Director Arthur Mudd estimated today that 1938’s unemployment relief bill would roll up to \$20,000,000, but he added hastily: “Anybody’s guess is as good as mine.”... “As far as I can see,” the relief director said, “nobody actually knows what the relief costs next year are going to be. We estimated this year’s bill at \$15,000,000, and the fact that we came so close was more luck than any good management.” Mudd said he was certain the 1938 bill would be higher than this year, principally because the current Legislature is leaving an estimated \$3,000,000 deficit. He said reports he was receiving indicated “the current business recession would continue through the Winter.” Although Mudd said his \$20,000,000

estimate was based on “nothing tangible,” he said he considered a handful of “significant ‘ifs.’” He listed them as: Continuance of “current economic conditions. Further curtailment of Works Progress Administration activities. Agitation for disbursement of “more adequate aid” to individual cases. Senator Loizeaux, Union, Republican, has suggested a 60-40 percent arrangement between the State and municipalities, with the latter paying the smaller share. Mudd said he didn’t see “how many of the municipalities we’re helping could stand such an arrangement.” “ (Dec. 8, 1937, p.1)

“For the first time in six years the Morris County Welfare Board will not only have a deficit but likely a balance, it reported to the Board of Freeholders yesterday. Large sums received from the State Financial Assistance Corporation and a general return of prosperity which allowed many relatives to aid those who had been on relief were contributing conditions. Also for the first time the number of cases is fairly stabilized and it enables the Board to more definitely determine just what it needs. The 1937 budget was \$226,200 and the present estimate of costs is \$187,816.86, showing a difference of \$38,383.14. Of this \$30,000 less was in the permanent relief list. The State Board of Children’s Guardians reported 882 children under its care and expected the number to be increased. Its estimate of the county’s expense in caring for these next year was put at \$88,748.85....About 20 local residents wrote, asking greater appropriations for hospital care of indigent poor, particularly to Memorial Hospital....The County Welfare Board wrote it approved continuation of the Visiting House Helping Bureau, A WPA project, with the local costs restricted to telephone bills....” (Dec. 9, 1937, p.1)

“**TRENTON**, (AP) – Stymied in their quest for available state funds to finance emergency relief in 1938, Republican legislators turned today to other sources of revenue to meet an estimated \$20,000,000 bill for aiding New Jersey’s needy. Senator Lester H. Clee of Essex, who championed the present system of financing largely through diversion of highway funds, indicated he might pursue a similar course next year. Emphasizing he was “merely thinking out loud,” Clee said \$12,500,000 could be raised by taking \$1,500,000 in available state balances; \$2,000,000 from inheritance taxes of the Arthur Brisbane estimate, and \$9,000,000 in highway funds....State treasurer Albright said he saw “very little money available for financing 1938 relief unless there is a diversion of funds.”...”Arthur Mudd, director of the state financial assistance commission....urged legislation to compel municipalities to include a relief item in their annual budgets. He said “most municipalities can stand the burden of doubling their 1937 share of \$3,000,000. For those who cannot, the director should be given a reserve fund of \$50,000 to \$100,000 to ease their burden. Most of these municipalities are those having less than 10,000 population.” ” (Dec. 9, 1937, p.1)

“**ROCKAWAY** – A report on the budget condition of Rockaway Borough presented last night to the Council revealed that only 34% of delinquent taxes has been collected this year and that, unless these are taken in, the cash position will be seriously weakened. At the present time \$99,166.99 is owing in delinquent taxes on and prior to 1936, and for 1937. Up to the present time no tax sale has been held as stipulated by law. This largely explains the low percentage of collections for this year which amounts to \$22,000. Last year collections of \$50,000 were made, and a tax sale was held. However, an increase in tax rates this year over last and unfavorable economic conditions are also responsible for the present deficiencies....” (Dec. 10, 1937, p.1)

“If you sit back and look at the autumn of 1937 through half-closed eyes, you are apt to get the haunting and melancholy impression that you have seen the whole show before. There was a busy summer, with bumper crops and plenty of jobs; there was a stock-market smashup, with

soothsayers of high and low degree hastening to announce that falling security prices didn't really mean anything; then came a sharp business recession, layoffs in the factories, demands for farm relief at Washington, and solemn promises from the government that the decline would not be permitted to become serious . . . surely, you saw all of that before, somewhere? To be sure; in 1929. How it all comes back to one! How familiar it all is—and how ominous the parallel begins to look, when one remembers what 1929 led up to....Are we, after all, helpless? Is there nothing we can do but take it, decade after decade?....somehow, it is a little comforting to notice a quotation from a letter written by Andrew Carnegie in 1905...."We are greatly pleased with our new Winton. From the very start it has done its work and never failed us. There may be improvements yet to come even in such autos, but it is difficult to see much room for them." Mr. Carnegie wrote that away back in the Pleistocene age of automotive development....Yet Andrew Carnegie, who could peer as far ahead into the industrial age as the next man, could not conceive that the car of 1905 could ever be improved materially. What has that to do with the business cycle, depressions, and so on? Nothing, perhaps; but it does indicate that we make the most amazing and unexpected kind of progress, and that the very best effort of one generation is utterly outclassed by the next...." (editorial, Dec. 10, 1937, p.16)

From the **Daily Washington Letter** by Rodney Dutcher, Dec. 13, 1937, p.4: "Some of the most important members of the administration's inside group are now convinced that only an increase in government spending will snap the nation out of depression. They are sure the New Deal will "start spending again" in the near future....The drive for a private house-building boom and such co-operation and concessions as the administration is offering to business are expected to help. But there is no indication that private enterprise is going to be able to check the economic spiral and that means, according to insiders, that the job can be done only by pumping more government funds into the economic system...."

"Morris County municipalities [sic] will get an increase in the number of workers allowed to be put on the WPA early in the new year, it was indicated by...William H. J. Ely, State Administrator of the WPA that the New Jersey quota had been raised to provide work for 1,000 more persons. Most of this will be applied to unskilled workers and additional projects will be written so that the work can start about January 15. Town Clerk Nelson S. Butera said he had received notice this morning of the increase but just how many Morristown will be allowed has not been definitely ascertained. He has forwarded a list of 80 men, heads of families, who are on relief and who are eligible for employment and asked that these be given preference....At a recent Board of Aldermen meeting, Mr. Butera charged that many men, not on relief, were being put on WPA jobs without his knowledge whole [sic] those on relief and able to work were not being utilized and the Town's cost in relief was thereby steadily mounting. The Board authorized him to conduct an investigation into this situation and report at a later meeting." (Dec. 15, 1937, p.7)

"**CHICAGO, Ill.** – Morristown, N. J. housewives face an increase of \$14.045 in the cost of flour and bread and an approximately equal addition to the cost of cotton clothing should Congress enact the proposed processing taxes on wheat and cotton, Mrs. Wilbur E. Fribley, president of the Housewives League of America, declared in a statement today...."Using Morristown as a typical example, we find that the cost of the wheat processing tax to the housewives of that city would amount to \$14.045 annually inasmuch as this city normally consumes 15,200 barrels of flour annually and a 20 cent per bushel wheat processing tax adds an average of 92 cents a barrel to the cost of flour and one-third cent to a loaf of bread. The proposed tax on cotton will place an added burden of approximately an equal amount on Morristown family budgets....In effect,

these levies will be added taxes on the working man for the bread he eats and the shirt he wears ...” ” (Dec. 15, 1937, p.16)

“The difficulties which meet an administration that tries to balance its budget in a time of increasing industrial stagnation are amply illustrated by the announcement at Washington that a \$23,000,000-a-month increase in WPA spending has been ordered, to cope with unemployment. Twenty-three millions a month constitute heavy spending, even in a government like ours. Since relief expenditures have been one of the main reasons for the unbalanced budget, it is hard to see how the budget-balancing act is going to be accomplished when relief costs are going up at that rate. Yet what is to be done? The need exists. Unemployment is indisputably on the rise. Something has to be done, and the federal government is the only agency that can do it. In the long run, a balanced budget must wait on full business revival. Until that revival comes, government accountants will have to keep the jug of red ink handy.” (editorial, Dec. 16, 1937, p.16)

“**TRENTON**, (AP) – The New Jersey Taxpayer’s Association called on State and municipal officials today to “consider implications of the present business recession” and pare 1938 budgets “to the bone.” Citing a “pressing need” for State spending retrenchment, the Association in a statement fixed New Jersey’s 1937 “tax toll” at \$530,000,000 and declared “new taxes are not acceptable.” “The quicked [sic] legislative spenders adjust themselves to this situation and prepare to make good on their election pledges against new levies,” the Association said, “the sooner can they get started on the task of State reorganization and on the difficult problem of financing and the State’s share of the cost of the relief burden.”...Pledging itself to continue a militant campaign against added assessments, the Association said indications “are multiplying * * * that public opinion in New Jersey will insist upon drastic economies before consideration of any new sources of revenue.” “It is to be hoped, the statement continued, “that the chairmanship of both the Senate and House appropriations committees will go, not to men identified with the political spending cliques, but to known advocates of governmental economies.” ” (Dec. 20, 1937, p.1)

From the **Daily Washington Letter** by Rodney Dutcher, Dec. 20, 1937, p.4: “More than 1,500,000 persons have lost their jobs since Labor Day and about 1,700,000 have had their working hours...curtailed. At least 2,475,000 persons who were at work in August will be out of work by the third week in January. These secret estimates as to the effect of the current business recession on employment have been carefully worked out by some of the government’s foremost economists and statisticians. Officially, of course, it is stated that there’s no way of telling the amount of new unemployment. Actually, there has been some real effort to find out where the country stands and what relief needs may amount to next winter and spring. Indications are that 950,000 persons have been laid off by factories since the beginning of September, about 275,000 in the construction industry and around 210,000 in the transportation and mining industries. That adds up to 1,435,000 and, if the figures are approximately correct, there are other jobless in addition. The estimated 1,700,000 whose employment has been cut down to two, three or four days a week are an important factor in the business situation because the resultant decline in purchasing power accentuates the present downward spiral. More layoffs are anticipated after Christmas. Many now working in the retail, wholesale and mail order trade will be released. Others now working part-time in industry are expected to go off payrolls entirely. Some employers who have deliberately refrained from pre-Christmas layoffs will finally break the news. And by the middle of January, it’s computed, agricultural unemployment—largely

seasonal—will have reached 450,000. The previously cited estimate of 2,475,000 may be conservative. Some government economists believe that the number of “new unemployed” will reach 3,000,000 by the middle of January....By the first of the year, WPA rolls will be carrying nearly 2,000,000 and will reach the peak limit which Administrator Harry Hopkins says is possible under the 1937-38 appropriation of \$1,500,000,000, it now appears. WPA employment is now about 1,575,000 and is increasing rapidly as 350,000 more persons begin to be added to the rolls. Congressmen returning from the holidays are expected to increase the pressure already begun by some of them for an additional WPA appropriation. The degree of this pressure is likely to be conditioned by the speed or lag with which the increase in unemployment is reflected on local relief rolls, and the extent to which unemployment insurance systems in nearly half the states serve to keep the “new unemployed” off those rolls.”

“The layoffs that have been reducing employment lately are tragic. Yet there could be no greater folly than to assume, as some of our radical spokesmen are doing, that these layoffs are due to personal enmity, bad faith or general cussedness of the employers, who are ordering them. As an illustration, consider the fact that the Committee for Industrial Organization itself recently has laid off some 200 of its organizers because of the business recession. This militant left-wing labor organization is simply obeying the iron law that the business men are obeying: when the money isn’t coming in, you retrench....If you hope to stay in business, you follow that rule....” (editorial, Dec. 20, 1937, p.4)

“**WASHINGTON** – A new set of books covering most all subjects from sign painting to veterinary medicine, is in store for enrollees in the two CCC camps near Morristown, a War Department purchase order showed today. The list of books, over which Army officers, CCC executives and experts of the Office of Education have pored anxiously for the last three months, ranges from “Basic Songs for Male Voices,” through treatises on forge work and horticulture, to “Richer Ways of Living.”...ultimately the same library will go to all CCC camps in the country. Most of the titles are educational or technical, and there is a whole series on picking a career: engineering, accountancy, landscape architecture, dramatic art, advertising, restaurant and tea room operation, veterinary medicine, sewing treatment and salesmanship, each being outlined in a separate volume as a possible career. Then there is a volume on how to get a job, a series on life adjustment, 16 unnamed volumes of the Petersham Story Book Series, (only fiction in the lot), a book explaining the Constitution and another describing Democracy in the communal and co-operative land of Denmark. Mathematics and roof framing and photography are all covered, as are insect life and the problems facing buyers of consumer goods. “How to Use English,” by Dr. Frank Vizetelly, and “Shadow on the Land—Syphilis,” by Surgeon General Thomas Parran, Jr., were the most familiar titles. There was also “Alcohol, Its Effect on Man.” (Dec. 21, 1937, p.1)

“The Morris County Committee of The American Legion has arranged to distribute 74 Christmas packages to hospitalized veterans of the World War. Of this number, 46 will go to Greystone Park State Hospital, six to Shongum Sanatorium, 20 to the Veterans’ Hospital at Lyons, one to Base Hospital No. 81 in the Bronx, N.Y., and two to the Veterans’ Hospital at Castle Point, N. Y. At Greystone Park and Shongum all World War veteran inmates will be remembered, while at the other three veterans’ hospitals only patients from Morris County will receive these packages. Other branches of The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary will prepare packages for the veterans from their respective localities....” (Dec. 21, 1937, p.6)

From the **Daily Washington Letter** by Rodney Dutcher, Dec. 21, 1937, p.14: “At least

1,000,000 jobless persons will apply in January for unemployment insurance benefits under the Social Security Act. That figure is only a guess, but officials agree that it's as good as any other guess. State employment offices where unemployed men and women must register for benefits in the 22 states, which begin to pay benefits after the first of the year, except [sic] to be swamped. Few if any checks will be paid in January. They will begin to pour out in February, but probably will not reach full tide until March or April....Whether or not the unemployment trust fund and the state deposits therein will be able to stand the strain of the rush for benefits—and whether the federal government will some time be asked to make up difference so that all benefits can be paid, as happened in England—depends on the length of the depression and the rate of increasing unemployment.”

“Gerald Young, assistant leader at CCC Company 241, was honored last night at the annual Christmas dinner of the campers when he was presented with the Good Citizenship Medal for being considered the best camper in honor, service, courage and leadership. The presentation was made by Mrs. H. T. Maxwell, regent of the DAR, which donates the award each year. The selection is made only after three votes are taken to determine the enrollee best fitted for the medal. The campers of the company select the five they feel are qualified for the award and this list is dropped down to two when the leaders and assistant leaders take a poll. Final selection is then made by Captain M. A. Koehler, company commander, William R. Schultz, project superintendent, and S. V. Tursi, educational advisor....Joseph Capuano, field leader, was announced as being runnerup to Young for the citizenship medal....” (Dec. 22, 1937, p.7)

“Morris County is far ahead of last year in tax receipts for this period of the year, County Treasurer Fletcher L. Fritts reported to the Board of Freeholders yesterday and the amount outstanding is less than half of what it was on December 31 last year and should be reduced considerably before 1937 ends....Against this good news of better receipts was a notice from the State Department of Institutions and Agencies listing the costs per patient per week at various state institutions, all of which show an increase. This will mean, said Chairman A. S. Kirkpatrick of the Finance Committee, an increase of about \$12,000 or approximately one point in the tax rate. “It's a case of groceries going up,” he said....” (Dec. 23, 1937, p.1)

“**CHATHAM** – The Chatham Borough Council last night passed a resolution agreeing to reimburse the Overlook Hospital in Summit for the treatment and care of indigent hospital cases emanating from Chatham. By voting to reimburse the Summit hospital, the Council broadened its hospitalization program which now includes Memorial and All Souls' Hospitals in Morristown. Action on the two Morristown hospitals was taken in March. Last night's resolution is slightly different from the March resolution in that the latter guarantees the care of the borough's sick needy when the total cost of hospitalization exceeds the funds allotted from the Morris County Community chest, while the former agrees to guarantee the entire sum. In passing the resolution, it was pointed out that the proximity of Overlook Hospital to Chatham and the fact that does not receive any funds from Morris Community Chest makes it just to provide for indigent cases that might be taken to the Summit hospital. When the first resolution was passed in March, the Council declared that it would not quibble if a patient was taken to another hospital other than the two Morristown institutions, stating that the welfare of the citizens comes first, but not until last night was concrete action taken to guarantee payment to Overlook Hospital. Cases submitted to Overlook Hospital will be subject to the same regulations as those taken to the Morristown hospitals, and all must be approved by the welfare board or by the agent of the patient....” (Dec. 23, 1937, p.1)

From the **Daily Washington Letter** by Rodney Dutcher, Dec. 24, 1937, p.4: “The scuttling of

the minimum wage-maximum hour bill in the House was a harder jolt to the New Deal than the Senate's defeat of the President's Supreme Court plan....Roosevelt.... was told the bill was safe. Hence the shock."

“WASHINGTON, D. C. – Needy women at Lincoln Park will soon have an opportunity to pick up some extra money by sewing, it was learned today at the office of Senator Moore....he had been informed that the WPA is going to set up a sewing circle at Lincoln Park. While it could not be ascertained just when the work is to get started, it was disclosed that President Roosevelt has approved the expenditure in federal funds amounting to \$2,840 for the project. The idea is to let needy women do sewing work on blankets, mattresses, clothing and other articles which are to be distributed free of charge among charitable institutions in and near Lincoln Park....Since presidential approval automatically authorizes the State director of the Works Progress Administration to go ahead with the work, it will be up to him to give the signal for the actual commencement of the work...However, it is not until after he has approved the project that federal funds will be made available for the work....” (Dec. 24, 1937, p.5)

“POMPTON PLAINS – The Sons of Legion Squadron 242, of the John H. Lookhoff Post, American Legion of Pequannock Township has distributed a dozen Christmas baskets to needy families in the township under the direction of Commander James Card and Americanization chairman John McDonnell. The baskets were raised by the members of the Pompton Plains Reformed Church Sunday School at their White Christmas. About 500 toys which were discarded by local residents have been repaired and repainted by the Sons of Legion squadron and they will be distributed today....” (Dec. 24, 1937, p.13)

“WASHINGTON, (AP) – Usually well-informed officials said today President Roosevelt would tell Congress next week that the 1938-39 budget can be balanced if relief expenditures can be held within bounds....Because of uncertainty about the severity and duration of the current recession the President probably will give only a tentative figure....Treasury officials...indicated that expenditures for other items than relief and national defense would be sliced liberally in an attempt to bring about a balance....” (Dec. 28, 1937, p.1)

from the **Daily Washington Letter** by Rodney Dutcher, Dec. 28, 1937, p.4: “Echoes of the rebel yell which rang out in the House as the dilapidated wage-hour bill was shoved into its tomb will reverberate for a long time to come....It is important to note that nothing has been done about wages and hours and child labor, and that nearly everyone, not to mention the Democratic and Republican platforms, professes to agree that something must be done. Communities in certain areas are still able to invite sweatshop operators with the lure of “cheap labor.” Official figures have shown: 43 per cent of women in Florida factories to be earning less than 20 cents an hour; 10 percent of Tennessee factory workers making less than 20 cents an hour and less than \$5 a week; wages of \$2 a week, or less than 14 cents an hour “common” in industries of Texas, where half the women workers engaged in pecan-shelling make less than 10 cents an hour....in Connecticut, 21 per cent of workers in the trousers-knickers factories earn less than 15 cents an hour in the dull season. Nearly half receive less than 30 cents in the busy season. Ten to 15 per cent of Delaware factory workers earn less than \$5 a week, and about half less than \$10 a week. Here in Washington 7 per cent of women in factories earn less than \$5 a week. In nine states surveyed, 10 per cent of men in underwear factories made less than \$10 a week. About 65 per cent of steel mill workers last year were on 41 to 48-hour work-weeks, about 70 per cent in machine tool plants, 60 per cent in paper and pulp, and 40 per cent in furniture. Some 43 per cent of Rhode Island factory women work 48 hours or more, and 20 per cent of North Carolina

cotton mills were found on 55-hour schedules. Work-weeks of 50 to 60 hours, and wages of less than \$4 a week have been found "common" among child laborers. A six-state survey showed nearly a fourth of employed children under 16 on a 60-hour or longer week, and nearly a fifth of them earning less than \$2 for a week's work. Child labor appeared to increase about 150 per cent in 1936 over 1935. When business was much better earlier this year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimated that about one-third of full-time wage and salary workers were not getting enough money to "buy the bare minimum necessities of life." That's why another federal survey found about 18 per cent of relief cases to be those of full-time workers whose pay checks had to be supplemented, the effect being to subsidize low-wage manufacturers. In Pennsylvania the grants-in-aid-of-wages relief cases were 29 per cent of the total."

"Miss Irene E. Miller, a member of the Welfare staff, arranged a very pleasant Christmas party for the residents of the Welfare House last evening. About 65 additional guests including county officials and social workers also attended. The choral group from the Denville Woman's Club sang several numbers and a group of students from the Dietelroy School of the Dance in Denville under the direction of Mrs. G. Storm Bergendahl offered about a dozen numbers throughout the evening. Nicholas Parella directed a string trio. Refreshments of cake, ice cream and coffee were served to all and each of the residents of the house received four individual gifts which included handkerchiefs, sox, humidors, neckties, beads, dusting powder, wash cloths and soap and soap holders. Each one also found a new 50-cent piece in the toe of a little red stocking.... Miss Miller was assisted in staging the party by contributions from groups in Morristown, Dover and Denville and from personal friends and interested individuals." (Dec. 28, 1937, p.11)

"The Morris County Welfare Board with the cooperation of the three CCC Camps in the county is collecting and reconditioning discarded and broken toys so that the poor children of the county who did not enjoy a visit from Santa Claus last week may look forward to a really Merry Christmas in 1938. Miss Edith F. McCully, director of the Morris County Welfare Board, this week appealed to the parents of the more fortunate children to "clear house" and donate toys which have lain in closets and attics from previous Christmas days. "At least two toys for every child in the county," is the aim of the Welfare Board, Miss McCully said today as she outlined the plan which, she says, is unique in that it is the first time that CCC Camps have united with a Welfare Group in such a project. "In spite of the fine efforts of the numerous social, religious, civic and fraternal organizations of Morris County, there is always a large number of unfortunate children who receive no toys on Christmas because of the fact that there are not enough toys to go around," Miss McCully stated. "We realize that there are hundreds of homes in the county where the children toss their play things in closets because they soon tire of them or because the toys become broken. It is to these homes that we are making our appeal and we feel confident that hundreds of toys will pour into our office." In some cases the children owning more toys than they can use are personally bringing their discarded or broken play things directly to the camps at Morristown, Whippany and Butler, where they watch the CCC boys recondition and repair them in the camp work-shops after their day's work in the field is done. Miss McCully said today that the toys may be delivered to the three camps, to the Welfare Board's Morristown Office or to the Board's following representatives throughout the County: Samuel Harris of Boonton, John Bormuth of Butler, Mrs. Chauncey Guerin of Mendham and Mrs. Leila Langdon of Netcong. The Board's truck is travelling thru the county collecting toys from families unable to deliver them to the various depositories. According to Miss McCully, numerous toy, sporting goods and department stores are contributing their unsaleable stock, and paint companies are searching their warehouses for odds and ends of discontinued colors in enamel and metallic paints. Hardware stores are furnishing the CCC Camps with paint brushes, sandpaper and

necessary tools. The camp work-shops are so equipped that the enrollees can repair toys “no matter how badly they may be broken,” Miss McCully said. The project is expected to benefit the boys at the camps almost as much as the children who will receive the gifts next Christmas. A large majority of the enrollees have never known the luxury of giving, and the boys have entered upon the work voluntarily and whole-heartedly as a part time project that is really worth while. The repaired and reconditioned toys will be stored away until next December when they will be distributed to the needy children by agencies which have done this work in past years.” (Dec. 31, 1937, p.4)