

ELSIE CLAPP

1934 - 1943

280 ROOMS - EACH WITH BATH



EDWARD W. MARTIN, MANAGER
SCOTT STILSON, ASST. MANAGER

100



The Lee House

15th and L Streets
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Scheider:-

Thank you for

notifying me of Mrs. Roosevelt's
invitation to Mr. Tickett for the
nineteenth.

Sincerely yours
Elmer Ripley Gapp

September 8, 1934

I am returning to Reedsville tonight.
My address is Box 73, Reedsville, W. Va.

September 6, 1934

100

My dear Miss Clapp:-

Mrs. Roosevelt has invited
Mr. Pickett, to come to Hyde Park,
on the 19, in order to discuss the
developments at Reedsville.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Miss Elsie Ripley Clapp
The Lee House
15th, and L, Street
Washington, D. C.

250 ROOMS - EACH WITH BATH



EDWARD W. MARTIN, MANAGER
SCOTT STILSON, ASST. MANAGER



The Lee House
15th and L Streets
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Scheider:-

Some recent

developments at Rudzville make me wish that Mr. Pickett could see Mrs. Roosevelt. Could you arrange for this? Mr. Pickett is in Washington Monday and Tuesday and the balance of the week at his home in Moylan, Pennsylvania.
(Media 1090).

Sincerely yours,
Ethel Ripley Tapp

August 28, 1934

6-1-93
6-1-93
8-1-93

September 24, 1934

100

My dear Mrs. Clapp:

I expect to be in Reedsville
on the 13th and 14th and can see you
then, which would probably be better
than having you come to Washington,
as I shall not be there until after
the 2d of October.

Very sincerely yours,

d.

Mrs. Elsie Ripley Clapp
Box 73
Reedsville
West Virginia



Hotel Morgan
ONLY FIREPROOF HOTEL IN CITY

MORGANTOWN, W. VA.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:-

I would very much like to see you next week to discuss with you the problems at Rudsville. I spoke to Miss Cooke today of my wish, and she suggested that I express it to you. Would this be possible for you? I would of course come to you.

School opened Monday. We held a Home Teachers parent meeting last night. The reaction to the school, to the contributed teachers, and to plans was very favorable. They brought me requests for leadership on community affairs. The Nursery School opens the 17th.



Hotel Morgan
ONLY FIREPROOF HOTEL IN CITY

MORGANTOWN, W. VA.

Everyone is relieved and happy by the actual beginning of school, the children radiant, the parents cooperative and friendly.

^{exist that}
Conditions, hamper our functioning, and are detrimental to the welfare of the people and the purpose of the project. It is these which I would like to discuss with you, if I may.

My Rudsville address is Box 73. My telephone there is through the Rudsville office switchboard. (Martontown 46-Extension 13)

Any wire sent between now and Monday night should be sent here via Postal Telegraph.



Hotel Morgan
ONLY FIREPROOF HOTEL IN CITY

MORGANTOWN, W. VA.

All mail to Redsville should
be registered.

Sincerely yours
Ethel Ripley Clapp

Sept. 13, 1934

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
Cables

Mackay

Radio

RECEIVED AT

STANDARD TIME
INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

This is a full rate Telegram, Cablegram or Radiogram unless otherwise indicated by signal in the check or in the address.

DL	DAY LETTER
NL	NIGHT LETTER
NM	NIGHT MESSAGE
LD	DAYTIME CABLE
NY	NIGHT CABLE LETTER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NY	NIGHT CABLE LETTER <input type="checkbox"/>
NY	NIGHT CABLE LETTER <input type="checkbox"/>
NY	NIGHT CABLE LETTER <input type="checkbox"/>
NY	NIGHT CABLE LETTER <input type="checkbox"/>
NY	NIGHT CABLE LETTER <input type="checkbox"/>

1934 OCT 16 AM 8 45

PB16 17 GOVT

MORGANTOWN WESTVIR 16 833A

MRS FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

WHITEHOUSE ATTN MRS SCHEIDER WASHN DC

SECRETARY SEEING FLYNN THIS MORNING HAVE CALLED PYNCHON REMIND HIM

REDUCTION OVERHEAD AND SIMPLER ORGANIZATION ALREADY DISCUSSED

ELSIE CLAPP.

700

file

October 31, 1934

My dear Mrs. Clapp:

I am enclosing a check for \$250 which Mrs. Morgenthau's mother very generously gave me to use at Reedsville. I know you said you wanted to get some kind of a conveyance and hope you will use this money toward getting one if that is what you think most important just at present.

Very cordially yours,

Mrs. Elsie Ripley Clapp
Box 73
Reedsville
West Virginia

S:DD

file

Arthur Dale
Box 73, Tinsdale, W. Va.

Clapp

500

11-8-32

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

Thank you for forwarding

to us the check for \$250.00 from Mrs. Morgenthau's mother. Will you convey to her our deep appreciation? May I hold its use open until I know which we need most - a car or clothes and rubbers? I shall let you know. I cannot adequately

thank you for the check you gave me the other day. It has enabled me to meet the care of an acute appendicitis case, a kiss that will enable one of our fathers to continue working, and care for a serious prenatal case. We are so grateful.

I had a most satisfactory

talk with Mr. Hopkins. He suggested the starting of several other cooperative units.

- A "Restaurant unit" (The midday hot school lunches)
- A "Dairy unit" (cows - milk for " ")
- A Poultry unit (chickens - eggs " ")
- A Sewing room unit (cloth to be made by our mothers into coats, dresses, and boys suits)

A Capital Sum to be used for shoes & medical supplies.

The budget for these will be ready in a few days. We are to pay for these by credit hours of work at

The did projects. The women will work in the Sewing room and lunch room. The men will build (out of working hours) The barn and poultry house.

I put it up to both The Mens Club and The newly formed "Eleanor Roosevelt Farm Women's Association" and met a fine response. A committee of men met with me. And today Mr. Wagner & Mr. Hynds who were here agreed to calculate labor and materials for barn and poultry house. Mr. Henderson, The Dairyman and Mr. Hynd, The Poultryman of the Agricultural Department of The University of West Virginia, have worked out The equipment and cows & chickens needed.

I hope that as soon as our budget is ready The matter can be put through promptly.

The fathers and mothers were happy to do it. The men made lists of carpenters, masons, plumbers, electricians & painters among The homesteaders. It is going to be just the kind of enterprise we want.

I am also starting with Mrs. Manlands and The Simpkins' help weaving of The blankets we need - and lack, and Knitting of childrens sweaters.

WE had a wonderful time on Halloween. Three parties! A Nursery school party, a party for The older children, and a masked masquerade square dance, under homesteader & Teacher committees. They had

26

On the train
November 17, 1934.

100

Dear Miss Clapp:

The two hundred and fifty dollars Mr. Pickett spoke about is the two-hundred and fifty which you already have and which you are using for the little children's necessities.

How much have you already spent on supplies for the school? That I will try to get you at once and the remainder of the three thousand as soon as possible.

The President feels that the homesteads should be finished by the first of May but he is willing that the building on the school should be prolonged until the first of September and on any other buildings so that the homesteaders will have work until then.

I have just written a letter to Mr. Chapman, a copy of which I enclose for your information.

About Mr. Pickett, I do not know whether that would be possible just now. There are other thoughts in the offing which I will tell you about when I get back. I expect to be in Reedsville during Christmas week for a day and we can talk out a number of things.

Very cordially yours,

280 ROOMS - EACH WITH BATH



EDWARD W. MARTIN, MANAGER
SCOTT STILSON, ASST. MANAGER



The Lee House

15th and L Streets
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs Roosevelt:-

The budget for which you asked is being prepared, and Mr. Chapman will give me a copy for you within a day or two.

Mr. Tidwell asked me to tell you that I would very much like the \$250.00 of which you spoke to him. Not for a bus, as I have met that need by putting seats in the trucks, but for shoes and underclothes for the older children, and for musical instruments for use in our adult orchestra group.

I spoke to you of our need for \$3000.- for supplies. Mr. Chapman hoped that Mr. Paul Schriver of the Legal Division might find the way to provide for this. Mr. Schriver today told me that as such provision requires an other interpretation of the Homestead Subsistence act, this is unlikely and uncertain and, in any case, deferred. Meanwhile we lack any means except those provided by me personally for daily needs of carrying out the work we are doing.

250 ROOMS - EACH WITH BATH



EDWARD W. MARTIN, MANAGER
SCOTT STILSON, ASST. MANAGER



The Lee House
15th and L Streets
Washington, D. C.

I had said I would let you know the outcome of Mr. Chapman's efforts.

I shall not go back to Rudsville until the budget is made and approved, and I know that we can go forward on our building of houses, and the school. I have seen Mr. Chapman regarding the making of a reduced and responsible budget, and am decidedly in favor of it. Mr. Wagner's work in compiling it has been of substantial help. I feel confident that he, Mr. Flynn and I can carry this out, employing homesteaders and FERA labor. It is necessary however to use force of labor and not contracts, and to extend the date of the building program from May 1st to September 1st.

I wish very much that Clarence Tichitt could have special charge of Rudsville. He is the logical person and we could thus develop a self-help program of cooperatives. I venture to suggest

250 ROOMS - EACH WITH BATH



EDWARD W. MARTIN, MANAGER
SCOTT STILSON, ASST. MANAGER



The Lee House

15th and L Streets

Washington, D. C.

that Rudsville be considered a part of the Monongahela Valley development as it is. And that Clarence Tidd has direction of those projects which lie within it. We could then develop the reciprocal relations between these projects and their cooperators:

This might make real use of what we have expensively learned from Rudsville and make what we may do there of actual service in the larger region. I think Rudsville, so viewed, falls into its proper place. It can function helpfully and learn from other simpler projects.

I have spoken to Mr. Chapman about this. He thought well of the plan.

Sincerely yours,
Eusebius H. Clapp

December 13, 1934

100

Dear Miss Clapp:

I am coming down from Red House to Reedsville on Saturday afternoon. I do not know the exact time I will get there, but if you could arrange for Miss Hickok and myself and the chauffeur to have supper in Reedsville I will try to be there by six.

Also I would like to have a good talk with you after supper. You can include any one you want in the talk.

Sunday morning I will go out early with Miss Hickok and take her around to see as many of the houses as possible, but we must leave for Washington not later than eleven.

Very cordially yours,

S:O

Miss Elsie Clapp
Reedsville
W. Va.

December 19, 1954

My dear Miss Clapp:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to send you the enclosed copy of a letter from Miss Josephine Roche to Miss Davis and to tell you to communicate directly with Miss Roche, who has the subjects mentioned in your letter very much in mind.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

0

Miss Eisie Clapp
Reedsville
West Virginia

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
WASHINGTON

all
12-19

Some copy attached
to the letter
12-20-34

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:-

I would be very glad to see Miss Roche ^{here} if possible, before Christmas. My need for a doctor, and a clinic, is urgent. The doctor who was to come January 1st was deterred by the difficulties of obtaining a West Virginia license.

I shall look forward to the Thursday after Xmas. We will have our square dance on the night you are here. I would like, if it is possible, to talk to you quietly alone about both the fundamental conception of this, and other, homestead projects, and the long-view plans of their development, the "operating budget" and the use of next summer. I mention this now so that if possible some hour might be saved for it.

We all hope the trip back was not too difficult and tiring. It was wonderful to have you here.

With deep appreciation of your help and kindness
I am

Sincerely yours
Elsie Tripp Clapp

Dec. 14, 1934

December 17, 1934

100

My dear Miss Clapp:

I spoke to Miss Josephine Roche this morning and she will get in touch with you on the subject to Public Health Assistance. I also spoke to Mr. Pyncheon and when Mr. Wagner is here this week I think everything will be straightened out. There are no changes and I think houses will go right on and also the school. I told him you preferred the original site for the school house. I do not think they will do anything without telling me about it.

I am still a little confused by your account as no salaries were supposed to be paid out of the special fund but out of the fund which Mr. Baruch had already given for school salaries. Can you tell me - exclusive of salaries - what you are now owed personally and what the Friends Service Committee is owed personally? I do not care whether you have spent it or not. I want to know what I have to pay and what has been paid in salaries exclusive of what Mr. Baruch paid in for salaries in the early part of the year. He placed \$10,000 - or approximately that - in the salaries account with the Friends Service Committee and he promises to pay the balance of \$12,000 after the first of the year. I gather from the budget which you have made out that the next year you would like to have \$22,000 in salaries, \$3,000 for supplies, and \$7,000 more, making a total of \$32,000 instead of \$25,000 which you had this year. If this is correct, I will ask Mr. Baruch if he can do

-2-

this for the second year but I do not like
to ask him now as he agreed to give us
\$25,000 for the first year.

Very sincerely yours,

Miss Elsie Clapp
Box 73
Reedsville
West Virginia

S:DD

Summary - Arthur Dale School.

True or false.

We have spent for School Supplies & Expenses Sept 10 - Nov 30	533 75	This was allocated for Salaries. To be repaid Part of the \$3000. needed for 1934-35.
For Nursery School Salaries Sept 17 - Nov 30 (\$180. - a 4 week month)	480 -	
Miss Stanton has advanced I have advanced ER Clapp	3999	Carried as a Salary (unless Mmongalia Co. will take it now - not likely)
The Friends Service has loaned us	28970	Still unpaid \$2540
Paid for Nursery S. Salz	53373	To be repaid -
Advanced (Unexpended Dec)	480 -	
Total - advanced	101373	
	14286	
	115659	

Advanced	Income
Friends Service Com.	115659
ER. Clapp	28970
J. Stanton	3999
	148628
Less Expenditure (Sept 10 - Nov 30)	101375
unexpended Dec.	\$47253

ER. Clapp
Dec 4/34

Memorandum:-

We have finally obtained 3 teachers from Proton Co - We need more. I shall approach Mmongalia Co. 2 Nursery School teachers (PERA) from Proton Co.

The Proton Co. Board of Education has agreed to the termination from of the contract for 1934-39.

This is to be confirmed soon in the form of a legal contract between the State of W. Va & Proton Co and a Board of Directors (acting for the homesteaders & poster).

Of the \$3000.- needed
for Supplies & Expenses
of School & Community
Activities.

3000-

Expended to Nov 30
(3 months)

533.75

NOTE

Extremely curtailed
Expenditures

Lack of all Supplies
(except Janitors -)
for all grades & all
departments -

Adult Educational

Night School - adolescents

High School

Primary Elem. grades

Nursery School -

and

All community activities

Music

Farming

Recreational

athletics

entertainments -

Health

Industrial arts & art.

Library -

We need this amount very much.

But I would like also

to talk to you about

the use of any substantial

offer of assistance

to insure the \$22,000.

needed for salaries of

guiding group 1935-36

(exclusive of my salary)

That is we need (also)

1935-36 Salaries of teachers

Supplies (School - 750)

Total.

3000 -

22000 -

7000 =

32000

1934-5 Supplies

1935-6

1936-7

Eric R. Clapp

Dec 14/34

Report on Special Funds

		Mrs. Russell	Mrs. MargenThau's mother
Xmas Fund expended	200-	200-	
Car for Nurse & Doctor	150-		250-
Rubbers, sweaters, bloomers for Nursery School children	100-		
<u>Emergency Fund</u>			
Spent 1. Dec. 14. 71.-	200-	200-	
Unexpended 129-		400-	250-

NOTE:

Our greatest need is
this Emergency fund
through which I meet
medical & health needs.

Of the \$129.- unexpended
I shall owe about \$100.-
of it soon in doctors bills,
medical supplies, etc, etc.

General Memorandum

Xmas Everyone (every father and
mother) is on a Xmas Committee.

WE have found a tree, and
are getting presents from
the woods.

It is to be hung with gifts
for each child from your
fund, candy for the home & the
Our celebration is Xmas Eve.

We had a fine Thanksgiving
and Halloween.

Night School (approx. 11 to 12)

started this week.

Athletics for men & boys

Four classes " " "

A library has been started.

We expect to start classes
for the older people after
Christmas.

The Boys Club & Womens Club are vigorous & helpful.

The Hot Lunch at school & Sewing Room (Cooperatives)
are to be started soon.

E. R. Clapp. Dec 14/39

file

Box 73
Reedsville, W. Va.

C2 100

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am sorry

my financial notations were not clear.

To date (January 1)	
I have personally advanced	\$ 200.39
Miss Jessie Statton has "	41.18
The Friends Service Committee	
has advanced us for	
Supplies & Expenses	481.59
from its \$22,000. Salary fund	<u>723.16</u>

Mr. Baruch gave for School Salaries \$22,000. This has all been allocated for the year 1934-35.

We urgently need for This year (1934-35) \$3000. — for Supplies & Expenses.

If received it would enable us to pay the amount of \$723.16 above, and to get the supplies that our full program of school work from nursery school to adults, calls for, and that are urgently needed.

If it could be deposited with the Friends Service Committee, we could deal with them. I would be glad to be able to use it as soon as possible.

Next year, we shall need (for 1935-36)

For teachers' salaries
(exclusion of my own)

22,000.

For supplies for the entire

7,000.

educational & community
work (then embracing 190

families & their children)

29,000.

Note: This does not include
equipment (for which there
is no provision in the building
budget).... estimated at

11,000.

I think this is our operating
budget. It we shall need
each year (of the 3 years of
the Arthur Dale experiment).

I spoke of this now because it is well to have
it in mind.

Sincerely yours
Elsie Tripp Clapp

January 1, 1935

ARTHURDALE FARM INVENTORY

January 1, 1935.

<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Total</u>
L Side Delivery Rake	87.00	87.00
1 McCormick Lime Sower	65.00	65.00
2 Farmall Tractors	715.60	1,431.20
1 #2 Closed End Peg Tooth Harrow	14.55	14.55
2 #3 18" McDr. T. D. Harrows	78.75	157.50
1 #102 Checker Planter Single Disk	87.00	87.00
1 Grain Drill	174.30	174.30
1 Farmall Mower	96.00	96.00
1 #201 Farmall Cultivator	93.00	93.00
1 Hudson Bull Dog Sprayer	65.08	65.08
1 #300 Drill Seeder Complete	25.37	25.37
1 Mould Board Oliver Chill Plow	4.50	4.50
1 Little Wheel Genius 3 Wheel Tractor Plow	91.00	91.00
1 Hand Disk Plow & Cultivator	10.00	10.00
1 Spray Outfit	292.04	292.04
1 Pr. Plow Handles	2.25	2.25
2 Pruning Saws	1.10	1.10
3 Hand Prunners	.85	.85
2 Garden Flows	3.45	3.45
6 Garden Rakes	.65	3.90
4 Pruning Shears	1.75	7.00
2 Brass Funnels	.20	.20
1 Small Spring Scale	1.55	1.55
2 Scythes	2.00	4.00
1 Lawn Roller	10.00	10.00
49 Halters and Ropes	1.11	54.39
3 Corn Planters	2.00	6.00
2 Grain Cradles	3.50	7.00
1 Garden Planter Combination	10.00	10.00
34 Hoes	.75	25.50

\$2,861.36

Bro't for'd from Sheet No. 1- Equipment

Seeds and Materials

		<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Total</u>
11	Bushel Rye	1.25	13.75
28	Bushel Oats	.65	18.20
7	Bags Alfalfa	5.20	36.40
2	Bushel Red Clover	9.00	18.00
2	Bushel Red Top	1.26	.63
4	Bushel Ky. Blue Grass	2.52	1.26
4	Bushel Corn	1.50	6.00
2	Sack Salt (50 lbs.)	1.50	.75
14	Bushel Soybeans	2.70	29.40
3	Bushel Flax	2.50	7.50
24	Lbs. Arsenate of Lead	.13	3.12
4	20 Bu. size Can Legume Aid for Soybeans	.60	2.40
1	Can Arsenate of Calcium 1 lb.	.07	.07
1	Can Black Leaf Forth (2 lbs.)	.60	1.20
2	4 lb. pkgs. Arsenate of Calcium	.07	.56
1	4 lb. pkgs. Arsenate of Lead	.13	.52
11	2 1/2 size can Legume Aid Sweet Clover	.60	6.60
30	lbs. Pumpkin Seed	.50	15.00
5	Tons Lime	7.20	36.00
1,637	Lbs. Fertilizer 4-10-6	.01 1/2	22.93

\$220.29

Farm Crops

25	Tons Oat Hay (estimate)	15.00	345.00
24	Tons Soybean hay (estimate)	20.00	480.00
60	Bushel Ear Corn (all corn not) husked Agricultural work stopped)		
4	Tons Buckwheat Straw	1.50	6.00
4	Tons Corn Stover	2.50	10.00
2	Tons Wild Hay	7.50	15.00

901.00

Canned Goods in School Basement

337	Qts. Swiss Chard	.15	50.55
302	Qts. Pumpkin	.15	45.30
18	Qts. Spinach	.15	2.70
11	Qts. Tomatoes	.15	1.65
64	Qts. Lima Beans	.20	12.80
72	Qts. Sweet Peppers	.15	10.80
317	Pints Carrots	.10	31.70
27	Pints Colored Beans	.10	2.70
489	Qts. Colored Beans	.15	73.35
200	Bus. Potatoes	.60	120.00

351.55

Fruit in Nursery

		<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
22	Plum Trees	.50	11.00	
9	Pear Trees	.40	3.60	
44	Apple Trees	.45	19.80	
47	Peach Trees	.40	18.80	
116	Grape Plants	.20	23.20	
43	Currants	.06	2.58	78.98

Inventory Value of Late Summer and Fall SownCrops on Government Land

<u>Crop</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Seed</u>	<u>Fertilizer</u>	<u>Labor</u>	<u>Inventory Value</u>	
Wheat	9	13.05	27.90	11.70	52.65	
Rye & Vetch	17.1	59.85	55.80	22.23	137.88	
Barley	10.6	26.50	32.86	13.78	73.14	
Rye	46.6	60.58	6.51	60.58	127.67	
Grass Mix.	3	6.75		3.00	9.75	
Sweet Clover	10	1.50	11.00	15.00	37.50	
	<u>96.3</u>	<u>168.23</u>	<u>137.07</u>	<u>126.29</u>		438.59

Total.....\$4,851.77

Experimental Farm

2760	Strawberries		.05	138.00	
500	Red Raspberries		.10	50.00	
540	Black Raspberries		.08	43.20	
90	Purple Raspberries		.12	10.80	
130	Grapes		.25	32.50	
56	Blueberries		2.00	112.00	
1000	Lbs. Fertilizer			12.50	
2000	Lbs. Lime			7.20	
6.6	Acres Rye			17.16	
25	Lbs. Seed-Alfalfa, clover, grass @	.18		4.50	
	Labor Value			2.25	
2	Tons Oat Hay			30.00	458.11

Grand Total.....\$5,309.88

Total Acres planted 20.6

February 11, 1935.

Estimated needs of Homesteaders for 1935 Farm and Garden Supplies for 60 Members of Hoodsville Branch K. C. G. A. Hoodsville, West Virginia.

	Cost per Man	Total Est. Cost
Fertiliser		
Fertiliser	\$15.00	1,800.00
Lime	3.00	240.00
Spray Material	3.25	200.00
Garden Tools & Canning Equipment	1.00	531.10
Field Crops	12.00	800.00
Potatoes	5.25	420.00
Garden Seeds	12.50	1,000.00
	\$50.00	\$4,481.10
Estimated requirements for School Garden		508.90
Total Estimate		\$5,000.00

File
Copy + send
1 copy to
Justice Brandeis
+ 1 to President

Mr. Justice Brandeis

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
WASHINGTON
Arthurdale School
Needsville, w, Va.

100
Clipp

Mrs. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

I saw Mr. Pynchon following my talk with you on Wednesday, and he gave to me and Mr. Wagner verbally, authorization to proceed at once with the ordering of the building materials and the building of the remaining 140 houses and the school. I inquired very closely in order to be sure this was permission, and Mr. Pynchon assured me that it was a permission to begin at once. I did discover by questioning that the procedure was that the Homestead Subsistence Division was obliged to keep the Secretary informed of what it was doing, although no further authorization from him was needed. I did not call you Wednesday night. Mr. Flynn had been in Washington Saturday and had seen Pynchon, and I wanted to know what orders he had received before communicating with you. I found yesterday afternoon that Mr. Flynn had not received any authorization from Mr. Pynchon, and therefore cannot proceed. He needs it in writing and it should be sent to him at once. I am in this mail writing to Mr. Pynchon to this effect. The Lord himself knows just why these matters stop moving.

Mr. Wagner came down with me on Wednesday and is returning here in a few days. I might remark that when he left me Wednesday night his contract, which Mr. Pynchon promised to send him, had not arrived or been put through.

I think the difficulty is partly Pynchon, who has a kind of paralysis upon him due to many reasons which I can discern, which is nevertheless impeding. He just needs to be made to do the simplest things.----- once the written authorization is sent down to Mr. Flynn, Mr. Wagner, and myself, we can put it through with speed. Both these men are doers, I am grateful to find.

Mrs. Sissler (who sent you up early a jar of pickles) the mother of Elsie Eleanor, born December 25, has made for you a Christmas gift which I am mailing to you. The nurse has just been called off to welcome a baby in the Corley family, whose twins, Franklin and Eleanor, you may perhaps remember. They are still living in Bretz. Everyone here is well and happy and longs to have you come to see them again.

Sincerely yours,
Ethel R. Phipps Clapp
Director Arthurdale School

PS. Some strange style in expression has come thru. This dictation. Please overlook it.

LET'S
Spend
CIP 11/11/55

Box 73
Rudwell, W. Va.

10
CVA PP

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt: - Will you overlook the
informality of a pencil note. As my neighbor
across the wrap-scraper, "She overdoes," and I've
been paid up for a day or two. Nothing serious
and what we all gained from the Christmas have
was worth it. I am going off for a rest until Jan 3rd.

Such joy. I wish you could have been it -
The Top - you gave me the very best boy & girl & child
today. Gosh, best of all, out of their abundance.

The Roosevelt's - on their own initiative made
up several Xmas boxes for some people near us
who are very poor & miserable. Your box of clothes
contributed, and a committee went among the

Roosevelt's - asking gifts for Ford - The top
you sent I gave to Nadia in a moment of change
shaving, not knowing of these last boxes -

I am so glad the Roosevelt's' impulse was to
think of others.

Several weeks ago I organized Xmas committees
and sent out the pattern & material for 81 families
several on their -
We cut our great tree & brought it in & decorated it
we gathered our Xmas games from the words
others made up & paraded -

Two groups solicited corn, popped it & spent
a long jolly evening in the Arthur House kitchen
making it into popcorn balls — & boxes of fresh
popcorn for Santa Claus to give the children —
WE sent some of it to mothers with papers to
string for the tree —

Another group made toys for baby children
in the Nursery School —

It took 4 groups to check & choose the toys
you gave, so that the night gift went to the
right child — All the gifts for our family
were tied together & so distributed at the tree —

Xmas Eve — at seven-thirty we gathered in
the Assembly Hall —

Carols which the children acted out — nally
the old bible story — presented by everyone (the
last "singing school 100 men & women came out to practice
the carols). I staged it as an old Nativity
play it was surpassingly beautiful —

Darkness — only the tree lighted —
Lights again when Santa —

The giving of the gifts & everyone left —
at least 450 people there —

The whole Xmas drew the community together - Such gay evenings - for the last two weeks the Arthur House & Center filled with working groups -

The High School & Night School older boys & girls built the manger, managed the lights loaned us by a Morgantown movie house, decorated the costumes -

I was needed only to help - it was theirs entirely -

"I aint never had so much fun for five years" one woman told me. "I tell you, Miss Clapp, there'll never be another first Xmas in Witherdale" - "Aint it wonderful - I aint never seen a tree like that - It's like one I dreamed" "And the bible story, not as if I'd been there myself" -

One of our children came down with pneumonia in the midst - but she is better.

The Sister baby has come - Dec 25 - a girl -

Thank you and the President for your Xmas message - It means everything to these people - for they love you -

Dec 27/34

Elsie Clapp

Copies made for the President and Justice Brandeis
(copy)

Box 73
Reedsville, W. Va.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:-

Will you overlook the informality of a pencil note. As my neighbor across the way says, "She overdone" and I've been paid up for a day or two. Nothing serious and what we all gained from the Christmas here was worth it. I am going off for a rest until Jan. 3d.

Such joy. I wish you could have seen it. The toys you gave reached every boy, girl, child, baby. And, best of all, out of their abundance, the homesteaders on their own initiative made up several Christmas boxes for some people near us who are very poor and miserable. Your box of clothes contributed, and a committee went among the homesteaders seeking gifts of food. The toys you sent I gave to Nadja in a moment of carefree sharing, not knowing of these last boxes. I am so glad the homesteaders' impulse was to think of others.

Several weeks ago I organized Xmas committees and every one of the fathers and mothers of the 81 families served on them.

We cut our great tree, brought it in and decked it. We gathered our Xmas greens from the woods. Others made wreaths and garlands.

Two groups solicited corn, popped it and spent a long jolly evening in The Arthur House kitchen, making it into popcorn balls - and boxes of fresh popcorn for Santa Claus to give the children. We sent some of it to mothers with babies to string for the tree.

Another group made toys for baby children in the Nursery School.

It took four groups to check and choose the toys you gave, so that the right gift went to the right child. All the gifts for our family were tied together and so distributed at the tree.

Christmas Eve at seven thirty we gathered in the Assembly Hall. Carols which the children acted out - orally the old bible story - presented by everyone. (At the last "singing school" one hundred men and women came out to practice the carols. I staged it as an old Nativity play and it was surpassingly beautiful.

7

Darkness - only the tree lighted -
Lights again and there was Santa -
The giving of the gifts and everyone left.
At least 450 people there.

The whole Christmas drew the community together.
Such gay evenings. For the last two weeks the Arthur House and Center
filled with working groups.

The High School and Night School older boys and girls
built the manger, managed the lights loaned us by a Morgentown
movie house, decorated the costumes.

I was needed only to help. It was theirs entirely.

"I aint never had so much fun for five years", one
woman told me. "I tell you, Miss Clapp, there'll never be another
first Xmas in Arthurdale. Aint it wonderful? I aint never seen
a tree like that. It's like one I dreamed. "And the bible story,
real as if I'd been there myself."

One of our children came down with pneumonia in the
midst - but she is better.

The Sister baby has come - Dec. 25 - a girl.

Thank you and the President for your Christmas message,
it means everything to these people for they love you.

(signed) Elsie Clapp

Dec. 27, 1934

Elmer R. Clapp

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
WASHINGTON
Reedsville, West Virginia

100

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am enclosing in this letter some information that will enable you to understand the Tichenor case better. Mr. Tichenor's wife is ill. She has, it is said, a stomach ulcer. They have four small children. Everyone, literally, on the project, has tried to help them. The men voluntarily collected over fifteen dollars and gave it to them and also bought Mr. Tichenor a pair of shoes. The women have repeatedly done ~~their~~ house work. Alice ^{Davis} continued sending Mrs. Tichenor milk through the fall although she was really out of her district at Arthurdale. They came to me for assistance and to Mr. Flynn. He acted as a friendly lawyer and stood between them and their creditors. I helped them several times with outright gifts from the Emergency Fund. The project nurse cared for Mrs. Tichenor. We sent the children clothing.

It was Mrs. Tichenor that got up at the Women's Meeting and complained that no one had given them any assistance. It hurt the other women very much that she should say this especially after they had helped her so much. I think I once spoke to you about this. I assured them that you would not misunderstand.

The Tichenors have been threatening to leave the project for some time. Twice I persuaded them to stay and once Mr. Flynn did. The third time that they told me they were going I said that I thought that they would have to decide for themselves about it. Mr. Tichenor announced to me and Mr. Flynn that he had work elsewhere. Mr. Flynn was wise enough to have him sign the enclosed letter in the presence of two of the officers of the Men's Club. Mr. Tichenor went off presumably to do the other job he had. After two men had been sent to investigate we finally found that he was enrolled as number 17 on the waiting list at a mine in a town where his wife's people live. We did not locate him for a couple of weeks. Most of this was before Christmas. His family he left here. We of course included them in the Christmas gifts at Arthurdale.

Mr. Tichenor went in to see Miss Davis apparently to get a mattress from her. He abused Mr. Flynn and myself to her and told her he was being forced off the project. Finally Mr. Flynn and I sought Miss Davis' help. Glen Work and her case worker investigated. Two of the homestead men helped Mrs. Tichenor pack up her belongings. We lent a Government truck. Alice arranged for storage of their possessions in Morgantown and they are now, as Mr. Tichenor says, staying with her father who owns a general store in the town where the mine is located to which he has made application for work.

We have, I think, each of us satisfied our own sense of fairness in what we have done. It was obviously impossible to have the family living rent free on the property while all their neighbors worked hard to pay their rentals. As a matter of fact they did have the use of the house for some time. Mr. Tichenor does owe a great many people including the Government. Mr. Flynn can give you an exact statement of his wages and his debts here. Mr. Flynn is more optimistic than the rest of us, believing that he will some day turn up and settle with him like a man. I myself doubt this.

They are very appealing and pathetic, but I am now convinced quite impossible to help. Alice will look after them on relief if they need it, as they have moved back into her county. However, she says that Mrs. Tichenor's father, who owns the store, is able to help them. I am sorry that he troubled you with it. We have gone slowly and done every step of it as well as we know how. We could not for the morale of the project allow these people to remain here without working. I think we have been more than generous all along the way, at the last insisting that they take with them the bed clothes and mattresses which they seemed to lack. The furniture which was loaned them in their house was, of course, left behind. Any further information that you wish about this I am sure Mr. Flynn or Miss Davis will be glad to provide.

Sincerely yours

E. Cecil Ripley Clapp

Director
Arthurdale School and Community

January 16, 1935

ERC:ab

encl

cc Miss Davis, Mr. Flynn

C O P Y

December 15, 1934

Mr. G. H. Flynn, Project Manager,
Reedsville, West Virginia

Dear Sir:

This is to advise you that owing to the condition of my wife's health and the additional expense it has caused me thereby, It is not possible for me to maintain my family on the amount of money which I earn on the Reedsville Project.

In view of this fact, I have secured other work and desire to resign as a Homesteader and surrender my lease.

I shall give up possession of house on or before the 20th day of December, 1934. If it is possible to have any money repaid to me from the payments which I have already made on my house, which is F-11, I shall be very grateful and I will thank you to advise me whether any such repayments can be made.

I am making this decision and surrendering this lease of my own free will. No pressure of any sort by anyone connected with the Reedsville Project has been brought upon me to do this.

Very truly yours,

Charles Tichenor

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
REEDSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA

January 15, 1935

Relative to Help Given to Charles Tichenor

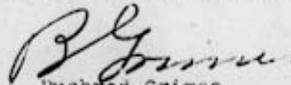
It was common knowledge amongst the Homesteaders and in the Administrative Offices that Charles Tichenor was having financial difficulties owing to the illness of his wife. The matter was brought to the attention of Mr. C. B. Smart, General Manager, early last summer and he instructed me to arrange with the Construction Foremen for a job as Helper that would give him a higher rate of pay per hour. This was done eventually.

A voluntary subscription amongst the Homesteaders was initiated and several dollars were turned over to Charles Tichenor. About a month later, the matter came up in the meeting of the Homesteaders Club and \$15.00 was donated out of the Club Treasury to Charles Tichenor. Shortly before this, I had given Tichenor \$5.00 to help him over the week-end.

I have been informed by Andrew Goldstrom that the Homestead women living in the same neighborhood of Charles Tichenor took turns of helping in the Tichenor household and donated things during the period of Mrs. Tichenor's illness.

The Tichenor family for several weeks received three quarts of milk daily from the Monongalia Relief Administration on authorization of Miss Alice Davis.

Most all of us regret Tichenor's unfortunate situation for the past six months, yet we feel that if we could have given them all the help that they thought was due them, difficulties and dissatisfaction on their part would have come up again at some future time. It is the general feeling amongst all the Homesteaders that no one is to blame for their situation except their own inability to manage and live in a practical matter. There was no more difficult than many others who got through a trying period very well.


Rushrod Grimes

January 20, 1935

Dear Miss Clapp:

I am very sorry you are. You never
know how much we all have to pay the
doctor's bills. It is too bad you were not
insured, but I understand now it all happened
and hope that something else can be worked out.

Did the INVENTOR and went down
there and took the photographs and entered
the material for these articles under the
new name of the book and name of the
people under of course, it is hardly
method of obtaining anything when we all
obtain in order to start the publication
because of the dealing of the North Coast.
However, I do hope to see the people really
happy.

I received Mr. Orin's report and
something was definitely in it to be done,
but I imagine it will have to come under
control. Everything is in such a chaotic
condition that I have a feeling there is
very little use in my taking down what
things are more generally noticed. I would
not get any very general information.

Very cordially yours,

Miss Estle Clapp
Reesville, W. Va.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
WASHINGTON
Reedsville, West Virginia

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Don't worry about Mrs. VanStokle, one of our West Virginia Nursery School teachers, of whom a Mrs. James E. Brown wrote you. The school truck slipped off the road in the rain and mud the other day, as it was turning. She fell off the seat and hurt her back, quite seriously. We gave her a temporary strapping in our nurse's dispensary here and drove her home. Her doctor sent her to the hospital. She is in a cast. We have continued to pay her salary, although we must put someone else in to take her place. She has been the bread winner, supporting her little boy and mother. A brother and sister living at home also, have not helped her. I hope this emergency may arouse their sense of responsibility. Her hospital and doctor's bills I fear we cannot meet. But her salary (of \$15 a week) we can and shall pay.

No one else in the truck was hurt.
No child bruised or scratched.

I shall reply to Mrs. Brown.

Sincerely yours

Elsie Ripley Gapp

January 21, 1935

ERC:ab

PS. The homesteaders are now trying to make arrangements for school transportation for the children as you suggested. About 50 baby children on the project - about 20 off. The trucks were only a makeshift. I took up the matter of an insured school bus early in the fall in Washington but the Interior Department ruled that the Government could not buy one, or insure any vehicle we had. I feared exactly this emergency.
ERC Gapp.

February 4, 1935

100

My dear Miss Clapp:

I haven't yet seen the letter from the homesteaders but it will probably come through in a day or so.

I shall be very anxious to see Mr. Pickett and hear just what was decided. I have talked to Dr. Wilson because I understood the College was going to provide the agricultural and home economic guidance which you want. If they do not, I think I will have to do it out of my own budget.

Thank you for your long letter. I will try to send you a little money in a short time.

Very sincerely yours,

Miss Elsie Ripley Clapp
Box 73
Reedsville
West Virginia

S:DD

Add
1/4/3

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
WASHINGTON

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:-

Your letter.

Thank you for

You have by now received the Homesteader men's letter stating that the sentiments quoted in the newspaper articles did not express their ideas or feelings, and signed by all but 5 of the men - 3 who did not wish to sign, and the two, Bucklew and Corley directly implicated and quoted in the newspapers. The majority of the men felt very seriously about this. To them it was a reflection upon the homesteaders and seemed most ungrateful to you. They wanted to write you, and I encouraged them to do so. This expression of the large majority is right and as it should be.

Bucklew some weeks ago engineered himself into the position of President of their men's club, and Corley is a member of its executive committee. What they will do about this situation, I do not know. Their meeting with the newspaper men was not an accident, but all arranged meeting, and in one case, at least, money was paid for the information. Bucklew is not yet on the project. Corley is.

✓

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
WASHINGTON

We have conferred with Mr. Pynchon, Mr. Tidditt and Alice Davis. A committee of homesteaders asked to see them while they were here. It was arranged that the local committee on Recommendations of homesteaders express themselves to Mr. Pynchon. None of the homesteaders has signed the final purchase note so, technically and legally, none is a homesteader yet.

Mr. Tidditt can tell you about the conference. but I cannot over-emphasize how serious a matter this is to them; i.e. The question of responsible citizenship, and the need of moral backing from us.

Mr. Tidditt will tell you, too, of the plans for a school bus. I wish I could picture for you our striving with this, our first responsibility. The discontinuance of the use of trucks for the children involved 46 families — about 130 children. 29 families on the project and their baby children of nursery school age and first 3 grades. 17 families off the project, in Berk, Fritz, Rudaville and Masontown with children of all sizes, who lived too far away to walk in. All the big children on the project, walk to school.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
WASHINGTON

It was most difficult for them to face the fact that they would have to provide this transportation themselves, and to make plans for it.

It took us 3 long night meetings, many opinions and all sorts of feelings and ideas.

Finally, we came out with the following plan. We - the 46 families - put up enough money to engage a school bus which is insured, temporarily. Everyone but 3 gave amounts ranging from 50¢ to \$200 a month. For use of this bus at night for classes, "music school", dances, club meetings, athletics, everyone outside pays 10¢ a round trip.

Far more popular was the plan to buy our own school bus. For this it was voted that everyone pay \$1.00 a month, every month. About \$80.00 was subscribed for it by equippers or friends about. So \$160.- is in sight. We need \$700.- to put up to finance it. It will take 3 or 4 weeks to get it. Mr. Tichett is going to get your approval of ways and means to procure the \$540.

They realize that upkeep and the driver will always cost something - i.e. about 80.- a month. They however want to have something for their money.

Quite voluntarily they voted it was to be a school bus, and to be hauled - used, by me for the school. Always on the project there will be baby children too little to walk to school.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
WASHINGTON

4

The whole we'll use, as I told Gamwell, is the most important - most difficult of achieve must since we can.

Last night we had our "Residents Ball" using the assembly hall for a square dance and the nursery school for refreshments, and to entertain the didoes. A committee of homesteaders and teachers - howsteders - put time all the pleasure admirably. Everyone had a fine time, and although the money is not yet all "counted", it will be a large sum - for us.

School is swinging along - night school also for boys and girls of 16 to 25. Also a full program of music, plays, and "programs" for the adults - Our orchestra is slowly forming.

Our singing groups run from 30 to 100. Our singing group Feb 14 an educational program February 1 is a play. Feb 21-25 I with music (planned by a howsteders) Early in our away for an educational conference. I hope a forum. March, we have a concert and a larger personnel. Clearance for adults visit upon a larger personnel. Feb 20th The doctor, Dr. Henry J. Inbra, arrives Feb 20th The Interior has just cut off musical supplies! My emergency fund info: do you guess we in the fall is fastest call by with assets. I am stamped on this just now.

5

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
WASHINGTON

The need for an operating budget is urgent - first for a farm director to superintend the men on these farms and later to run the school dairy, chickens and truck garden with volunteer labor, as a teaching center.

I talked this over with Mr. Tynchae and Mr. Tiddell. They have seen Dean Froume of the Dept. of Agriculture of the University of West Virginia. I expect to see M.L. Wilson, to whom I have written.

Unless we get this farm superintendent and instructor, and a woman farm agent or home economics teacher, the homesteading is going to fail. I can get the first for \$3000. a year, the last for \$1800. [Mr. Grimes leaves today].

Meanwhile we "saw wood" in winter farm classes with the men, plant biology with High School students, some home economics at the Nursery School, and the devoted and intelligent work of the nurse on food & health problems.

We all enjoyed the visit of your guest from Greece. When and if we reach the kind of enterprise educationally in which she could help us, we shall be glad to call upon her. Economically her place is beyond us.

6
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
WASHINGTON

And delightful and personally interesting as her ideas are to me, it would be superimposition yet on our people. I would like to be privileged to call upon her for advice and help when the right time comes. At present, our job is to take our people as they are, from where they are now, to the next step beyond.

Our gifted teachers: Fletcher Collins especially interested in the relations between music and drama, and George Fischer, in drama and in music - especially enjoyed meeting her, as I did, too.

I apologize for this long letter.

Sincerely yours
Elsie Tripp Gapp

Jan 31, 1935

March 18, 1935

100

My dear Miss Clapp:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked the Friends Service Committee to advance money for the purchase of a school bus, and wants me to tell you that this is to be paid back by the homesteaders to that organization.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Miss Elsie R. Clapp
Box 73
Reedsville
West Virginia

DD

March 26, 1935

My dear Miss Clapp:

I gave Mrs. Roosevelt your letter and she asks me to tell you that she expects to come down on April 3, but she would much prefer your not saying anything about it as it always makes it so difficult to have so many people know in advance.

Colonel Watson assured me that the bus is on its way and I hope that by now you have received it.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Miss Elsie Ripley Clapp
Arthurdeale School and Community
Reedsville, West Virginia

S:DD

Col'd 56 1-1-35
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS

WASHINGTON

Reedsville, West Virginia

*Answer going April 30
has bus gone down*

Mrs. Malvina Scheider
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Scheider:

The American Friends Service Committee is to send Mrs. Roosevelt a check for the amount she paid on the bus and it is arranged that we are slowly to return it to them as the payments for it come in month by month from the families. I am writing Mr. Pickett in this mail asking him to see that the check is sent to Mrs. Roosevelt.

Will you please express to Mrs. Roosevelt the Homesteaders' deep satisfaction and pleasure in the acquisition of the new bus. It is going to be of great benefit to us, enabling us to have a longer school day and to bring and take our school and community groups about more freely. The use of the bus is to be entirely in the school's hands by vote of the Homesteaders. They voted each to pay a dollar a month for its upkeep, its driver, and for installment reimbursement on its purchase.

When I was in Washington about ten days ago I understood that it was arranged that the bus be sent down at once. Mr. Pyncheon would be willing to arrange for someone to drive it down. If necessary Mr. Flynn could arrange to send someone up for it from here. I would be grateful if it could either be sent at once or that we could be notified that we could come up and get it. We need it very urgently.

Please give my love to Mrs. Roosevelt and tell her that we hope very much that she may be able to come down here some time in April. I think it would be a very good plan for many different reasons.

behalf, I am

With appreciation of your kindnesses on our

Very sincerely yours

Elsie Ripley Clapp

Elsie Ripley Clapp, Director
Arthurdale School and Community

March 23, 1935
ERC:ab

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 26, 1935.

MEMORANDUM FOR MRS. SCHEIDER:

Herewith is the bill of sale by the lady who bought the truck, also receipt for the \$105.00, etc., etc.

The GMC truck is now in the garage under the care of Captain Dailey, phone National 2520, Br. 1032. Captain Dailey has made an estimate of cost to put the truck in really first class condition, namely \$43.41. I send this estimate along.

Captain Dailey thinks that he perhaps by stretching a point could do most of this work without cost, but I am not very much in favor of this procedure. There are too many snoopers (Republicans) who might get some garbled information regarding this and make a big point of it.

In other words, Mrs. Scheider, I would either let the truck stand as is (Captain Dailey tells me the truck will run); or else pay the money estimated by Captain Dailey, as this bill represents the standard price for both labor and material and could cause no unfavorable comment.

Please let me know if I can be of any further service.

Check book/ log
by Mrs. Scheider
with a check
of \$105.00

E. M. Wilson
E. M. WILSON,
Lieut. Colonel, F. A.
Military Aide to The President.

March 23, 1935.

Estimated cost of repairs on GMC Truck

1. Check up on bearings	
2. Replace leather top - - - - -	\$ 2.40
3. Replace leather on five seats - - - - -	1.20
4. Replace window glass - - - - -	.60
5. Repair rear door & step	.
6. Paint vehicle - - - - -	2.75
7. Replace lighting generator - - - - - (none in stock) This will have to be requisitioned from Holabird.	46.04
8. Replace front axle assembly - - - - -	36.00
9. Replace floor board - - - - -	2.80
10. Replace service brakes - - - - -	4.73
11. Replace carouretor - - - - -	3.29
	Total cost
	<u>99.81</u>
Less 65% on unit replacements, Front axle, Brakes & Generator - - - - -	56.40
	Net cost \$ <u>43.41</u>

Estimated time for repairs 4½ days.

*West Virginia
Shelby Tapp Co
F. H. Overhead.*

100
March 30, 1935

Miss Elsie Clapp
Reedsville
West Virginia

Truck needs repair Would you authorize spending forty three dollars
Can be used as is.

MALVINA T. SCHWIDER
Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

109
Miss Elsie Clapp
Reedsville
W. Va.

April 1, 1935

Leaving here with John twelve o'clock Wednesday. Could we have supper Arthurdale and stay for dance. Think it better not to have regular Homesteaders meeting but to let me say few words at dance. Can you make reservations Morgantown ~~two~~ single rooms. Will leave tent thirty following morning

Eleanor Roosevelt

April 12, 1935

Dear Miss Clapp:

Mr. Dickett will have a check cut from our fund in the Friends Service Committee for \$270.25 and will also pay anything further that is needed for Mrs. Van Sickle.

I have an offer of a thousand dollars from Mr. Vidal for a speech which he made and if it comes through I will send you that money for the medical fund. I think we can take the other \$1500 necessary out of Mr. Baruch's money, as this fund will be gradually repaid by the Homesteaders.

I think things will come through on the school. I have taken the liberty of saying that you would rather have the work given to the Homesteaders, even if some of the school buildings are not ready by September. I thought that you could pick out the most important ones and have them done first. The gymnasium, for instance, could wait till later.

John and I enjoyed our visit very much. I want to thank you so much for all you did for us.

Very cordially yours,

ER:O

Miss Elsie Clapp
Reedsville, W.Va.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
WASHINGTON

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:-

You asked me
some time ago to let you know about Mrs.
van Sickle (one of our Nursery School Teachers).
I have today received her hospital bill.
The bills of her two doctors I have not yet
obtained, but shall do so shortly.

Toward the hospital
bill Miss Staunton, Mr. Flynn and I have
each given \$50.00, making a total of \$150. -
which I have deducted, leaving a balance
of \$270.25. There will be doctors' bills also.

Mrs. van Sickle
has been urged by "friends" to bring suit, and
has shown considerable character in refusing, as she
said, "to be made a political football". I came
in when the matter hung in the balance and said
that some of her friends at Withersdale would help
her with her hospital and doctor bills.

She receives a salary
of \$60. - a month, and must support her little boy, age 7,
and her mother. We have continued to pay this
since her accident.

Everyone is still enjoying your visit and Johnie.
It was wonderful to have you.

Sincerely yours,
Ethel Clapp

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

WASHINGTON

APR - 5 1935

Mr. Roosevelt: I thought you should see
this - ER Clapp

Miss Elsie Kinley Clapp
Reedsville
West Virginia

Dear Miss Clapp:

I have been giving careful consideration to the whole question of construction of the last sixty-five houses and the school building at Arthurdale.

The question, I feel, has to be viewed from the point of view of employment of homesteaders and also keeping in mind satisfactory results in construction and costs. With all of the housing, construction of roads, grading, etc. on forced account, it would appear quite clear that homesteaders will have all they can possibly do, extending well into the fall or the early winter months. If, therefore, we are to have the school ready for occupancy in the fall, it seems to me to be evident that it will be wise to allow the school to be built on contract. Furthermore, whereas the organization which Mr. Flynn now has is excellent for the kind of construction that he is now doing, on a project as large as the construction of the school building will be, it would seem to me to be wiser to allow an organization set up for such purposes to build the school on contract. I think it will be possible for some of the homesteaders to be employed by the contracted company, especially those who have the most highly developed skills.

This arrangement seems to me, in view of all the circumstances, to be the wisest, and I hope that it may meet with your approval.

Very sincerely yours,

Eric L. Chaomer
Assistant Secretary

It does not.

ER Clapp

We need all
building on
contract.

4/29/33

Capp, Miss Elsie -
Circumdale Farm
Reedsville, W. Va

Lent books

The Meaning & Teaching of Music
Home Music Lessons
The Philosophy of Music
How to Think Music

100
May 14, 1935

Dear Miss Clapp:

Mrs. Roosevelt is writing an article about Reedsville and she would like to know if you could give her the record of one or more families living at Arthurdale, their present budget, and anything that you could tell her that would make a comparison between what they have now and what they had before. We have asked Miss Alice Davis what they had before, so you need not go into that.

Will you send this to me as soon as you can?

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

0

Miss Elsie Clapp
Reedsville
West Virginia

100
May 18, 19 5

Dear Miss Clapp:

I am enclosing to you a
copy of a letter which I have written
to Mr. Pickett, which answers all of
your questions.

Cordially yours,

S O

Miss Elsie Clapp
Reedsville
W.Va.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
REEDSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA

One more matter:— If Mr. Baruch is coming to Reedsville May 29th with you, I would like him to see the school. School is over by 2:30, and traps and necropses and punches obtain after 12.. So— could you please to be at the school in Reedsville early on the 29th — and go from there to Tygart Valley —? Or, early May 30th, staying the 29th in Morgantown? We would have another dance in your honor! Mr. Baruch might enjoy that. May I know your plans?

My ever-grateful Thanks to you. I think this morning's meeting ensured the continued interest of the group.

Sincerely yours
Elsie Ripley Gapp

May 15, 1935

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
REEDSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:-

I want you to know of my gratitude and relief in the money for the medical work. If it does not make any difference to you, Dr. Timbra and I would like to divide the \$1,000.- putting \$800.- into the revolving fund, and \$200.- into equipment which will enable him to do some simple "operations", thereby saving expenditures.

I am enclosing a statement of our summer plans. Of the \$800.- needed for this, I shall have left by economic price this year's salary budget about \$400.-. You remember my speaking to you of this on your last visit. Is the other \$400.- available? -

I think if you are willing, we could make the total medical fund (if it can be 25000) \$2100. May I know about this in order to plan the work - we might have the musical festival

at the time of the "Institute" - June 27th.

Miss Stanton and I have decided not to hold a nursery school this year.

100
May 22, 1935

My dear Miss Clapp:

Mrs. Roosevelt would like to send you this memorandum on Rural Dramatic Festival which is to be held in Alexandria, Va., the latter part of August and the first of September, under the direction of the Ohio State University Department of Rural Sociology.

Their plan is to dramatize all the phases of their rural life. The various clubs are to give plays every day, there is to be a "neighborhood play" on Sunday, and on another day "neighborhood plays" are to be given by six different community groups, who are making an interesting summer recreation project out of their regular life.

They also to have exhibitions of local products and handicraft and the usual kind of contests.

Mrs. Roosevelt thought you would be interested to know about this.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

0

Miss Ficie Clapp
Roodsville
W. Va.

ack
5-22

*Reply to say I have
a letter to you and I am
in the hands of the
Toll toll
Prof. H. H. H. H. H.*

Alexandria, Ohio,
May 14, 1935.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Washington,
D. C.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Would you care to send a message of greeting to Ohio's first Rural Dramatics Festival which is in preparation here at Alexandria for August 31, September 1 and 2?

You may be familiar already with the work in rural coordination which has been carried on here at Alexandria ("Ohio's experimental community") for the past five years under the sponsorship of the Ohio State University department of rural sociology. Many interesting ideas have been tried out here successfully. This year, our people are going to try to show for the first time in the Middle West how all the different aspects of one country neighborhood can be translated into drama. In fact, these country people hope that they have the nucleus of a folk festival which may be developed through the years. Anyhow, as an experiment, the idea is attracting wide interest in the state.

On Friday evening, August 30, a formal opening program is to be held. It is for this program that we are wondering if you would send a message to help get our experiment started.

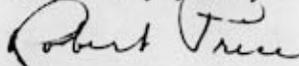
More than anything else, of course, we would like to have you present in person for this occasion. Nothing would give us more pleasure. We haven't dared to hope for such a thing, however, and in lieu of that possibility will be quite pleased if we may have a personal message to read.

I am inclosing a brief resume of the festival plan which will help you to get an idea of the undertaking. August 31st will be "Rural Activities" day when the grange, 4-H clubs, Future Farmers, and Camp Fire Girls will dramatize their work. On "Church Day" (September 1) each of our churches will use dramatics in their services and will all unite in a sacred community pageant. On "Homecoming Day" (September 2) the unique feature will be the

"neighborhood plays". These one-act plays are being prepared by six different rural localities which center in Alexandria. They are genuinely "neighborhood" affairs, each play being prepared by a group of neighbors who will meet in their own homes, in barn floors, etc., during the summer to rehearse the plays. Naturally these people are getting a lot of fun out of the preparations. In fact, the whole project will provide a fascinating summer recreation project for several hundred of our people. If it is successful, it will continue as a constructive community project through the years and will furnish a wealth of wholesome suggestions to other country neighborhoods.

We shall be very happy, Mrs. Roosevelt, if we may be honored either by your presence or by a written message for the opening program on Friday evening, August 30. In any event, we shall be much interested in your reply.

Very truly yours,



Robert Price

ALEXANDRIA HOMECOMING AND DRAMATICS FESTIVAL

August 31 - September 1 - 2

Tentative Program

CALENDAR:

Saturday, August 31 - "Rural Activities Day"
10 a.m. Plays by 4-H Clubs and F.F.A.
2 p.m. Play by Camp Fire Girls
3 p.m. Play by Grange
8 p.m. Three-act Play

Sunday, September 1 - "Church Day"
10 a.m. Morning Worship, followed by Sabbath School
8 p.m. Religious Pageant

Monday, September 2 - "Homecoming Day"
10 a.m. Neighborhood Plays
1 p.m. Parade
2 p.m. Neighborhood Plays
8 p.m. Operetta

EXHIBITS: Local products, flowers, art, handicrafts, etc. will be shown during the festival.

GAMES AND CONTESTS: A program of playday activities will be arranged for "Homecoming Day."

A small admission will be charged for several of the dramatic events to help defray the cost of the Festival. All other features will be free to all.

GENERAL SUGGESTIONS TO COMMITTEES

Ever since the centennial of 1930, Alexandria folks have wished for an annual community festival which would serve as a homecoming and would at the same time provide pleasant cooperative activity for a large number of local people. Rural dramatics seems to provide a constructive idea for just such an event - particularly so, as it has never before been tried in Ohio for a rural festival. Committees should have as their objectives, therefore, (1) to make the Festival a successful homecoming event, (2) to give the largest number of persons possible the privilege of sharing the Festival activities, and (3) to make the Alexandria Festival stand out as unique and significant in the activities of rural Ohio.

To let as many folks as possible share the fun and to avoid working a burden upon any one, it is preferred that no one person shall assume a part in more than one play or committee. Five hundred people doing five hundred separate jobs well, and enjoying them is better than fifty people worrying under the strain of ten jobs apiece.

All personal service is to be donated. Any expenditure by any committee must be authorized by the general Festival Committee. Only bills so authorized will be allowed for payment. Each committee is expected to keep an itemized account of receipts and expenditures.

The general Festival Committee will consist of the central committee (Glen Davison, chairman, Mrs. Carl Johnston, Mrs. T. W. Albery, Charlotte Smoots, Robert Price) together with all the chairmen of sub-committees. The general committee will hold its first meeting on June 6. At that time each chairman should have a list of committee members and an outline of plans. All plays, etc., should have been approved by the central committee previous to this date, and the casts selected. All choices of personnel and all plans of the various sub-committees are to be subject of the approval of the general Festival Committee.

May 22, 1935

My dear Miss Clapp:

Mrs. Roosevelt asked me to send you this memorandum on a Rural Dramatics Festival which is to be held in Alexandria, Ohio, the latter part of August and the first of September, under the direction of the Ohio State University Department of Rural Sociology.

Their plan is to dramatize all the phases of their rural life. The various clubs are to give plays on one day, there is to be a "Sacred Pageant on Sunday," and on another day "neighborhood plays" are to be given by six different community groups, who are making an interesting summer recreation project out of their rehearsals.

They are to have exhibitions of local products and handicraft and the usual games and contests.

Mrs. Roosevelt thought you would be interested to know about this.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Miss Elsie Clapp
Reedsville
W. Va.

→ Copy for Prof. Flanagan

TELEGRAM

19POD 8

The White House
Washington

100 free

Reesville West Va 410pm May 23 1935

Mrs Franklin D Roosevelt

The White House

Sorry material delayed mailing part tonight balance tomorrow

Elsie Ripley CLAPP

616pmd

143 Elsie Clapp
Reedsville
West Virginia

July 3, 1935

wrote you several days ago about a list of names
Have received no reply. am anxious to have this list
soon as possible

Eleanor Roosevelt

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
REEDSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA

110

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

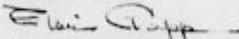
I thought you might like to have

Dr. Timbres account of the Seybold family, whose farm
budget book I gave you this morning.

We were so happy to have you

here. It was lovely.

Sincerely yours



Elsie Ripley Clapp, Director
Arthurdale School and Community

May 30, 1936

ERC:ab
encl

NOTES ON THE FAMILY OF CLARENCE SEYBOLD

Clarence Seybold, 35, seems to be in a considerably better state of health at the present time than he was in the fairly recent past. His teeth have been badly neglected and he has a cataract in the right eye caused by an injury sustained several years ago in the mines. There is practically no vision left in this eye and the condition has progressed too far to be repaired by an operation.

His wife, Maude, 30, is not in a very good state of health. Her pelvic organs have been considerably damaged by mining camp obstetrics. She has had four children, three of whom are now living. All of her pregnancies have been attended by kidney complications and her last pregnancy two years ago came very near to being fatal, first through kidney trouble and finally through hemorrhage. She is badly in need of a pelvic operation which would correct the position of her uterus and sterilize her at the same time. I think it would be a great risk for her to have any more children.

There are three living children, 2 to 6. The two youngest are in very good health. The oldest has been a very weak, anaemic, sickly child until the family moved on to the project. Since then she has been improving a great deal, due not only to better surroundings but also to the very intelligent care given by her mother. The removal of this child's tonsils would undoubtedly help her very much but the parents hesitate to have her go through this operation because their oldest child died of hemorrhage following tonsillectomy several years ago.

In the care of her children Mrs. Seybold is one of the most intelligent mothers on the project. She is one of the few who insist that their children observe regular habits of eating and sleeping and personal hygiene. She sees that the children get plenty of milk, fruit, vegetables, and sunlight. She is the only mother whom I would thoroughly trust with the care of a small baby and there have been two occasions requiring her services for this purpose when small babies deprived of their mother's care through illness had to be placed elsewhere. These babies have always improved very markedly under Mrs. Seybold's attention.

The family is very frugal. Mr. Seybold has succeeded in acquiring a Fordson tractor and in purchasing two cows which at present are supplying not only the Seybold family but several of the neighbors with milk. Mrs. Seybold tells me she and her husband have saved up enough money to enable them to have all of the medical work done which is necessary and they are prepared to make this investment in their health as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made.

I do not think a better example could be found of the response which an intelligent family long deprived of the necessities of life has made to the opportunities supplied by new surroundings and new hope.

May 30, 1935
HGT:ab

Signed:

Harry G. Timbres
Harry G. Timbres, M. D.

June 3, 1935

My dear Miss Clapp:

I am returning the
Arthurdale Homesteaders' Account
Book. Mrs. Roosevelt was very
interested in it and thanks you
for letting her see it.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Miss Elsie Clapp
Reedsville
West Virginia

DD

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
REEDSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA

wish, if I may, to be employed by you
instead of the Resettlement Division - because
of the free lance position and deriving my
authority from you - important both in Washington
and on the project. I shall also hope to
be a \$1,000 a year member of the ~~Resettlement~~ as
an educational adviser.

I saw you ~~Straus~~ has
decided to have us ^{take} ~~take~~ into our training
School people for other Homesteads. The
younger people to be with us one year;
fair older, 2 to 3 months. He said he
would give me the personnel needed for the year.
I have gotten Lucy Sprague Mitchell to give
a course on the methods of study of an
environment - and J. E. ~~Stanton~~ Stanton to advise
the Homesteads on how to set up nursery schools.
This is good, I think.

I hope you will come to Mr. Inguirella's
conference at Buck Hill the end of June 30 July 1-2-3
and ask the Arthur Dale Educational Committee
to be there too. It seems important that they
get the conception of socially functioning education -
education as an integral part of living.
Sincerely yours
E. H. C. Lapps

Hyde Park, N.Y.
June 22, 1955.

100

Dear Miss Clapp:

I have written Mr. Fogell about going
down on July 5th, and will let you know
as soon as I hear. We will probably
leave early enough to get there by early
afternoon and spend the night.

I have sent the bills to Mr. Piccott
asking him to pay them out of Mr. Garuck's
fund.

Very sincerely yours,

Clapp
June 22, 1955

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
DIVISION OF SUBSISTENCE HOMESTEADS
REEDSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA

June 26, 1935

My dear Mrs. Boettinger:

The wonderful box of books and many toys came down the other day which I think either you or your mother must have packed up for us.

I am putting the toys aside to share with various sick children and to start on next year's Christmas gifts. We entered the books at once into the library and were overjoyed to have them, as we are very short of books for little children.

It was a wonderful gift and a delightful surprise. Please accept my thanks for the homesteaders for your generous thoughtfulness in sharing these things with us.

Very sincerely yours,

Edwin Ripley Clapp
Director of
Arthurdale School and Community

Mrs. John Boettinger,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

100
July 8, 1935.

Dear Miss Clapp:

I know you were disturbed yesterday about the possibility of a change in the position of the people already in Headsville to leasing instead of ownership. I would not worry about it too much, as I think that it is still a policy that may not be carried through entirely as it sounded.

There is one thing I want to suggest to you, namely, Mr. Fugrell has the complete responsibility and when we are with him, I think you should make it a point to make him feel that we recognize his responsibility and do not even suggest that I do anything, except stand ready to help in an unofficial way on educational and health questions. If you can, try to make him realize that while you feel identified with the people, and that they do seem to be your own, that you also fully realize the main responsibility is his, and that they are "his people" and not "my people".

I know that you will not mind my telling you this. I have worked with people for so many years, and while it is a terrible nuisance, it sometimes make our accomplishments easier if we pay attention to what may seem to us foolish details.

I thought the music festival was grand. I hope you got that young teacher off. Mr. Pickett and I have talked about the medical situation and we are trying to get the necessary money.

Cordially yours,

Hyde Park, N.Y.
July 24, 1835.

Dear Miss Clapp

The President now feels that because of Congress' uncertainty, that he will not get down to Reelsville the end of August, as your wish to have him come later, will be realized.

I am going to make a great effort to have him go down the end of October before it gets too cold.

Will you write us how things are going and what has happened lately, particularly about the homestead payments and their contracts? Also about the decision about increasing the number of houses?

I shall be at Eastport, Maine, for the next three weeks, and back in Washington between the 17th and 20th of August.

Very cordially yours,

100

Eastport, Maine
July 30, 1935.

Dear Miss Clapp:

I was delighted to get both your letters.
I will do what I can by writing to Mr.
Agar to get the payments expedited and
the various things under way.

I am so glad you are having a holiday.
We will be here until August 15th, and
then I go back through Whitefield to see
a cousin and get him on the 17th for
Franklin, junior's twenty-first birthday.
After that my plans are very vague,
depending upon Congress and the President.

I will keep in touch with you and do any-
thing I can.

Cordially yours,

Miss Elsie Clapp
Robinhood, Maine

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

John Reed, Maine

My dear Mr. Roosevelt:-

Thank you for your note and I shall try to follow with

its suggestion which I am on a holiday after Mr. Tugwell.

I am on a holiday after Mr. Tugwell.

The statement mentions I got Fletcher Gehris who led the Music Festival off before I left.

Unless I hear from you I shall assume that

you to the contrary. I shall be with us.

The visitor of whom you spoke was in Maine

August 18th. I shall be here in Maine

until the 10th and then drive down via

New York and Washington. Will you let me know

how before August 10th if thought would be the

very nice indeed if Mr. Tugwell could be in

speaker at the Labor Day celebration

I shall try to see him when I am in

Washington.

My latest advice (dated 23rd)

is that the checks for June 15-30 work are

not arrived. This means that the people are

living 5 weeks on two weeks pay - probably all in

the summer now I hear, and probably all in

about the July 1-15 check, on the 23rd,

about 8 days behind. What ever the cause,

(a bookkeeping error) all the work toward self-help

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

and cash payment habits — payments for farm materials, for medical care, groceries, clothes, etc — which we were building in them are lost. For their actual suffering I care most. And that this should happen while they are under our care —

The former system of decentralization of payments — checks made out promptly at the project — served well the purposes of reinstatement of these people. It is hard to see, since efficiency was not served, why the change was made —

I have communicated with the Division and have been told that they are helpless in the matter. I might add that all the projects I know — the other stranded group, are in the same situation —

The good news^{is} that the new Triston County Superintendent and President of the Board, have approached me with offers of cooperation — Also that the Dean of Education at the University wishes to cooperate. We shall probably take his students for practice teaching, and share —

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

Seminar courses, and he will give credit for the courses I, and Mrs. Mitchell and Jessie Slatter offer— They have just returned from a trip to the four stream and homesteads— Elsa Meland, a nurse and able woman, head of Carson College, has accepted Nygard Valley of which I am very glad.

The doctor and I have selected an (as yet) unassigned homestead house next to his, for the cottage hospital. It needs no structural change, only a temporary wall division for living room. It would accommodate 8 beds, an operating and sterilization room, a room for the necessary treatment.

Its equipment (transportable to the Parger Infirmary when built) would cost between 2500 and 3000. Its maintenance is estimated at 400— a month. Work is an estimate only, to be checked in use.

Just before I left the doctor and I found a man and woman joined health committee to plan with him for "health insurance" payments, etc. (A discussion which will not have meaning until payments are again regular and prompt).

July 25, 1935

Sincerely yours
E. W. Ripley

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

Robin Hood, Maine
(near Bath)

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:-

I am writing in pencil because in that way I can make a copy to send you in ^{Eastport} Maine - and to Washington, not being quite sure where you are. My secretary wired me the gist of your letter. I am glad the visit will be in October when the hills are beautiful and the school activities will be going. I have set my heart on its taking place so I hope the postponement will not interfere with that.

The letter I just sent to Washington, crossing yours, told you of the delay in payments. Pay checks for June 15-30 just arrived July 25. They wired me yesterday they had come. The wages for July 1-15 are now, July 27, twelve days overdue. To me it seems that nothing excuses this. As I wrote, the people are again sunk in debt, owing to this delay, and some really suffering. This was true 2 weeks ago. They live just over the relief line.

2

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

- Regarding permissions: The following have been OK-ed
1. The remaining 65 houses
 2. The elementary school
 3. The outbuildings for all the new houses (75+65=140)
 4. The Edwards tract (an adjoining farm into whose title the Dept. has been looking for about 4 or 5 months) is not yet cleared. On it will be built the dairy for 30 cows & poultry house, which will supply the needs of school children and prenatal cases, and start as a teaching center under the direction of the agriculturalist. The plans, made with the Univ. of Va. & Mr. Wagner, are capable of expansion into a later cooperative dairy.

Held up:
Revamping the Mansion (Arthur House) in which I plan to house the training school of West Va. and Resettlement Division community school leaders -
Mr. Wagner showed you the plans for this. They yielded 21 bedrooms.

When Mr. Tugwell was there, he advocated scrapping it - building a large inn - or tourist camp.

As you know, the inn & tourist camp terrified me. I know, of course, the suggested

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

played ground use of that beautiful hill country -
but not at Arthur Dale, or near it, ever!

I have not worried really, because I thought
it would become evident that our transient
& visitor needs are too intermittent and mainly
not prosperous enough - also because of costs.

However, his suggestion has had the
effect of suspending operations in fixing
the Mansion for the use as living quarters
for the group ^{for whom} I have to have housing
by Sept 1st. I have promised to take
15 Resettlement division community school directors
Triston Co will assign us its unplaced teachers,
the Univ. of Va. wants to send us some teachers
in training. And I shall need to house

4 of my own group there -

Mr. Tugwell suggested my using homestead
houses - which I may (reluctantly) do temporarily.

The old house is fundamentally sound & can
be revamped in a month. You remember Mr. Wagner
plans. They permit of 1 or 2 side wings for guests
(built later). To tear it down seems to me wasteful.
Wagner is making studies of it for Mr. Tugwell
to incorporate his idea of the accommodation of guests.

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

I have asked Wagner not to change it - i.e. begin rebuilding - until I can be sure the school buildings now under construction will be ready for use Sept 9th. I think we shall need to use the same temporary quarters for the school for a few weeks -

Once moved into the new quarters - in October - I would like the house remodelled quickly for the teachers for the winter - so I could use the homestead houses for homesteaders - thus the visitors' wings could be added -

X What is needed is the agreement on this general idea - & permission to proceed along these lines -

X Nothing, so far as I know, has come thru about contracts for the homesteaders - This matter is, as I understand it, tied in with the general policy about ownership or rental. I hope that Mr. Tugwell can work out a "limited" ownership plan - The psychology of rental is wrong, a subversive of rehabilitation along homestead lines, in my judgment.

X Meanwhile, altho houses are ready now for the 40 waiting & "approved" homestead families, we have not been permitted to allow them to occupy these -

They are, by the way, paying on an annual basis, much on a tentative estimate basis (made over a year ago) - These payments can I think be shown in the records.

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

So all the 40 families must live in their miserable houses in Burk, Butz & the outskirts of Redsville & Masontown & make heroic efforts to farm their land around their new houses while living 3 to 5 miles away.

These are all families "approved" in the first 90 — (30 of the original 80 plus 10 approved this spring)

Whatever the final policy, I see no more decision necessary for these 40 waiting families than for the first fifty — whose status is the same except for the fact that they are in houses on the project. Pending decisions, the same tentative form could be used for them as for the first fifty. I strongly urge that this be done.

For the balance (35 of the first 75 houses now built) we are ready to recommend, as the local committee. And we — Alice Davis, Mr. Flynn & I, favor recommending as far as possible first to people for them (out of those who have applied). This would be very helpful locally & good sense, I think.

They should be filled early this fall —

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

I have heard nothing more about the contemplated size of the community.

190 houses (50 there, 75 built, 65 authorized) @ 9 a family, makes a village of 1710 - more probably 1800. As large as any in Triston County. To make it larger - (500 families - 4500 or more people) will frustrate its purpose - of rehabilitation or reinstatement of people - and therefore all its usefulness in working out patterns of school & community activities & services.

I ardently hope that Mr. Gray's publishing business may start - and quickly - among us. We talked together & saw many ways of cooperating - the issuance, with their help of a village newspaper (which we shall do anyway next year); their publication of some good material - from our younger children - and older students, and the market for simply worded material - read & liked by our young & older unschooled adults - a market not yet tapped in America - Also, Fletcher Collins would say, a ballad collection -

I think this arrangement with Mr. Gray needs fostering. I was not sure the Resettlement group was as much interested as I was in it.

The General Electric Vacuum Cleaner Co (for whom the built factory is waiting & ready (Mr. Tutser of Cleveland) was withheld by its home strike. Nothing lately heard from them. I think they should be

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

communicated with other plans - learned I have suggested this to the Division.

There was talk about the P. M. L. Hood & Zipper Co (not the ones discredited earlier) but I have heard nothing of it lately.

We shall have with 190 families - about 90 older sons, or 280 men to be employed - The Vacuum Cleaner Factory will use .45 - having 23.5. I think in another year's time 35 may well be used in cooperatives & individual businesses - perhaps a few more. But it is safe to count on the need for factory employment of 200 people - at least That will probably mean the necessity of 2 more factories. Decision about these should be made at once - or their sites & buildings prepared - It's a slow matter, at best.

We have in Athurdale, if some "limited" ownership plan goes thru, the advantage of a stable population -

Note: Mr. Levy - and Mr. Green to me seem both rather unlikely - for different reasons, but you know about this as I do not.

We have recently been able to see farther down the road - I will send you a copy of what we plan - tentatively - in the way of community cooperatives & individual businesses, - also an account of the beginning with the Farm Cooperatives. This is definitely a piece of business education - slow at first Excuse this overlong letter. Let me know what it has unanswered
Elsie Clapp

*File
in staff*

Please share this letter with Dr. Agger and Miss Inglis.

*CLH-F
100*

Robinhood, Maine

July 31/35

My dear Miss Schaffler: -

Thank you for your letter of July 29 regarding the personnel requirements for the Reedsville project. I have been waiting first for this information and then for that, but shall be glad to send you a "first draft" as it were, on the understanding that it is subject to change.

What I can send are "minimum essentials". We shall need other kinds of assistance which will probably be supplied by our State University at Morgantown which is anxious to cooperate with us. I expect to know shortly more definitely about our plans with them.

You will notice that some of the personnel required is for relief on routine matters that will free myself and other members of my staff to the training end. I have a small but able group "given" to the project who have already had four, five, or six years of experience in community-school relationships.

I need also to know about the number and type of people whom you wish to place with us for training. Mrs. Mitchell told me they fell, as she understood it, into two classes: a group who must assume duties in three or four months, and a group who will be with us nine or ten months. I offered to take what I then called a more and a less experienced group. So--this is no change in plan to me, unless it is in the short time for training the three to four months group.

As I see it, these people can--or must--mainly learn the problems involved in the work, its conception and point of view, and as much as possible about the methods of working. I think they should know if possible their locality to be assigned--at least its section--the first facts about it. They should see Tygart Valley which is in the stage Arthurdale was a year ago--better probably, but still illustrative of problems before any educational and community work has been done. I suggest that they visit this for a week before they come to Arthurdale, and again for a week after a month or six weeks with us. Miss Davis and her organization are part of Arthurdale for training purposes. Two other cooperating agencies will work with us: the University of West Virginia, in courses, seminars and conferences, and the County Board of Education for the study of the needs and problems of rural schools and

rural communities. Mrs. Mitchell will offer some weeks of intensive work on study of environmental resources and human geography, Jessie Stanton on the relations of the nursery school and community, Miss Stott on the use of first-hand material in elementary years. My staff can deal with community uses of drama, music, art and industrial arts, and shop, the educational building for cooperative enterprises, and the education of unschooled young adults and older men and women in community enterprises. Also--what I regard as a primary essential, the ways and means of working as members of the community. I expect myself to discuss methods of community organization and integration, and the relationships with other agencies and surrounding countryside and neighboring towns and villages. Also the philosophy of social education and the psychology of its practice. Our physician, Dr. Harry Timbree will deal with social medicine--the health-rehabilitation problem.

I made one proviso: that I select from among those whom you wish to have in training with us, the people who seem to us teachable and whose personality and approach will not endanger our work in, or relations with the community. This proviso holds for the three to four months and the nine to ten months group.

I should have stated that I understand we are taking those who will function in rural communities.

I have inevitably run into the training of this latter group. It is they and ^{not} the three to four months group, whom we can fit to direct what I would call an instrumental ~~xxx~~ education for young children and adults. This takes more time and involves study of content and methodologies of a more specifically educational--or school--nature.

It will be they who will use especially the resources of the University and the County Board of Education.

Although I believe in participation as the best form of learning, any real sharing is slowly built up. Necessarily this latter group will grow to share more in activities and responsibilities, and the education of the first group will consist more of observation and discussion conferences and ~~xxx~~ courses, than it can of active work.

This nine to ten months group should, in my judgment, make a good preliminary survey of the field of their assignment. I advise a week's visit before they come to us, and a month's study later, about January, and another months further study in May or June--with some supervision of plans after this. I have carried "student-teachers" with every school and community enterprise for the past eleven years. All kinds, capacities, ages, achievements. My experience is that there is an inevitable time element in it--for the reorganization

and adaptation and insight that constitute learning, especially so for the high I-Q type.

When I come to Washington, which will be the sixteenth and seventeenth, as far as I can tell now, I want to discuss with Dr. Agger, Miss Inglis and yourself, ways and means of engaging the help of various members of the Resettlement Division in the training enterprise. I hope especially that Dr. Tugwell and Dr. Agger can arrange for conferences with these people in training and the staff of instructors down on the project. Also perhaps Mr. Edelman.

There are one or two more comments:--

The people in training will as we come to know them be individually developed, according to their special capacities and their particular assignments. I wonder if it would not be feasible for Miss Inglis and you and the Division, to supply us when the individuals are selected for Arthur Dale with the facts about the place and problem to which they will be assigned— even if you wish to leave the individual assignment until the person's aptitudes become known in his work.

We begin the school term September 9th. I would prefer to have the students September 16th.

Sincerely yours

Director of Arthur Dale School and Community

From letter of Bill Simpkins, August 3rd.

"Mr. Pharr, the Agricultural Adviser, is, I believe, working in very nicely with the men, and I feel sure will be the sort of man who can accomplish most here. He looks, acts and talks like a farmer and has had sufficient experience and is mature enough so that I am quite sure the homesteaders will have confidence in his judgment.

We have just been discussing the canning situation. Mr. Pharr estimates that there will not be a huge quantity of products to be processed this year. The chief need, of course, is the processing of the products from the school garden. We have made tentative plans to set up the retorts in the Mansion and use the kitchen there at least until September 10. I raised the question with Mr. Zimmerman as to what would happen if the school buildings were not ready. He felt confident that, in that event, the basement of the Administration Building would be ready by that time so that, if necessary, we could move the canning operation there. Mr. Pharr tells me that at a recent meeting of homesteaders women volunteered to give their services in canning the products from the school garden, and the first canning will be done Tuesday of next week.

I think you know about the new arrangement relative to time allotments for the homesteaders. As I understand it, the employment of the homesteaders under the Resettlement Administration has to come under the same general regulations as apply to works Progress Administration projects. This means that the 30 hour week is in effect and, moreover, was made retroactive to July 1. Because of the retroactive feature many of the men had over-worked their time allotment in July and, therefore, will only work 80 to 100 hours in August but, of course, will be paid for the full 30 hours a week. After the month of August the 30 hour schedule will be maintained. This, of course, means a very material slowing down of operations on the project and, while I have no basis for this statement, I am rather apprehensive that it may curtail the progress of the school. However, I also understand that the main difficulty in connection with the school is not lack of labor, but lack of materials, so that it may be that the curtailment in hours will have no great effect on the completion date."

From letter of Dr. Timbres, August 3, 1935

"I have done nothing more on the medical committee since it seemed inadvisable at a time when the project is so much stirred up about reduction in their income. It seems useless to speak of putting the medical work on anything approaching a self-supporting basis until there is a far greater degree of economic stability than obtains at present. As far as any educational aspects of a medical program are concerned, I doubt if much intelligent interest could be aroused under present conditions."

100
Eastport, Maine
August 8, 1955.

Dear Miss Clapp:

I have taken the liberty of sending your letter and one from me, to Rex Tugwell.

I do not myself, know either the policies or the reasons.

I am getting back on the 10th of August and will try to find out. I am sorry I won't be back while you are in Washington, but I will try to see you a little later on.

I will let you know anything I hear. There should be some one in the department who really understands and sympathizes and who can go around to every town and explain things as they arise.

I hope this will not completely spoil your holiday for I feel you need a good rest in order to go back and meet the constant difficulties that must arise in all these new situations.

Cordially yours,

101
Eastport, Maine
August 9, 1935.

Dear Miss Clapp:

I already had a copy of the homesteaders petition and I thought it so good I sent it with a memo, straight to the President, telling him my feeling was that in the effort to be efficient from the economic stand point, I thought perhaps the division was forgetting the important human element, and that I hoped he would keep in mind the fact that I wanted him to go down and get a picture of the human side for himself, but in the meantime, to impress what he could on the Division in general.

I am really troubled because so far I have no actual radio work in sight. I feel sure that I will get some and I am hoping to see Mr. Baruch the end of this month. However, I will feel more secure when my radio contracts are actually signed!

I am enclosing a letter from Mr. Agger which sounds most encouraging.

Very cordially yours,

Miss Elsie Clapp
*James Myers, Esq.,
Cos Cob, Connecticut

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

We shall have possibly 15 of them; also the
"unplaced" teachers of Preston County.

Elsa Heland of Carson College has taken
Tygart Valley. Mrs. Mitchell and Miss Stanton
are giving courses at Cynthiana, help at Tygart Valley
and some assistance - at Westmoreland, Crossville.
Mrs. Mitchell will offer a course in the study of
Environment and human geography - helpful
to students who will have to face the development
of resources - in the locality of their assignment.
Jessie Stanton, on the community relations - with
The Nursery School, and ways means - of establishing
such schools on the projects -
Lee Stoll has consented to conferences on
Elementary work.

I hope to invite Dr. Dewey to give a course on The Philosophy of Social
Education.
I still lack a home Economics Teacher,
and such an assistant as we invited Lee Stoll to
become. I shall ask the Division for some
clerical help - , also.

I had not meant to discuss this end, but
nearly to be sure that the Homeholders petition
reached you. I am relieved & glad that it is
so reasonable a document. And I hope that
a prompt response to it by the Division, can be made.
It seems only fair.

I expect to leave Robinhood Sunday, and to
see Mr. Wagner on my way thru New York. Address Aug 12-15
Care James Myers, Co. Cob. Gms.

Sincerely yours
Eli - Craft -

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

Robin Hood, Maine
August 6, 1935

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:-

The homesteaders at
Cuthurdale on their own initiative, as far as I know,
drew up the enclosed resolution. Six of the seven men
who signed it, are the best we have - And I
think they have put their case well. I hope
very much that Mr. Tuques will give it his attention
and respond to it, for they seem to be meeting the
changes well. It would be fine if he could himself
talk this over with them. I expect to be in Washington
the end of next week, and shall try to see him, unless
you do not think this wise, so that I may understand
and cooperate. I shall be in Cuthurdale
by the 19th, and can then tell better exactly what
the situation is.

I enclose excerpts from
a letter from Bill Simpkins, and Mr. Timbra -
You will note that lack of materials is still
a difficulty. Also from Mr. Timbra, how
the situation affects plans to establish a "health
insurance" plan with the homesteaders -
on the project, if you are in Washington, I
may ask if I can see you.

You may have interest in
the two other enclosures: (one a tentative outline of
the probable developing community individual services
in the community; the other a discussion of plans for
training for the Division Community School directors at Cuthurdale.)

I find
that I
sent you
these.

August 23, 1935

My dear Miss Clapp:

I had a long talk last night with Mr. Tugwell and I think he is trying to work things out as quickly as possible. However, his many difficulties and the fact that he found some of the fundamental things in regard to the homesteads had never really been worked out when they were handed over to him, has given him a sense of impatience so that when new difficulties are presented he simply wants to push them aside rather than give them any consideration at present. I think this arises largely from being tired - and is what a great many of these men are feeling now - so it is probably best to smooth things over if possible for a while. I am hoping that something will be worked out by which the men can be caught up on pay. That seems to me the fundamental thing.

The fact that you visited the Treasury caused three people to telephone Mr. Tugwell to find out if you were speaking with authority for him. As you know this would annoy a man who feels that his Administration must begin to function. I think it would be better, if possible, for you to limit yourself to writing Mr. Agger or to me during the next few weeks until all of them get a chance to settle down and get a little rest.

I think something is going to be worked out to get the men started on an even basis where their wages are concerned. The trouble in New York has brought this to the fore. Both my husband and Secretary Morgenthau are conscious of the fact that something should be done.

Mr. Tugwell tells me that the general operating expenses are paid, but he is much concerned over the fact that in the schools we are not keeping to something which the people and the state can, within a year or so, support for themselves. This is something which bothers me also and I can particularly understand his point of view that even though we do special things and train teachers and managers for other projects, these teachers and managers cannot have the same things in the other projects with which to work. I think this is a problem to think over ourselves for our educational meeting at the end of October.

I haven't actually asked as yet about the school equipment and certain types of operating expenses, but will go over that with him later.

I was much interested in Dr. Timber's report and hope you will present it to the people down there. I am taking it up with Mrs. Elmhurst.

Very sincerely yours,

Miss Elsie Clepp
Box 73
Reedsville, W. Va.

S: DD

Hyde Park, N.Y.
August 27, 1935.

100

Dear Miss Clapp,

I am surprised to hear that the July 31st. pay roll has not arrived for I was told that it had. The trouble is apparently in the Treasury Department and has been universal. Mr. Tugwell is very aware of the problem and troubled by it, but I think he has reached a point where he felt he could get nowhere.

I telephoned him the day I left to tell him of an arrangement they were trying to work out in New York and he said he would try to work out something similar for the homesteaders.

I am sorry about Miss Van Syckle. Of course, Mr. Tugwell would have known nothing about her unless some one of us told him as it occurred before he took over the homesteads.

After my talk with him the other night, I realized that he has been quite overcome to find that the old administration had worked out none of the fundamental problems. All these things he has had to do and I think it has made him feel that a heavy deal was put upon him than was fair because he had to shoulder all the mistakes and try to clean them up. As things get straightened out, I think he will not have the attitude that he now has because he feels that he has more than he can handle.

I am glad that Mr. Straus is doing the calculations on reduction of cost. That was one of the things I talked over with Mr. Tugwell. He agreed it would be a good thing to do and would try to

As I wrote you, Mr. Tugwell's feeling at present is that he does not wish to have any one in with the administration, that when he finally gets things settled, it will go along much better than it has in the past. I think we must have a little patience and if you will write about things, I will do my best to take them up with him.

I will talk your letter over with him when he comes up this coming week end.

Very cordially yours,

ARTHURDALE
Reedsville, West Virginia

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Thank you very much for your letter received yesterday. You will be relieved to know that yesterday, August 29th, the two pay checks for July 1st to 15th and 16th to 31st were received.

Please assure Mr. Tugwell of my very keen desire to cooperate in any way that I can. I can imagine that the task is almost overwhelming. I have made inquiry here from Mr. Flynn regarding the cost of electric light. It has been sent to Mr. Morris Lewellyn Cook of the Electrification Unit at his request. The figures would seem to indicate that Arthurdale pays a very high rate and the families as you can see from the enclosed sheet, pay more than they possibly can afford. I would be very happy if you would turn over the data to Mr. Tugwell. He undoubtedly will wish to take it up directly with Mr. Cook himself. I have not collected the data very definitely yet on rentals, but I will forward it in a few days.

Wm. H. Straub
A telephone message from Mr. Tugwell yesterday asked us to omit the speakers program or a large celebration on Labor Day. We have changed our plans to comply with this request. Mr. Anner of the Resettlement Division is coming down here Wednesday to talk over the situation with the Homesteaders regarding wages and hours. The new rule about paying for their houses a month in advance the first of the month was transmitted to them by Mr. Flynn yesterday. After the delayed wages this is practically an impossibility and I am sure they will wish to discuss this with Mr. Anner also.

Please tell Mr. Tugwell not to worry about Arthurdale. A great many of the families show the hardship of the summer months and are pinched and worn, but the morale is as good as could be expected I think. Some dissatisfaction and a good deal of anxiety are balanced by an active desire to cooperate and an understanding of the need of sharing help with a great many other parts of the country. I am glad that Mr. Anner is coming down to talk the situation over and to make ^{clear} the ^{government} need of the various adjustments.

Very cordially yours

Elsie Ripley Clapp

Elsie Ripley Clapp, Director
Arthurdale School and Community

August 30, 1935
MRC:ab

Reedsville file
to be in letter (C)
Aug 30, 1935
Wm. H. Straub

C O P Y

August 27, 1935

POWER RATES AT REEDSVILLE WEST VIRGINIA UNDER PRESENT CONTRACT

First 100 KWH	.08	net
Next 1500 "	.05	"
Balance	.03	"

DOMESTIC RATES IN REEDSVILLE AND M LONDON

First 30 KWH	.08 $\frac{1}{2}$	gross	.06	net
Next 30 "	.06 $\frac{1}{2}$	"	.06	"
Next 90 "	.03 $\frac{1}{2}$	"	.03	"
All over 150 KWH			.02 $\frac{1}{2}$	

DOMESTIC RATES KINGWOOD

First 25 KWH	.07	gross	.06 $\frac{1}{2}$	net
Next 35 "	.06	"	.05 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Next 90 "			.03	"
All over 150 KWH			.01 $\frac{1}{2}$	"

Needsville, West Virginia
August 28, 1935

LIST OF HIGH AND LOW ELECTRIC BILLS OF HOMESTEADERS

			<u>High</u>		<u>Low</u>
Anderson	D-4	2/1/35	3.60	7/1/35	1.76
Barnes	D-1	"	3.68	10/1/34	2.32
Bates	B-6	"	2.32	9/1/34	.96
Boggs	D-6	2/1/35	4.56	10/1/34	2.56
Bosley	E-3	3/1/35	3.44	6/1/35	1.60
Brotherton	A-3	8/1/35	5.44	11/1/34	1.84
Calvert	O-6	"	2.64	10/1/34	.72
Casteel 4	D-5	2/1/35	4.88	9/1/34	2.96
Corley	D-3	"	3.00	10/1/34	2.96
Costlow	C-7	12/1/34	4.96	7/1/35	2.48
Forman	F-14	2/1/35	4.40	8/1/34	2.48
Haga	F-9	11/1/34	3.28	9/1/34	1.44
Hill	B-7	1/1/35	2.32	5/1/35	.80
Novatter	D-5	"	3.92	9/1/34	1.84
Night, J.C.	F-5	1/1/35	4.56	7/1/35	2.24
Night, W.B.	D-2	7/1/35	2.80	11/1/34	1.68
Lawrence	H-2	1/1/35	4.96	10/1/34	2.80
Lawson	F-4	6/1/35	2.72	4/1/35	1.20
Luzier, H.	F-15	2/1/35	3.76	3/1/35	.88
McNeilis	F-12	12/1/34	4.24	9/1/34	2.16
Malone	E-2	8/1/35	6.16	11/1/34	2.92
Mason	C-3	2/1/35	4.40	11/1/34	1.52
Maats	C-2	2/1/35	5.12	10/1/34	1.68
Murphy	A-2	12/1/34	2.68	6/1/35	1.04
Price	F-10	12/1/34	3.28	3/1/35	2.56
Pugh	3 Road	6/1/35	1.60	8/1/35	1.12
Riley, D.	H-1	8/1/34	3.44	8/1/35	1.12
Riley, E.	O-2	10/1/34	5.12	6/1/35	3.36
Robbins	B-3	1/1/35	3.92	7/1/35	1.36
Roscoe	A-4	12/1/34	4.96	6/1/35	3.20
Savage	D-4	2/1/35	4.00	10/1/34	2.24
Seybold	B-8	2/1/35	2.88	9/1/34	1.36
Sisler	G-1	1/1/35	5.92	6/1/35	3.60
Shuman	C-8	2/1/35	5.12	6/1/35	3.04
Squires	H-3	2/1/35	4.00	9/1/34	1.36
Swick	C-3	1/1/35	2.80	7/1/35	1.76
Tanner	C-1	5/1/35	3.84	10/1/34	2.32
Tennant	E-1	3/1/35	3.44	10/1/34	2.40
Tichenor, T.	F-3	6/1/35	5.68	6/1/35	1.36
Turnley	O-5	2/1/35	4.08	8/1/35	2.32
Watkins	F-8	9/1/34	4.16	7/1/35	2.08
Whittaker	F-13	2/1/35	4.08	8/1/35	2.32
Whytzell	F-7	1/1/35	5.04	10/1/34	2.32
Wilkins	C-3	2/1/35	4.24	10/1/34	2.24
Williams, W.W.	O-1	8/1/35	5.12	9/1/35	3.28
Williams, L.	F-2	8/1/35	2.24	10/1/34	.72
Wolfe, A.R.	B-9	9/1/34	2.96	6/1/35	1.80
Wolfe, Clinton	F-6	2/1/35	4.08	10/1/34	2.40

ARTHURDALE
Reedsville, West Virginia

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Thank you for your letter of August 23rd.

I do not know what is meant by "my visiting the Treasury." I do not know whom I would be seeing at the Treasury even. Mr. Strauss said something half joking about this when he asked me to return the copy of the budget which I left with you. Mr. Schrader who gave it to me did not indicate that I should return it at once. I promised Mr. Strauss that I would get it back, and I called up Mrs. Scheider. She told me that you had left instructions that it was to go to Dr. Tugwell.

On Saturday morning I saw Miss Roche, whom you remember I talked with last winter several times about our health problems here, and asked her if she could not come down and speak on Labor Day. While I was there Miss Roche spoke of the delay in payments at the projects as one of her own anxieties. I did not show her any facts or figures.

I would be glad if you would straighten out this matter in Mr. Tugwell's mind.

I saw Mr. Williams as you suggested and he has authorized work Study group of projects for the older unmarried boys and girls and also college and high school assistance for anyone we will recommend. He wrote to Mr. Callahan, his representative in Charleston, and asked me to plan it out with him. I am delighted that this is so and shall see Mr. Callahan in a few days.

Very sincerely yours

Elsie Ripley Clapp ^{per ab.}
Elsie Ripley Clapp, Director
Arthurdale School and Community

August 26, 1935 -

ERC:ab . .

ARTHURDALE
Reedsville, West Virginia

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park
Roughkeepsie, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Solution of the "Treasury visit" problem came to me in the middle of the night. At Mr. Tugwell's own request I went to see Mr. Pressman, head of the Resettlement Division legal department regarding Mrs. VanSickle's case. Mr. Pressman's offices are, I think, in the Treasury Building. I did not pay much attention to this fact at the time.

Sincerely yours

Elsie Ripley Clapp
Elsie Ripley Clapp, Director
Arthurdale School and Community

August 27, 1935

ERC:ab

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

August 24, 1935

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Hyde Park,
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I saw today a Mr. Kinney who has been working on Messrs. Gray and Mitchell's publishing proposition. He tells me that the plant will employ 187 people - 167 of them men. The Government Printing Office work is discretionary. Only the surplus work would be assigned outside, at the discretion of Senator Fletcher, (of Florida?). He has not himself seen Studebaker yet, so he does not know the prospect offered there. He considers the proposition very desirable, if a large and sure enough market can be assured.

I suggested that he see the manager of Woolworth's 5-10¢ Store, which is making now a large sale of good cheap books for children which schools and parents are using. Some of the best teachers in New York are writing for them. I think they employ one or more publishers. I also suggested that he communicate with the Adult Education Department of New York State, New Jersey, Connecticut, Ohio, North Carolina, Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania, which have in the last two years launched extension adult education programs that demand inexpensive and simply worded literature - difficult to obtain. A great deal of which these departments have had perforce to write and mimeograph themselves. He will look into these suggestions.

Clarence Pickett was here today, and Straus agreed to push the matter of decreasing rentals of homesteads. I am to send back data from Reedsville, calculating rental on one-fourth of income basis, which would decrease these from \$20 a month (calculated over a year ago on the 20 year contract bases, which has now been changed to 30 years) to about \$14.00 per month, - or perhaps less, I think.

Mr. Edelman of the United Hosiery Workers' project very kindly engaged the interest of Morris Lewellyn Cooke, of the Rural Electrification Administration, in investigating the 8¢ electricity rate at Arthurdale. The Resettlement Division neglected to take up this matter at the expiration of the year's contract with the Preston Power & Light Company (owned by Mr. Greer) on June 30, and the contract was automatically renewed. The contract (made by Mr. Smart) provides for power in bulk, at something less than 8¢. It is distributed at the project to consumers, I think, but will find out exactly on my return. Power is supplied to Masontown, three miles away, at a much lower rate. It

seems that the government is making a profit.

Mr. Cooke's investigation for Mr. Edelman's own project and his threat to install a power plant there has resulted in less than 2¢ rate. He will, as soon as I can furnish data, communicate both with the Power Company and Mr. Tugwell. Homesteaders pay \$3 to \$4.50 per month. My own bills have mysteriously mounted from \$5 to \$12 and \$14 a month, - averaging about \$9.00 a month.

Reduction of rentals and decrease in electricity charges and prompt permission for homesteaders to occupy the houses ready and waiting for them may serve to postpone an outbreak, if these ameliorations can be quickly made.

No payment to date (August 24) of the July 16-31 payroll, and none possible until August 30, I learned today. This month's delay, on top of reduced wages, will cause great hardship.

I am seeing Mr. Aubrey Williams this morning, and plan to return to Reedsville today or tomorrow.

Mrs. VanSickle has, through lawyers, appealed to Jennings Randolph to present a Congressional Bill for \$10,000 compensation. Mr. Tugwell referred the matter to Mr. Pressman, the head of Resettlement Division's Legal Section. Mr. Tugwell also sent a message asking me not to see Mr. Randolph, who had asked to see me. I saw Mr. Pressman, who told me that he had advised Mr. Tugwell that she had no claim against the government.

Mr. Pickett saw Jennings Randolph, who said he would not present it at this session just closing. Mr. Pickett advised him that her salary had been paid throughout the year, - also her hospital and doctor's bills. Randolph had asked Tugwell for facts two weeks ago, but had not heard from him. Her only other recourse would be to bring suit - if she can. No one seems to know whether she could bring it against me, as her employer, since I made out her weekly check, under the laws of West Virginia. My own lawyer in New York thought not. David Shaw is studying my personal liability under the West Virginia Law. Alice Davis has her on relief now. Her brother is in West Virginia politics. She is still injured, apparently, and of course impaired in earning power.

Jessie Stanton would be willing to contribute to a settlement out of court, as would I, although I would be very limited in amount.

I felt that you should know about the situation.

Sincerely yours,

Eric Ripley Gaff

ERC:F

Hyde Park, N.Y.
Sept. 9, 1935.

Dear Miss Clapp:

Mrs. Roosevelt asked me to send you this letter and to ask you why it was impossible to re-employ Mrs. Van Sickle at Reedsville. She does not want to answer it until she has heard from you. Will you please return it when you send your answer.

Very sincerely yours,

*Letter from
Mrs. M. Van Sickle
Reedsville
W. Va*

Feb —

Miss Craft

Reedsville

I thought you should see
the enclosed.

I think action of this
kind now would be singularly
unfortunate, and would make
all the old honest & decent
feel betrayed and unfairly
dealt with.

(a Social case worker of Ala. Dept.)
Mr. Reed appraised the
cases as he gathered
the Social histories after they
had been here many months.
The Washington Committee last
year had the data. They made
no such decision —

Just "new brooms" sweeping
without thought of consequences.

ETR Clap

COPY

In reply refer to: MA-8-GB Project M-WV 2

Sept 11 1935

Mr. G. M. Flynn,
Project Manager,
Reedsville Experimental Community,
Reedsville, West Virginia

Dear Mr. Flynn:

Five of the families mentioned in your letter of September 6 appear to be unsuitable for approval. In a number of cases the investigator's report refers to them definitely as not acceptable. A definite justification which will over-balance the present evidence is required before these families can be accepted for homes at Reedsville. I am listing these applicants below and making some comments regarding each family.

Ulman Shaw - Reference letters are entirely unfavorable and investigator's comment "not acceptable."

George Johns - Both personal and credit references are unfavorable and investigator's comment "not acceptable."

Harry Miller - References are inadequate. Those given show bad credit record. Investigator's comment "doubtful."

Clarence DeGolyer - Both personal and credit references are unfavorable and investigator's comment "doubtful."

John McLaughlin - References and investigator's report indicate acceptability of this family with the exception of Mr. McLaughlin's week-end drinking habits. This family cannot be accepted under these circumstances as the hazard to the other members of the community and to the reputation of the project would be too great.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Wendell Lund
Chief, Family Selection Section

Forwarded:

(Signed) C. W. Anner
Stranded Group Section

Keedsville, West Virginia

Mr. C. W. Anner, Chief Stranded Group Section
Resettlement Administration
Washington Bldg.
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Anner:

The letter from Mr. Lund dated September 11th (MA-8-GB Project M-NV 2) has just reached us. Before Mr. Flynn and I present justification for the acceptance of the five families referred to in the letter I wish to write and ask if under the circumstances this is really desirable and necessary.

It was agreed last spring with the committee of the Homestead Subsistence Division of the Department of the Interior of which Mr. Lund was himself a member that the homesteaders already accepted be issued final agreements as soon as the Department had prepared them. The families mentioned in this letter have not been presented by the local committee for consideration.

Two of the five families that Mr. Lund is questioning have been on the project from the earliest days. I know well all of these men and their families. If necessary we can substantiate their acceptance. The investigator's comment which was taken so seriously is simply his point of view. He was a young man loaned to us by Miss Davis' organization for getting full social history on the various cases. Quite obviously people who have lived for from three to five years in Scotts Run are not likely to have come off unscathed. I do not know finer people than Mr. Johns, Mr. Miller, Mr. McLaughlin and Mr. DeGolyer. Mr. Shaw I know less well. I would say that he and his family still living in a "Scotts Run" condition in or near Masontown need rehabilitation badly. Mr. Flynn reports him as a good workman.

What startles me is that there should be any question regarding people who have already been accepted and whom there has never been any question of reconsidering. I think before action is taken by the Washington committee in any case of the kind, inquiry should first be made of the local committee. The local committee for recommendation of Homesteaders consists of myself as chairman, Mr. Flynn and Miss Alice Davis as members.

Sincerely yours

Elsie Ripley Clapp, Director
Arthurdale School and Community Activities
and Chairman of Local Selection Committee

G. M. Flynn, Project Manager

September 13, 1935

ERC:ab
cc - Mr. Flynn, Miss Davis

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Letter for Miss Marie Ant. Tanya
3106 - 34th St.

2 breakfast table knives

Shirley - Rogers bed-springs
Tall George - dining room
Napkins 5th 16th 1st 1st

Tall Tommy by get room table
Name of set will be her Sunday night
from table - from window from table
~~for table 6.00 table~~

Tall Maria back Betty - Laura

2 1/2 size 4 Order Supper

Made 5 women back kitchen Tuesday
Place dinner room

Hyde Park, N.Y.
Sept. 16, 1935.

100

Dear Miss Clapp:

I think probably the best thing to do about Mrs. Van Sickle is to speak to Mr. Cox and see if he can not get her some kind of work in the schools which will give her a little more than relief.

I am very sorry for her and while I think her attitude is not justified, still I quite well understand that with the worries she must have, it is the normal way to react.

Perhaps we can get Mr. Tugwell to talk over with Jennings Randolph the possibility of getting her some kind of compensation which would allow her to really get well.

Cordially yours,

ARTHURDALE
Reedsville, West Virginia

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Hyde Park
New York

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Mrs. VanSickle has not been offered a position for this year in the Arthurdale Nursery School because she preferred last spring to apply for a teaching position in the Monongalia Grade Schools which would give her more salary and enable her to live at home and not have the double expense of a family in Morgantown and a room in Reedsville, and which would not be so hard physically. She cannot now do the lifting of children and blocks and cots, etc. required of Nursery School teachers. She thought so, and Alice Davis also.

I wrote Floyd Cox, Superintendent of Schools in Monongalia County, last spring in her behalf. She has taught in the grades in that County, I understand. He replied that he would help her if he could.

Alice tried to find light work for her this summer but she was able to do very little. So she arranged the relief of \$36 a month for her.

I am troubled about her. Mr. Pressman, the head of the legal section of the Resettlement Administration, has advised Mr. Tugwell, he told me, that she has no claim against the government. I brought this up last year in Washington at the time of her accident. And I saw Mr. Pressman and the man of the claim department of the Dept. of the Interior again about it two weeks ago.

Her lawyers asked Jennings Randolph to introduce a bill for \$10,000 damages. Clarence Pickett saw Randolph who decided not to introduce the bill at this last session.

I discussed with Clarence Pickett and others the question of offering her a nominal job at Arthurdale, but they felt--and I do too, that it was not advisable, and would result in her becoming a permanent pensioner.

I have no vacancies at the School. The arrangements for the Nursery Schools under WPA will not be made until October 1st. Salaries this year will be \$44 a month only. On direct relief, which Alice arranged for her when all other means failed last summer, she gets \$36 a month.

She has not applied to me for a job. When I last saw her last spring what she wanted was a better paid position in Morgantown in the grade schools. Her family, dependent on her, have always objected to her going to Arthur-
dale.

She might be given as a relief WPA worker to Arthurdale, by arrangement at Washington, for some clerical work, but this would yield her still only \$44 instead of \$36 a month and require double living expense again. Also there is the disadvantage of taking her on as a permanent pensioner. There is also the obstacle of her attitude. We carried her, as you know, on the payroll throughout the year, and her hospital expenses were paid by you, Miss Stanton, Mr. Flynn and myself, her doctors bills by you--a matter of \$720 altogether. Yet she feels badly treated.

I think Floyd Cox might be approached again for a school position for her, if she is able to carry the work.

I myself wish that any money spent on her could accomplish her recovery to full strength. It is difficult to tell just how well, or ill, she is.

Please let me know what you think best to do. I have wanted compensation for her, but failing that, have felt that the direct relief Alice arranged for her was the best, all things considered.

Sincerely yours

Elsie Ripley Clapp
Elsie Ripley Clapp, Director
Arthurdale School and Community
per ab.

September 12, 1935

ERC:ab

500 Elmira Street
Morgantown, West Va.
September 2, 1935.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I do hope you will understand the spirit in which I mean this letter. I have hesitated to annoy you, but you seem to be my last resort.

You will remember me as the Nursery teacher who was injured at Atturdale. I am now badly in need of a job.

This is my present situation. I am now the head of my family of five people on my relief direct income of \$9.00 a week. I know that is high direct relief but when you consider why I am on such, it surely is not.

I had myself and 8 year old son to support and part support of my

mother (semi-invalid). My brother
(a public health man) but doing
chief on Work Relief, was turned
off because of my relief check. Of course
that counted two persons from the
family. Now I have both my own
family, and my mother's family
on this meager income.

Must I lower my standard of
living down to rock bottom. I
can not get much farther. And
everyone will tell you I am, managing
in every way possible to make
things come out right but I can not.

Its not mind telling you frankly
that I am well known in my
town and state - and many people
are enraged at this shabby ^{way} I have
plainly been let down. Arkhurdale
has surely forgotten I existed
and I did a good job while I
was there.

I am in the greatest way in
sympathy with the Arkhurdale
project because I know Scott's Town
and I know Arkhurdale. It is a fine
and good piece of work. I do not

criticise or let anyone do so. I have always tried to cover up and make excuse for my plight when they are doing so.

But the fact remains, I must have something to do & something that will pay me a regular teachers salary. When I was strong enough to raise a garden - and do all the extra things to help, I managed on the 15th I received at Atchurdak. But I cannot do it now.

Why can't I have a grade to teach or something equivalent, if I can not, ^{ably to} do museum work because of physical strain. My own board of education refused my application with the answer, if I was not physical fit for Atchurdak, I was not fit for them. Won't you try to know ^{how} I felt when told this.

I am not asking large sums for my injury, and such. I am only wanting a job, a chance to earn a decent wage, so my child can have his place in the room with other

children. He is my world and I
am being forced to be a poor mother
in a land with a new deal, but a
very poor one to me personally.

Would you try to see my friend
and do what you can to find me
a place. I do industrial and fine
arts and have also a great amount
of home economics besides my
teaching in nursery and primary
schools. I honestly feel well equipped
to earn my living if given a chance.

Please do not feel I am criticizing
our Policy Administration in this
country. I am not. Miss Davis and
her aides have been wonderful to
both my brother and myself.

I only wish I could talk with
you for this letter may convey
an impression I do not mean.

I do not need to remain in
Washington to work. I really could go
most any where.

I am most sincerely yours,
Mabel VanSickle

100
file

ARTHURDALE
Reedsville, West Virginia

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have taken up Mrs. VanSickle's case with Alice Davis. I find that Mr. ~~COX~~ is not able to use her in the Monongalia County Schools because she is not able to pass the examination which all candidates for school positions now must take.

She has been promised a job by WPA in Adult Education. It has not started yet and we have no information as to just when it does start. Meanwhile, she is on relief.

Alice will keep hold of the case and will report to me again about it in a few days.

We are all very anxious to have the WPA begin to function. Our own Nursery School and our National Youth help for the older boys and girls both depend on it. I will let you know about Mrs. VanSickle again a little later.

Sincerely yours

Elsie Ripley Clapp

Elsie Ripley Clapp, Director
Arthurdale School and Community

September 24, 1935

ERC:ab

free

100

ARTHURDALE
Reedsville, West Virginia

Mrs. Malvina Scheider
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Scheider:

I am returning your enclosed letter from Marie Manning G6sch.

I have taken up the question of having the forge and shop open with Bill Simkin and Dan Houghton and they will try to have the sales room open. The forge and the furniture shop beneath are closed on Saturdays because the workmen are off on that day.

On August 31st Dan Houghton's sister got married and Bill Simkin was absent from the shop during the ceremony. The people from Kansas City he knew were coming but they did not let him know just when. There is a young girl in charge of the shop who has been very successful in making sales. Dan Houghton says that although they have a good many tourists who look at furniture and realize that this looking is an advertising, most of these people do not buy. The major part of the selling is in Morgantown.

There is real need on the project for a hostess over week ends. Those of us who work here must on Saturday and Sunday attend to our personal matters. The offices are closed and all the workmen are gone. The homesteaders are not working and are entertaining their families and friends in their own homes. The Mountaineer Craftsmen have made an effort to have their shop open during the hours our guests come, but it means that one of them takes charge. The school also feels the need of someone who is free to meet the constant stream of visitors. Mrs. Roosevelt and I have discussed this. Last spring we hoped to induce Lee Stott to come. I still have an urgent need of assistance such as she would have given me during the week. I think that it has an importance in the right kind of publicity for Reedsville.

We are all sincerely sorry that Miss Bosch and the Republican lady to whom she refers in her letter had this experience and will do our best to cover the situation more adequately. Thank you for sending me the letter.

Very sincerely yours

Elin. Jeff

September 25, 1935

1753 P STREET

Dear Mrs. Scheider:

On Saturday, August 31, I motored with a friend to Reedsville. The lady happens to be a bitter Republican, and it was not a good day to have taken her there. There was a wedding at Reedsville, which probably accounted for the way things were going. Only one shop was open, and this in charge of a very young girl who didn't seem to know about prices, or anything else. The forge was closed, and also the other shops. My friend and I made several purchases in the one shop which was open, and then discovered the prices were much more reasonable in the hotel shop at Morgantown, where Reedsville products were on sale.

Some important people, apparently, had come from Kansas City to make purchases at Reedsville. They had telegraphed from Washington the preceding day to a Mr. Simpson or Simpkins, but he was not there, and these people could not buy the furniture they wanted. They were Republicans, and were highly vocal in their disappointment. Several other cars turned in and left, because they could not get any attention.

The very young girl in charge of the shop told me that on Saturday afternoons most of the shops closed, but I understood from people in Morgantown that Saturday afternoon is the big purchasing time, and that it would be better if the Reedsville shops were kept

open them and the half-holiday given some other day in the week. The old lady who had charge of the Reedsville shop in the hotel opened it up for Mrs. Farrington and me, on Sunday morning, and Mrs. Farrington made several substantial purchases.

And we, Gasches have decided to use the copper metal sconces for wall lights at our camp in Fairfax, Virginia. I think they are miraculously cheap at \$3.00 a-piece.

If this Reedsville stuff will be the least worry to our ever-beloved First Lady please chuck this letter in the wastebasket and don't tell her anything about it. But after chewing over it for ten days, it seemed to me that she should know how things were going.

I suppose you'll be going to San Diego with the President and Mrs. Roosevelt, and here's hoping you have a swell time.

With all good wishes,

Cordially yours,

Marie Manning Gosch

100
October 16, 1935

Dear Miss Clapp:

I think October 21st will be
the best day for the school board meeting
and I will invite all the members to lunch
and then to come in to see Dr. H. H. to come in
at two o'clock for a short time.

Very sincerely yours,

S O

Miss Elsie Ripley Clapp
Reedsville
W. Va.

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

October 7, 1935

Mrs. Malvina T. Scheider,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Scheider:

I have just spoken with Mrs. Roosevelt on the telephone and my understanding is that she will let Mr. Pickett and myself know which day, namely, October 29, 30, or 31st, is convenient for her to call a meeting of the permanent advisory committee of the Arthurdale Community School.

Mrs. Roosevelt spoke of finding out whether this meeting was to be in New York.

I told her that Mr. Pickett wished to have Dr. Homer P. Rainey of the American Youth Commission, 744 Jackson Place, this city, present for the latter part of this meeting. Mrs. Roosevelt suggested that the committee meet from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and that after lunch Dr. Rainey be invited to come in at 2:00 o'clock.

Mr. Pickett felt that Mrs. Roosevelt should issue the invitations and I am enclosing a list of the people on the committee and their addresses.

Very sincerely yours,

Edwin Ripley Capp
Director, Arthurdale School.

October 25, 1935

100

My dear Miss Clapp:

Thank you very much for your letter. I have sent Alice Davis the \$50.00. I grieve that she is going to leave Morgantown but feel for her it will perhaps be a happier atmosphere.

See

I am delighted that Mr. Baruch's visit gave you a feeling that he understood the problems. That is what I have been wanting for a long time. I am most interested to hear about the visit from the General Education Board and shall look forward to the 31st when we have our meeting.

Very sincerely yours,

Miss Elsie Clapp
Box 73
Reedsville, W. Va.

S:DD

Box 73 Antioch, Pa. 15005
Ridgeway - W. Va.

10
October 22, 1935

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:-

Thank you so much for

The Christmas gift. It will bring a great

deal of happiness to all the people. Alice asked me to tell you

that Nedie said that the amount last year was
\$100.-, but that she thought \$50.- was plenty
for this year. They expect to be "pulling out"
any day now. Alice plans to study in Richmond.

I think it is a wise move. It will enable her to
revisit from another direction.
Pat. She

seems pleased & in this decision.
Mr. Barnhis visit

I hope

you had a great pleasure. No one

we got from it what he wanted. No one
that was visited brought to bear such penetrating
intelligence or more deeply sympathetic insight. I got

a great deal from his questions and comments. He will

in our case to raise what conclusions. He will
back to me a "report".

He thinks that the problem of sending the education that is being done
I think that he understands the importance of preparing some
what he thought will of the school. I am preparing some
data for the October 31st meeting with you and

The Com mittee.

Last week two men, Mitchell and

Harold Brunst of the General Education Board, spent
the day with us. They had been sent out to

visit places where something of educational interest was going on in order to report back to the Board what was happening in education with a view to reorganizing their policy regarding General Education. Rainey has been assigned funds from this Board. It may help us to have them acquainted with the work here. It also helped me to know something about the view of their interest. It tells around social studies at the High School and Young Adult level.

They had just come from the TVA and were impressed with the funds that they had for equipment, etc.

The legal difficulty that obstructed the forming a new business organization has been removed. We are just now forming an Amicable Association which will enable us to do business, form corporations, and if we wish they are organized & approved, install in Australia.

The first business is to be the Corporation General Store which will operate. I think my mother-in-law joint use & venture. Store committee is now planning for the kind of goods to be carried. We shall start it in temporary quarters in the shops and old Nursery School quarters in the center.

Soon after as part of the cooperative we shall start individual enterprises like a barber, a shoemaker, etc.

I understand that M. McGill has given an opinion which favors the way for a re-consideration of the Vacuum Cleaner factory. I wish that the negotiations for the publishing company could be moved past the present deadlock.

Everyone here is in good spirit. I was today today - Also some chicken pox! Also the new school has opening -
Sincerely yours -
E. L. C. Clapp

100
November 9, 1935

Dear Miss Clapp:

I think it is a very good idea to have the bulletin distributed by the Department of Education.

I understand from Mr. Pickett that Mr. Rainey and Mr. Works are going down on the 9th and I will be there on the 10th.

I have already written you about the change in the President's plans. He, however, has Arthur Dale very much in mind and I hope something definite will be arrived at.

Very sincerely yours,

S O

Miss Elsie Clapp

RESETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

November 1, 1935

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Hyde Park, New York.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Dr. Kelly asked me at the end of our meeting yesterday if I would find out from you if you were willing to have this report gotten out as a bulletin by the Department of Education for distribution. I said I would ask you. I will, of course, delete those portions of it which pertain directly to a Foundation, and leave merely the account of the school itself.

I am not sure that it is just right for this purpose.

I suggest that I get his reaction ^{to it} when copy of the report as given yesterday is sent him.

Will you let me know what you think about this offer?

Mr. Rainey, at the end of the afternoon, definitely asked me to draw up an application to his Foundation. He was interested in all the problems enumerated and asked me to budget each. He wants this material before January 1.

Sincerely yours,

Edward Ripley Clapp
Director
Arthurville School & Community.

Attachment

Handwritten notes:
J.H. Kelly
H.P. Rainey
J. ...
T. ...

November 27, 1935

Miss Clapp

My dear Miss Clapp:

Many thanks for the jars
of fruit and vegetables from Arthur-
dale. I know I shall enjoy them
very much indeed and it was more than
kind of you all to think of me.

Very sincerely yours,

Miss Elsie Ripley Clapp
Arthurdale
West Virginia

See Creed Maxwell

*I told her I was
to give you
all the names
& I want to
write each
one in the head
then who wrote
the last say
DD
& thank to
whole family
remembered.*

100
November 29, 1935

Dear Miss Clapp:

I had a long talk with Mr. Tugwell the other night and feel very hopeful about Reedsville and the homesteads in general. I think he has now come to the point where he can see the future of them clearly.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

SO

Miss Elsie Clapp
Reedsville
W. Va.

ARTHURDALE
West Virginia

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Thank you for your letter.

Mrs. Murray of the N. Y. A. Placement Section is here working on the data of the 16 to 25 year old group of boys and girls.

She feels now that obtaining jobs for them is the necessity.

The collection of data will, I am sure, be very beneficial. We have most of it, but hope that her collection of it and investigation will add to our information and put it into shape so that it can be presented for foundation aid, and can aid us in work with them.

For some time past the staff and I have been developing plans, many of which are already started, for work with the older high school students that will investigate and develop and study out, possibilities of the development later by older individuals in the community of small businesses. The students can test out and study into markets for various commodities such as honey, tree nurseries, cheese, chickens and eggs, quilts, clay, berries, etc. They are capable of training in the scientific care of these things so that as the next adults they will be well equipped, for later use of these facts.

We are not yet proclaiming this, but interested in working upon it.

Meanwhile I have also been at work, following suggestions from Mr. Williams on projects.

- (1) A project for the employment of boys and girls 16 to 25.
Boys in carpentry, plumbing, electricity and mechanics (on construction here); in forestry and agriculture and chicken raising.
Girls in practical nursing, as mothers' helpers and housekeepers.
Both as store and dairy apprentices.

Note: I found that the two earlier WPA projects for Arthurdale had been turned down. Mr. Flynn and I have just made one on the lines indicated above.

Handwritten notes:
Tel. Mr. Flynn about
the data for my call
I will be ~~with~~ about today

- (2) On a Free School Lunch Project employing 6 women and providing free lunches.

Note: We are serving lunches using food stuffs raised. It is cooked by volunteer help from mothers. Families are charged for milk and some foods. This project would give 6 people employment and save money for them. This project has been sent in for approval.

- (3) On a High School Aid project for 40 boys and girls (16-25). Prepared and sent in. Agreed to in Charleston.

Employment of boys and girls not in High School (16-25) is urgently needed.

This group which we rescued last year is going to pieces again. Either this WPA project must be approved--or I must find some other way (with Mrs. Murray's help) of getting more work for them.

All these efforts are needed especially at this standstill of work for heads of families.

There is a meeting tonight to organize the general store, which is I think now going through.

Day by day, life goes on well and vigorously, the people in good shape despite the delay in pay (the Oct. 16-31 pay roll not yet in) and the future uncertainty.

Sincerely yours



Elsie Ripley Clapp, Director
Arthurdale School and Community

November 22, 1935

ERC:ab

Tentative Sketch of Cooperative & Individual Enterprises.

*See
Miss Craft*

FOREWORD

The various branches of community business and trade may be grouped under two headings: Cooperative Enterprises and Individual Enterprises.

Both groups of enterprises will be subject to general planning and community supervision through the Cooperative directors. The groups are distinguished by the nature of the liability and the extent of the need or distribution. Thus, the Cooperative enterprises will be community liabilities and would meet almost universal, constant needs. The individual enterprises, on the other hand, would be the liabilities of the individual homesteaders who were engaged in such enterprises, and would meet the varying needs of some or all of the homesteaders. Both Cooperative and Individual Enterprises would require initial working capital supplied from outside the community, but handled centrally through the Cooperative organization.

COOPERATIVE ENTERPRISES

1. Stores. (in probable order of development)

Furniture - M.C.C.A. (in existence)
Seed - plants - fertilizer (in existence)
Grocery
Meat - butchery and packing
Hardware - tools and paint
Dairy products (growing out of school dairy Teaching Center)
Clothing and dry goods - manufactured goods.
Drugs, tobacco, notions and publications (ready prepared drugs).

Banking and Accounting - for all cooperatives.

2. Marketing.

Warehouse
Cannery
Chickery and incubation
Dairy
Milling - flour and feeds

3. Services.

Farm machinery with operators: horse team and wagon with operators
 Green house and hot beds (attached to school and on Edwards
 school garden tract)
 Trucking, including trash collection
 Automobile service station - gas, oil, tires, with mechanic
 Bus service
 Coal

INDIVIDUAL ENTERPRISES

Shops

Electrical shop
 Plumbing shop
 Painting shop
 Barbers
 Shoemakers
 Forge and horse shoe shop

Services.

Janitors - school buildings and offices
 Grounds caretaker
 School gardener
 Post Office
 Watchman and stoker
 Chimney cleaner and tinker
 Stenographers
 Bookkeepers
 Wet Wash laundry, with privately owned machines. Wet Wash.
 Mothers' helpers - older girls, day or night
 Dressmakers.

FOOT NOTES

Cooperative Enterprises

1. Stores - Separate groupings of goods rather than the general store pattern.
The dairy products and meat divisions would be in close conjunction so that one refrigerating system could be used. The dairy products division might sell sandwiches along with milk, ice cream, butter, etc.
2. Banking and Accounting - based on the authority and control of the Reedsville Community Association and serving as the financial agent for the community and bookkeeper for all divisions of the Cooperative. Collection of money, savings accounts and making of loans on seeds, whether on a cooperative or credit union basis, would be concentrated in one department. The management of such services as coal, trucking, etc. would be handled at this central office, located in available space with the stores.
3. Marketing - The warehouse, beside handling incoming freight shipments, would handle surplus produce, directing movements of vegetables for the market or for the cannery, eggs for market or storage, etc., canned goods for local store sale or shipment. Separate building on the Railroad is desirable for the warehouse and adjoining cannery.
4. Services - These services require an investment of money in equipment or buildings, as well as central management. Some of the services are interlocking, such as coal and trucking, direction of farm machinery operations and teams of horses, care of machinery, trucks, bus and the automobile service station. The buildings now used by the I.D. would house these services and much of the equipment, such as farm machinery, trucks, bus, tractors, etc. which are on hand, though not yet taken over by the Cooperative. Repairs, as well as new additions to the stock of such equipment, would have to be purchased, of course, as need arose, but there is a large amount of machinery and buildings already available.

Individual Enterprises

Shops - The electrical, plumbing, painting and machine shops would be operated by homesteaders who have specialized in these activities during the building construction work. Much of the necessary equipment for these shops is now owned by the Federal Government. These shops would handle repair work, and the electrical and plumbing shops would also sell fixtures and parts: light bulbs, fuses, washers, etc.

Individual Enterprises
Services FOOT NOTES (Continued)

Barbers - The only professional barber now operating is in Reedsville; he is reputedly sober on alternate Thursdays from 1:30 to 2:00 P.M. Several homesteaders have done "barbering". With a short course in a reputable barber school they could take over the community barbering. Two barbers would be needed to fill the demand. Capital would have to be furnished for the purchase of chairs, mirrors, tools and licenses.

Shoemaker - One shoemaker, specializing in shoe salvage and repair work, would be an economic measure for the homesteaders. He would need power machinery (shoemakers' lathes), a foot operated sewing machine, a supply of leather and various tools and accessories.

Post Office - Arthurdale is entitled to a third or fourth class U. S. Post Office, employing a postmaster and probably one official assistant. This is the kind of sedentary job for which there is at present a large need on the part of incapacitated homesteaders.

Stenographers, bookkeepers - These functions would probably be combined in those who were employed by the Reedsville Community Association.

Wet Wash Laundry - As homestead women begin to specialize in community businesses there will be an increasing need for a wet wash laundry service, operated by homestead women with their own washing machines.

Mothers' helpers - A field for older daughters of homesteaders. On duty day or evening basis, and particularly useful during post natal emergencies and sicknesses.

AFTER WORD

The cannery would be needed by the end of July. If a canning kitchen can be made ready here and no outside canner will lease it, the women here will probably be able to handle the work under an experienced director. It will be extremely important this year in order to lighten every woman's burden of canning at home and to take care of a surplus equal to or greater than last year's, judging by the amounts of seed purchased. The financial success of the Farm Co-op. may depend to some extent on the disposal of each homesteader's marketable surplus, because repayments of loans from the Co-op. will be affected. The future importance of the Co-op. too will depend to some extent on the ways in which it increases homestead incomes through gaining markets as well as reducing purchasing costs or advancing credits.

Other enterprises which can and should be initiated immediately are: Post Office, shoemaker, barbers, mothers' helpers, wet wash laundry, coal, meat butchery and packing and, later, milling.

The Co-op. Services Division could begin to function whenever the Government's operations are concluded. *Some will begin before*

The emergence of the Co-op. stores is dependent upon the availability of suitable locations. *Already planned with Mr. Wagner*

A printing press, used by school and cooperative enterprises, would be necessary in the near future, and has been offered by Mr. Gray in his publishing plant proposal.

Elsie Craft
George Bucher
Fletcher Colburn

July 15/35

NEW VERSION OF THE CO-OP.

The history of the farm cooperative of Arthurdale is as follows: The uncertainty of the homesteaders as to how they would finance their farming and gardening in 1935 had crystallized by January 2 around the proposal of Bushrod Grimes that the men meet to form a cooperative branch of the already existing Mountaineer Craftsmen Association. The meeting was attended by more than 50 homesteaders, and officers and directors were elected. Harry Robinson was elected president, which was fortunate for the organization, because of his previous experience in operating a chain food store and the respect with which he is held generally among the homesteaders. Harold Watson, of the Reedsville Farmers and Merchants Bank, was elected treasurer - also fortunate because of the prestige thus given to all the cooperative's business dealings. Miss Clapp was included in the executive committee along with Dan Houghton of the Mountaineer Craftsmen, and Andy Goldstrom, a homesteader, who in the previous year had become very familiar with the farming problems at Arthurdale.

The officers and directors hold meetings for determining the policies and activities of the cooperative and also meet with the directors of the Mountaineer Craftsmen, which is considered the parent organization. The experience in business which the M.C.C.A., under William Simkin, has gained during the past few years has made it the logical guide in the organization of the Reedsville Agricultural Branch.

During January estimates were made of the needs of members in farming for 1936 and a figure was set for the total. At a joint meeting with the directors of the M.C.C.A. and Federated Garden Clubs (another branch) the total was set at \$7,000 to cover the costs of lime, fertilizer,

seeds, equipment, etc. for 1935. This amount was granted in April.

At this late date the cooperative had to swing into action to insure distribution of materials to members in time for planting. Plowing, disking, etc. had already been undertaken by arrangements through the Department of the Interior. The cooperative had only to procure and distribute fertilizers and seeds, but another year this function of farm machine operations will probably be required of the cooperative. That will mean large expense in the purchase or rental of the machinery for which funds have not yet been made available. So far, only \$3,000 of the total grant of \$7,000 have been received.

Aside from the problem of operating the cooperative on \$3,000, there are other problems which have turned up in these few months of organizing and developing a farm cooperative. There has been no manager to devote his full time and energies to the actual work of ordering materials, weighing out and distributing them in the desired amounts to each member and to otherwise carry out the work which the officers and directors determine upon. Up till now the officers and directors have had to determine the policies and then do the manual or clerical work in whatever spare time they could. This arrangement was obviously necessary in a young organization which was not to take on full time business until it had grown up through the founding stages. Also it was necessary to cut down costs to the minimum since business had to be done on a capital of \$3,000.

For the present the Cooperative has tried to operate economically and to provide farm materials to homestead members at as low a rate as

possible. A major problem of the Cooperative is to estimate the re-paying power of its members - and as a corollary to this, to plan for such services as will increase rather than decrease this re-paying power - or cash income. In this light the problem of a farm cooperative becomes one of marketing and organizing community services and exchanges in such a way that each member of the community can make the most economical purchases possible and sell or exchange goods and services as advantageously as possible.

That is to name the problem in the large. But the more immediate realities of operating the farm cooperative thus far and developing it step by step do not allow of a sudden comprehensive plan or solution.

Such a matter as communication in Arthurdale raises many difficulties which slow down the development. It is difficult to hold large meetings of members and to communicate the problems which the total body of members needs to help solve, or rather to understand. We are finding that an understanding among all members of such a matter as the basis of making re-payments would be of great value. The meetings of members are small and so few are reached by the cooperative ideas that the group responsibility for the cooperative is divided up among 30 or 40 per cent of the membership.

The matter of collections is the chief factor this year in determining whether the farm cooperative can be shouldered by a fully responsible member-group. If the Cooperative is to expand and enter new fields of service it would probably do so on a cash basis. But the reason for emphasizing the promptness with which debts are paid this year is that the men are earning more money in homestead construction work than they have

reason to expect from their work in the future. The idea of a sound cooperative business has to be established while cash is at hand. In any case the \$5,000 has to be repaid before the organization can proceed along any line.

And payments are being made fairly regularly. It is still too early to know whether the cooperative will be able to start 1936 with a clean slate. It has performed an indispensable service this year the best way it could. Each new undertaking would have to be thought out carefully on the basis of what has been learned so far.

Above all it has been learned that the growth of the cooperative will be just as slow as the mental grasp of its members on the community problems. Many of the men see now that a cannery would be of great value here and a possible source of income. But the cannery cannot be a reality until a large number of the men or all of them see that besides grouping together to install a cannery (whatever it involves) they would have to group together in planning the use to which their land would be put and the problems of forming together on larger scales with certain divisions of labor and responsibility. A cannery could hardly be a full success this year because the men are not ready with their farm operations to fully supply it with produce. Yet they can learn slowly through the arrangements that are made and discussed from time to time in connection with home canning, school home economics and school garden for the wisest kind of handling of farm produce. Then when a cannery is to be set up they can stretch to another point in connection with larger scale of group farming.

But ideas grow slowly. The men are on the whole glad that there is no community farming this year like last year. They remark that it is good to be managing their own land and not getting confused about shares in labor and produce on community land.

Even so, this year the farm machinery has been used successfully by the whole group, and several groups of men on neighboring homestead plots have simplified their farming by group planning. The steps for even larger group operations, canning, marketing, are not distant.

Though the canning or marketing operations for the whole group of homesteaders is the next advance to make in the farming business, there are other steps which can be made in the general cooperative scheme. The one that is most pressing and which follows easily from the precedent of a seed store is a retail grocery store to handle staples and perhaps home-produced foods. The Needsville stores are both inconveniently located and high priced. A cash retail store here would be an immense saving to homesteaders and would have the psychological effect of making this community more self-reliant because of providing for its own needs and opening up work by which homesteaders themselves would earn money.

The retail store has then the possibility of expanding as described in the accompanying paper in Number 1. If it too can be made a success along with farming and marketing of produce then the cooperative idea will be strong enough to foster the other cooperative and individual enterprises which are considered of value to this community, as described in the accompanying paper.

To help in the success and handling of these businesses a cooperative manager is needed. He would be able to take the responsibilities from

the officers of directing the purchase and distribution of goods and leave to the officers and directors their responsibilities in planning the policies and activities of the Cooperative as a whole, as it fits into the life of this community.

An agriculturist who would be of tremendous help in watching over the farm planning and marketing for the homesteaders would also be of valuable assistance in consulting with the cooperative directors in deciding on cooperative problems which involve the farm planning as well as the business of the community.

George Beaman
Arthurdale Community School Board

July 15, 1935

December 13, 1935

Dear Miss Clapp:

A piano is being donated to
Reedsville and is being shipped in
your care.

I know about the Red House
situation, but do not know if I can
go down there. I am to see Mr. Tagwell
tomorrow and will discuss it with
him.

Very sincerely yours,

December 18, 1935

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My dear Miss Clapp:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to send you the enclosed copy of a letter she has received. She thought the suggestions might be helpful in the work at Reedsville.

Very sincerely yours,

Malvina T. Scheider
Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

< See: Miss Grace Tabor

Miss Elsie Clapp
Box 73
Reedsville, West Virginia

DD

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file

Arthurdale
West Virginia

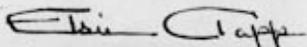
Mrs. Malvina T. Scheider
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Scheider:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of the copy of the letter from Grace Tabor to Mrs. Roosevelt, embodying the suggestions about garden work. I feel confident that we may use some of them. You and Mrs. Roosevelt may be interested to know that we have already started work along this line in the women's club. Mrs. Hardesty, who has a famous dahlia farm and lives in Kingwood, seven miles away, came over to the club about a month ago and instructed them in planting winter house plants. This talk and demonstration aroused a great interest and we plan to go on under her leadership in the spring. I shall be glad to share suggestions of the letter with her.

With best wishes for a happy
Christmas to you, I am

Very cordially yours



Elsie Ripley Clapp, Director
Arthurdale School and Community

December 23, 1935

ERC:zn

December 28, 1935

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My dear Miss Clapp:

I have just had a letter from Mrs. Freed, telling me all the things which she sent to Reedsville, and I think it is perfectly marvellous. I hope you will be able to find time to write to her and perhaps tell her how you distributed the things and something about the people's reactions. Also, perhaps some of the people might write her a little note of appreciation, or one letter could be drafted and all recipients sign it.

With all good wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Miss Elsie Clapp
Box 73
Reedsville, W. Va.

S: DL

Miss Elsie Clapp

Box 73
Arthurdale, West Virginia

January 4, 1936

Y. A.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Enclosed is a copy of the report and budget which I am sending to Dr. Rainey at his request.

It is intended to pick out the salient features of those problems at Arthurdale in which he thought the Board might have interest. Copies of "Arthurdale - a School" he has, and will give to his Board as background material.

If you wish any other copies of this material will you communicate with Miss Foley, Mr. Pickett's Secretary.

Very sincerely yours,

Elsie Clapp

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

ARTHURDALE - A SCHOOL

The educational experiment at Arthurdale embodies an attempt to discover the nature and scope of social education through the agency of a school in a rural district.

This homestead village community affords an excellent laboratory for research. Because the community is new and is in process of organization the need for social education is actual and urgent. Adjustment to a new environment, new work habits, different living conditions, necessitates learning. Recognition of the fact that this adjustment was inescapably an educational process suggested the establishment of a center school which would direct learning at all age levels.

Education at Arthurdale includes direction of a social health program, training in agriculture and in trades and occupations, guidance in civic activities and organization, in recreational and cultural facilities as well as schooling of children and adults. It includes a nursery school, an elementary and high school, post high school training for boys and girls and education of adults. Teaching and learning take place not only in class rooms, laboratory, shop and library but also in the houses, on the job, on the playgrounds, and in town meetings.

The center school which guides these various activities integrates them so that they relate and reinforce one another and become effective. They are all considered part of the educational program.

"Arthurdale - a School" is a true description. The community is the school. And the school in all its activities and interests is Arthurdale. There is literally no division between learning and living. Birth - sickness - committee meetings - milking - raising chickens - plowing - planting - harvesting - canning - buying and selling - building - dancing - debating - building a school bus - cooking a school lunch - celebrating Christmas - printing a newspaper - learning to read - acting a play - working in the greenhouse - killing a pig - running the school community bank and bookstore - furnishing the log cabin museum - working on chemistry of soils and food - cataloguing the library - are educational experiences.

Here if anywhere we may discover what education is where learning and living are one; or where they are indivisible.

Arthurdale is a laboratory of social science and the art of living, and should discover to us the responsibilities and opportunities of rural education. Careful record should be kept of the work and study expended upon it so that the results may be contributions to rural education in this country.

Arthurdale is a growing village in a remote rural area of upland farm country in a mining region. The village will be as large when it is completed as the other towns of its sparsely settled county (Preston County, West Virginia).

Rural Education.

Its school is a rural county school. A rural school has a unique and special responsibility. In remote rural areas it offers the sole means of education to its boys and girls in literacy, in culture, in social responsibility, in recreation, in vocational and agricultural training, in ways and means of health. It is the commonly accepted place for social gatherings. It supplies the ideas and ideals, the interest and news, the life of the community.

The possibility of facing this responsibility squarely and of developing the opportunity for social and intellectual leadership that it has inherently, is interesting educators everywhere.

It is not too much to think that the school that is Arthurdale can make real and clear how this responsibility and opportunity can be met and used. If it can, it is important to do it, for the development of rural education will be the next great step in education. No one can be complacent about education in this country until country schools develop their special functions and equal our best city schools in quality and thoroughness.

Plans and curriculum of the city school are ill adapted for country use. Rural schools must develop the practices, curriculum and activities that suit their special needs. It is interesting to note that the County Boards of West Virginia and Kentucky for example, are reorganizing their courses of study.

A rural area has on every hand the best possible natural educational resources in the soil, rivers, trees, flora, birds, rocks, in the processes of farming, sawing, quarrying, grinding, road making, wool shearing, raising of pigs, cows, chickens. It can provide basic understanding, fundamental knowledge for study in books and laboratories. What more desirable basis for biology, geology, botany, agricultural chemistry could be found! History, geography find their base here, too.

The country, especially the remote rural areas, offer opportunity still for research in folk lore, art, drama, balladry, fiddling, historical traditions - the essential features of American rural culture. A rural area needs development of communication and the growth of good rural newspapers and radio exchange, as well as investigation and use of its potential economic opportunities.

Reorganization of materials and methods of instruction, organization into bulletins and texts, collection of its traditions and lore and arts, husbandry of its cultural contribution becomes the duty of educators, scientists, historians - of all Americans.

The Span of Education.

The educational experiment at Arthurdale has a full life span. It is continuous from the age of 2 to 80. It can deal with people from infancy

to old age consistently and progressively. The work so continued gains tremendous momentum. Capacities can fully expand, training may be completed, growth can take place, developments may be carried through.

Interpretation of Learnings.

As it deals with all age levels simultaneously it has a real chance to recondition and to affect changes. For the learnings of one group penetrates the others. Parents hear what their children are being taught; the children of different ages learn from each other and from their parents. When this condition exists, learning and changes take place rapidly.

The interest in care of colds and infections at school health-inspection, the study of hygiene by boys and girls of six to sixteen, the practices of physical routines by little children, the high school students' study of physiology and bacteriology, the men and women's discussions of sanitation, nutrition and disease, the mothers treatment before and after childbirth, care in illness and convalescence, the homesteaders' medical cooperative health committees work, are separate learnings that affect each other and that, put together, make educational the social health program, in which the doctor and nurse, the children, parents, and boys and girls are both teachers and learners. The education of the little children at the nursery school and the study of the older girls and mothers of child care and nutrition are mutually educative.

Civic understandings and attitudes are built just because the second grade constructs a village when their fathers are building Arthurdale; because committees of children clean the lunch room and mothers prepare the school lunch; because high school students have the responsibilities of assisting adults in janitor service, clearing the woods, doing library and clinical service, while men and women serve on committees for sanitation, dance regulation, neighborhood help and visiting the sick, store and farm cooperatives. Understanding of cooperatives by adults is increased by the high school's study of these.

Within the indivisible whole of the community living and learning certain specific educational problems can be detached for special description.

I. Reconstruction of "High School" Education.

The education of older girls and boys consists of work and study in high school and for one or two years following. It is proposed to deal with this training as a whole.

The older boys and girls of post high school age at Arthurdale are driven by hunger for work - for a job. They are not equipped to cope and wrestle with the problem of learning their living. Their early education has been scant and meager. Most of them left school at the 4th or 5th grade, 8 to 12 years ago. Their experiences have been few and haphazard and very

limited. They have ambition and restlessness and habits of idleness and desultory work patterns. Their years of unemployment out of school have deprived them of normal attainments in learning or any development of abilities. They are untrained in every way. Chances for a job in the region are practically nil. All forms of industry being committed if and on revival to employment of their former employes.

They have had occasional employment as laborers on the project, have worked in shop and night classes at the school, have engaged in athletics, in clubs and in recreational activities. All this leaves them pretty much where they were. It has stimulated their ambition but has not changed or satisfied them.

We have now developed a plan of study and economic activity which will better meet their needs.

The school proposes to investigate with them various enterprises which may lead to individual or group businesses, and to train them for these, guiding the early stages of their development.

This plan involves also work done by high school students whose schooling, though meager, has been continuous and has rendered them capable of study and experimentation along practical lines.

These high school students will study

Rural Produce:

Foods:

Butter, cheese, honey

Greenhouse:

Shrubs, seedlings, vegetables

Poultry and eggs.

Canned specialties.

Chemistry:

Fertilizers, soils, disinfectants.

Plant and animal metabolism, nutrition.

Foods, feeds, dairy products.

Fuels, preservatives.

Consumer research.

By-products, distillation, waste,

Clay.

Glass and minerals.

Biology:

Dairy health: selection in cows, chickens, etc.

Water tests, certification of milk.

Insect pests, diseases.

Bees.

Helpful bacteria, yeasts, moulds in soil.

Plant and animal biology: plant selection, grafting.

Economics:

Production, marketing, calculating costs, buying
Essentials of business management
Accounting and bookkeeping.

The post high school students will, as far as they are capable, share in these studies, on the practical side. As a graduate enterprise, they will conduct whichever small businesses prove practicable. It is still too soon to know whether the raising of plants and shrubs, bees, broilers and eggs in the off season, berries, herbs; clay; lime fertilizer, will yield enough means for livelihood, although it now seems likely.

If any prove feasible, it is proposed that the post-high student apply to the business cooperative (now operating the general store and about to sponsor a barber, shoemaker, and oil and gas station) for a small capital as a business loan, and under the schools' supervision develop this business, which if successful, may come to require the services of older family members or of several boys in partnership.

The high school students will receive thorough training in scientific methods and principles, in the essentials of business management. They will explore various natural resources of the region for their possible commercial development and community use - their work along these lines will be a more thorough preparation than that possible to the older uneducated boys.

The high school program will involve also study of language and history and mathematics, use of library resources, laboratory methods. The work in shop, in art, music, drama and printing will be open also to the older students. Athletics is open to both groups.

The older girls who are out of school have part in certain phases of this work - but are also given training in practical nursing, child care, work of mothers' helpers and housekeepers for which there is now some demand on the project and in the region.

Like the boys, they will share in some of the high school work if they can - as, for instance, in domestic science courses, in physiology, in bacteriology, industrial arts (weaving and pottery), in chemistry of foods, courses in business management and accounting and in the courses in shop, art, music, drama, printing, and in athletics.

II. Education of the Men and Women.

The program of adult education for both men and women bases itself on their needs.

The education of adults is at Arthurdale required to be useful and within their capacity. It must address itself chiefly to learning to face and to use different living conditions, new work, wider opportunities. They are skilled mine workers, well paid, who have gone through a period of non-employment, existence on dole, bitter destitution. They are faced with an opportunity to farm a small plot, to earn a small amount of money on

which they and their families must live. They must learn farming, new trades. Most of all they must learn to manage on small wages. As members of a growing village they have to learn how to live together and to cooperatively organize and develop this community - they who in all their lives as miners were accustomed to company town-mine camp living where no civic responsibility was demanded of them, where they did as they were told and where they bought on credit in company stores.

Any educational program must include teaching and learning in social and civic activities; in personal responsibility; in social relationships; in understanding their present problem in agriculture - how to farm; in trades; in management of money.

Education of the Men.

Most of them are able to read a little and write, but few can read easily or have any habits of reading, and most of them learn better from experience than from instruction.

So the educational program is a plan for learning through doing.

They are being taught new trades through the construction work on the project.

They are learning through committee work village organization and government.

They are learning agriculture by farming their own land with instructions from agriculturists.

They are slowly learning to cooperate and work together on shared enterprises through work on committees and in their clubs, farm cooperative and business organizations.

Their standard of sanitation, hygiene, cleanliness, recreation are being raised through the learnings of their children and themselves in all the varied activities of the health program.

They are learning to save money and to live within their incomes, to budget expenditures by the help of the school and community bank and cooperatives.

They are learning how to make what they want and need in the school and community shop.

New forms of recreation (besides drink and sex), athletics, music, plays, shop work, crafts, etc. instituted by the center school.

The methods of adult education have been unusual in character:

Conditioning surroundings

Teachers living with them as neighbors and working with them.

Shared and guided enterprises.

Contact with different points of view, standards, expectations.

Events, businesses, organization of the community.

The school's teaching of their children.

The varied interests, studies, activities, demands, opportunities

introduced by a center school.
Exposure to new experiences.

Instruction designed to meet their special needs has been given where it was needed along lines of: skills - occupations; rudiments of education (reading, writing, spelling); agriculture; crafts, music art; business experience, training in organization; general information; acquaintance with history, current events, biography, travel, etc.

Education of the Women.

The women who lived "out of cans" have had to learn how to farm, to put up vegetables and fruit, to butcher hogs, to raise chickens. Some knowledge of cooking and washing and sewing they have had, but they know little or nothing of food values, of budgeting, of thrifty living, and are unacquainted with improved methods of cooking or housekeeping.

They have large families. The birth rate is high. Since they came to the project they have for the first time received prenatal, delivery and postnatal care. Most of them showed the privations they had suffered in undernourishment, in strain, in serious lack of all medical care or surgery for a period of three to seven years. All needed dental care. Many were so exhausted as to become seriously ill and require in some cases operations which care and rest might have avoided. Aside from specific difficulties and ailments they have all improved remarkably in general physical condition.

They receive education in all phases of home economics. Also in child care, in physiology and practical nursing, in baby care. They eagerly use opportunities to read, to sing, to paint, to dance, to act. Social gatherings, club meetings, games, outdoors and athletics, study of plants and flowers, they enjoy and appreciate especially. They have skill, a number of them, in sewing and quilting, weaving and pottery. They are hard working, capable for the most part, clear-headed and unbelievably energetic, ambitious to learn and eager for new experiences and new contacts.

It is quite possible that the neighborly services of making clothes, quilting, washing, may develop into home businesses.

B U D G E T

HIGH SCHOOL AND ADULTS

<u>High School</u>		<u>Adults and Community</u>		<u>Total</u>
<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Teaching</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Director of High School Supervision of Science History & Language	\$1,800	Agricultural & Economic Development	\$400	\$2,200
(Mathematics-Economics)Athletic Director	\$1,400	Athletics	800	\$2,200
History of Industry Director of School businesses	\$1,400	Accountant at large	400	\$1,800
Chemistry and Forestry	\$1,200	Forestry	400	\$1,600
Librarian High School Library	\$ 400	Community Library (Evenings)	200	\$ 600
Shop - All Classes Wood working metals, electricity, printing	\$ 700	Shop Adults	200	\$ 900*
*(1/2 time H.S.)				
Music-Drama Literature	\$1,400 \$8,300	Director of work in Rural Culture	800 \$3,200	\$2,200 \$11,500
Agricultural-Biologist Plant & Animal Biology	400	Greenhouse, Nursery Chickens, bees, etc	1800	2,200
Mechanics-Physicist Construction & Machine	400	Construction and Machine Problems	1,800	2,200
Domestic Sciences High School Classes	800	Home Economics Houses & School Center	1,200	2,000
Industrial Arts Weaving-Pottery	600	Weaving Pottery	1,200	800
	<u>\$ 10,500</u>		<u>\$8,200</u>	<u>\$18,700</u>

THE NURSERY SCHOOL AT ARTHURDALE.

A nursery school in a rural district is of great, of almost incalculable importance.

In rural areas little children are brushed into the corner of the parents' busy lives. A nursery school provides conditions favorable for their growth and development. By its physical routines and its care and handling of children it establishes habits of toilet, eating and sleeping, relationships with others, emotional equilibriums and muscular coordination which will foster their growth and development and offer the best safeguard against the undesirable psychological results of isolated living, and the surest guarantee of health. By its care of the child and regard for his own individual development it clarifies his understandings, stimulates his observations and constructive activity and fosters initiative.

It gives parents the opportunity to learn how to care for and handle children. They are able to see and understand there the effects of the conditions that aid their growth, of food, rest, physical and emotional habits, cleanliness. It affords a needed laboratory for study by older girls of the care of children, of their nutrition and psychology.

It answers a felt need of busy overworked mothers with large families; its values appeal to every household. So it operates as a center of interest and learning for the community.

Budget.

Nursery School (120 children)

1 Director

\$8,000

Supervision of work of school

Supervision of work of high school)students

Supervision of work of post high)child care

Parent Education

1 Dietitian

Nursery school lunches

Supervision of students' work on nutrition

Food demonstrations for mothers

6 Teachers

4 now teaching

2 to be chosen from homestead students.

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN AT A RURAL SCHOOL.

A rural elementary school is primarily concerned with the learning process, with gaining understanding of the physical and social environment; with the skills that give children ability to communicate, to widen their information, to command and use their resources; with experiences that induce the habit and practice of working, of thinking, of investigating, of getting along with other people, of understanding and handling themselves; with gaining personal resources, emotional releases, lasting satisfactions, experience of success and achievement.

A rural elementary school has a special function: it provides the only schooling the child gets, it brings him into contact with those facts and experiences which otherwise he would never know; it is the place for acquaintance and social contacts; it introduces him to the world outside his locality, it supplies him with knowledge of standards, ideas, customs, events, aspirations, facts, outside his own life.

It teaches him the meaning of his experiences, gives him knowledge of the means of investigating the environment about him.

It has the most responsible task of any educational institution - for except by its help, he cannot gain these things. There are no theatres, museums, zoos, aquariums, concerts down the road to supplement his learning.

The problem of how to use this rich natural educational material - this environment, and how to give it meaning and render it useful; of how to supplement it and widen and enrich experiences, is the problem of the rural elementary school; how to do this at each stage of growth and maturity, at 6, 7 and 8, at 9, 10, 11 - how to arrange for the right sequence of learnings.

At Arthurdale the village in process of construction, the road work, the farms, the transportation, the community services of forge, blacksmith shop, store, post office, bank and book store, central heating plant, wells, drainage systems, railroad, etc. have offered unlimited educational materials. The woods, the soil, the creek, the trees, flowers, birds, the rocks, the pigs, cows, chickens, are rich resources. Studies of weather, of communication, of state and county and homestead produce, of industry and manufacture, of local and national government, of topography, of more extended geography of other states and countries; study of the history of the region, of earlier pioneering and later settlement of towns and cities, leading in the understanding of people and their lives in distant places and early periods have expanded their understandings.

The school has found what every rural school may discover - the opportunity it uniquely has as a country school. Further: the special homestead enterprise has enriched the rural life with special meaning and reach.

The elementary school has especially the responsibility of gaining ability in the skills of reading, writing and arithmetical computation that will

not be gained in the country except through instruction.

It deals directly both by study and in routines with problems of personal hygiene and health.

Through shop work these younger children gain ability in the use of tools and the practice of working and of making what they need. They grow up in the practical use of mathematics in shop, cooking and in buying and selling at the store and of saving money in the school bank. They learn the enjoyments and resources of music (singing and instrument making), of art, of pottery, of weaving, of dramatic play.

The special interests of the school at these age levels are: study and use of the environment; development of a curriculum of study and of active learning which every rural elementary school might use; achievement in skill, in habits of working and thinking, in information, in methods of study and investigation, in interests and activities; establishment of health - which are of enormous importance in the development of a generation that shall be equipped to cope with their own problems and succeed in the understanding and use of their environment.

Budget.

<u>ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</u> (8 grades, 550 children, 10 classes)	7,100
3 specially trained teachers, half time of shop teacher	
Training of West Virginia teachers	
Teaching of a grade (for the present I, II, IV)	
Adult Education and Community Work	
Teaching Work with adults	
Grade I - Supervision of School lunches and voluntary cooking group of mothers	2,200
" II - Work on health program	1,800
" IV - Curator of log cabin Museum of pioneer life Collector of historical data of region	2,200
Shop Teacher Work in library - half time	900

TRAINING OF RURAL SCHOOL TEACHERS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS.

The school functions as a model demonstration school for the county and region. The group following are now using Arthurdale as a normal school.

West Virginia teachers assigned by the County now teaching in the school.

Arthurdale High School graduates and young adults on project (a) preparing for teaching positions in the Nursery School; (b) taking a preliminary course prior to work in the State Normal Schools.

Practice teaching students of the State University 17 miles away.

Community managers selected by the Resettlement Administration.

Supervisors and visiting teachers from State and County.

It is planned to extend this course to:

Local teachers who come for the particular instruction in modern educational methods.

An extension service in Preston County.

University students of education.

Rural teachers from outside who come for training in community rural school education.

College graduates and university students at large.

Mothers of the homestead (in cases where this is feasible).

It seems important if rural education is to be improved that some place such as Arthurdale be used as a training center. It would seem advisable to use Arthurdale as an illustration of a socially functioning rural school (examples of which are lacking) and to offer courses in:

- Study of environment
- Rural culture
- Folk lore, music, drama
- Curriculum of a rural elementary school
- Curriculum of a rural high school
- Social rural health program
- Community and school relationships
- Philosophy of education
- Teaching and learning of older people.

RURAL CULTURE

At Arthurdale and in the surrounding country-side there are already present a fair number of the factors of American rural culture.

Arthurdale, through its school, should function increasingly as the cultural center of the rural region in which it stands. In this connection, there can be little doubt that both the community of Arthurdale and the upper Monongahela Valley which surrounds it are culturally as average and typical of rural America as any localities one can mention. In other words, the ballads the homesteaders at Arthurdale have always known are the same ballads that are sung with only minor variations, from Maine to Texas, - in fact, wherever rural America has been settled by English speaking people.

The opportunity through the school at Arthurdale is first of all to collect, assemble and present an integrated, comprehensive picture of American rural culture. This opportunity demands both scholarly research and active participation in all phases of that culture. Conditions for research are unusually favorable. On one hand, we at Arthurdale are accepted by the possessors of rural culture as friends and participants; we are, therefore, able to overcome the customary rural reticences and to get the thing out whole. On the other hand, we are fortunate in having as an interested co-worker in the field of West Virginia folk lore and balladry, Professor Louis W. Chappell at the University of West Virginia, in Morgantown. Professor Chappell has the most complete collection of ballads and folk lore. His collections and his scholarly understanding of them make him an ally of inestimable value.

The phases of traditional rural culture as we have observed them in this region and at Arthurdale are as follows:

Folk Lore. Including animal lore, weather lore, witch lore ("tokens"), proverbs, riddles, and a certain amount of sex lore in connection with the rural concepts of courtship, marriage and social behavior. A study of this phase of rural culture would be particularly helpful to a better understanding of the psychology of American people.

Music. There are several aspects of this rural art. There is the vocal music of balladry and lyric songs, as well as the "gospel songs." There is also the instrumental music of guitars, banjos, mandolins, and (occasionally) dulcimers to accompany the singing. The instrumental music of violins, guitars, banjos, and mandolins has a further expression as the music for square dancing. A collection of fiddle music would be of great service to American composers, and would, of course, serve as the basis of further developments in rural orchestral music. Another aspect of rural music is

the rural craft of instrument making, mainly the making of fiddles. Through assistance from Arthurdale a fiddle-maker who lives in the back county is now on the way from relief to the ownership of a small music craftsmen's shop. The school is also training some of the older boys in the making of fiddles and guitars. Such efforts could, if continued and expanded, lead to the development of American music craftsmen comparable to those of some European countries. The annual Music Festival at Arthurdale is one way in which the attention of the region is focused on rural music, and is a time when group encouragement and sharing of the art is uppermost.

Square Dancing. This art is closely allied with the music. Its figures and patterns are traditional and subtle, and would certainly be the basis for development of the dance in rural America.

In addition to the aspects of rural culture already present in the Arthurdale region, there are a number of cultural activities fostered and proposed by the school to be built into the existing culture in order to extend the scope and consciousness of that culture.

Newspaper. An important instrument in developing rural culture in this region would clearly be a rural newspaper. Rural culture has so often atrophied to the remote, isolated communities because there has been lacking a means of recording, communicating and thereby sharing such a culture with other rural communities. A newspaper dedicated to the dissemination of rural culture would be an effective agent for the cementing of inter-community relations life. Such a publication would also have a valuable function within the community of Arthurdale; gossip, rumor, and hearsay would be replaced by accurate information which would reach every homesteader and would bring him closer to his neighbors. Also, through its recognition of individual achievements, it would be a means of encouraging useful patterns of activity. The form this newspaper would take is not easy to predict; indeed, there is a distinct place here for research into the nature of a functional rural newspaper. At present we are developing within the school a school newspaper which is the first step towards a community newspaper. For the latter venture, and indeed for all research and production in the field of publication, a power press will be necessary.

Drama. Both adults and school children have been active in what is to them a new form of expression, drama. The children dramatise freely both from experiences in the school curriculum and from random, essentially poetic impulses. Because there are practically no printed plays which are pertinent to the experience and ability of the children, and because much more than mere stereotyped acting is in drama work, the children have consistently produced plays composed by the producers. This experience is in the best sense creative, and thus has for the participants a psychological satisfaction in expressing and ordering their experiences. The adults, after first insisting upon minstrel shows for their productions (they knew no other type of drama), have now reached the channel of original composition which

which the school children had earlier dredged. The latest adult play was a rollicking satire on the predatory activities of newspaper reporters in Artburdale; the psychological value of such a production is obvious. Earlier, the adults composed and produced a play based upon a number of the traditional ballads of the region. The finished play was music drama, and constituted the actors' first gropings for a symbolic, poetic form of dramatic expression. Both the adult and children groups are, in other words, established in the kind of drama composition and production which is uniquely capable of developing an authentic rural American drama. It is even possible that in time the American theatre may be born from such productions as Artburdale's based, as they are, upon the bedrock of indigenous experience and culture.

FLETCHER COLLINS,
Director of Music & Drama.

HEALTH PROGRAM

Like hundreds of other counties, Preston County lacks any clinic or school nurse or dentist. The County Board of Health is cooperative, but can do only the regulative work of their large county whose population is widely scattered.

At the school center is located the doctor's office and clinic. Starting from the background of docked wages for indifferent mine doctor's services, it was thought best to make medical services available on the project until there was recognition of the need and value of good medical care. Three to seven years lack of medical care created many urgent needs and physical defects and conditions that had to be removed before health could be a possibility.

A doctor and nurse have carried out a health program in cooperation with the School; daily inspection and treatment of children, dispensary and accident service, care of prenatal cases, bedside nursing and advice on personal hygiene. The doctor has discussed with the men's club problems of sanitation and has given a series of talks to the women's club on children's diseases and preparation of foods, care of milk, etc.

The doctor and nurse work unceasingly, and even so can hardly meet the demands upon them. We are giving as a W.P.A. project a course in practical nursing this year. Courses in physiology, some simple work in biology and bacteriology, chemistry of foods, cooking, hygiene, exercise, rest periods, athletics, all reinforce the medical program.

Baby clinics, talks with mothers through the summer, advice on food and hygiene, school diets, exercise, and better sleeping habits have aided the young children. Last fall practically every Nursery School child had skin disease; by spring it was completely eradicated.

This fall only a few cases reappeared. The change in the appearance of the children is almost unbelievable.

All the children show improvement. Those most affected physically were the two to five year olds and the ten to fifteen;—psychologically, the latter group and the oldest boys and girls. The children from six to ten were better, as were the high-school children. There has been a great deal of serious illness among the fathers and mothers, but those who have not been ill show as much improvement as the children. The contrast with women visiting from other stranded homesteads is very marked.

From widespread fear of preventative measures and treatments the people have come to have a new confidence in medical service and an expectation of health instead of resigned acceptance of illness and death.

A joint medical committee of men and women has been created, which has made a plan for a health cooperative for the project and the adjoining area. This plan is now under consideration by the families on the project. It could serve as a model for other rural districts.

Part of the medical program has been to discover the resources of the locality in hospitals and physicians and to make desirable contacts with them. Their help has been called in and medical service rendered the people in the region around the project.

SUMMARY OF MEDICAL WORK FOR EIGHT MONTHS (February-October 1935)

<u>DENTAL</u>	Extractions	- 600
	Fillings	- 431
	Cleaning	- 55

Dental work was done on 280 persons in 81 families.

CLASSES: 12 pairs have been fitted

TONSILS & ADENOIDS: 24 operations

MASTOID OPERATIONS: 2

MAJOR ABDOMINAL SURGERY: 6

X-RAY EXAMINATIONS FOR TUBERCULOSIS: 3

EXTENDED SANITARIUM CARE: 2

DEATHS: 1 (A man 84 years of age)

October 12, 1935

DR. HARRY TIMMONS,
Physician.

B U D G E T**SOCIAL HEALTH PROGRAM**

Physician	\$2 500 00	
Nurse	<u>1 600 00</u>	\$4 100 00

School inspection, adult clinic, prenatal care, delivery, post-natal care, supervision of baby nursery, baby clinics and conferences with mothers, home visits and bedside nursing, physiology classes for high-school and older students, talks to adult men and women groups, courses in practical nursing, and supervision of cottage infirmary.

NOTE:-

following
The ~~present~~ budget covers the cost of the educational experiment. The "school" proper has twelve grades, composed of six elementary, six high-school, and a nursery school of children between two and five. It will have (*) an enrollment in these 10 school year's of 630 children. It will have 120 young adults and 400 men and women. The community when counting children under two will number about 1200.

The County grants the school West Virginia teachers on an attendance basis, (**) probably nine next year and twelve the year following. As grade teachers from the County replace specially trained teachers, the latter will devote all their energies to teacher training and adult education.

Following is the picture for 1936-37, with possible variations for the four years following.

(*) Present enrollment (increasing) December 1935,
about 400 (Grades 3-40)

(**) One teacher for each thirty children on an average daily attendance basis for twelve grades.
This attendance is reckoned on the preceding year.

STATUS OF THE SCHOOL

It is by arrangement with the State Superintendent and County Board of Education, an independent free school of Preston County, part of the State School System. County teachers are assigned to the school on the regular basis of attendance. The number of teachers assigned increases with attendance.

The Government has erected school buildings and given the minimum desk equipment.

The educational experiment requires a staff of well trained teachers especially qualified for this rural community education, and for training teachers.

A group of these community educators were given to the experiment for the first two years.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt; Dr. John Dewey; Fred J. Kelly of the Educational Bureau; Mrs. Lucy Sprague Mitchell, geographer, author, and director of the Cooperative School for Student Teachers; Clarence E. Pickett, Executive Secretary of the American Friends Service Committee; Dr. E. E. Agger, Assistant Administrator, Community Management Division, Resettlement Administration, representing Dr. Rexford G. Tugwell, Administrator; and Elsie Ripley Clapp, Director of Arthurdale School and Community, constitute the National Educational Sponsoring Committee of the Arthurdale School.

Respectfully submitted,

Director
Arthurdale School & Community.

January 4, 1936.

1 teacher for every 30 students averaging three months daily attendance in schools of the County the year previous.
(1934-35 three teachers were assigned)
(1935-36 five teachers were assigned)
(1936-37 we shall be entitled to ten)
(1937-38 to the full quota)

250 ROOMS - EACH WITH BATH



EDWARD W. MARTIN, MANAGER
JOHN A. McMAHON, ASST. MANAGER



The Lee House

15th and E Streets

Washington, D. C.

Sunday - Jan. 5, 1936

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:-

I sent last night a copy of the material for Dr. Rainey to Dr. Dewey, and asked him to write Rainey.

It occurs to me that it might be a good idea if you think so to ask Dr. Dewey to be one of the party January 20th. Dean Russell would be impressed. ~~or~~ that I am sure. Clarence said that it had been proposed to put on a through car from New York, which would make it easier for him. Do as you think best.

If you think well of it, will you write him? (320 East 72 St. New York).

About Dr. Rainey, I suggest that we do not go back of his suggestion that we apply to the General Education Board. He will be relieved, and eager to help us. Just now he is genuinely embarrassed.

Then if Mr. Baker and Dean Russell appear, by any chance, we shall be in a position

250 ROOMS - EACH WITH BATH



EDWARD W. MARTIN, MANAGER
JOHN A. McMAHON, ASST. MANAGER



The Lee House

15th and L Streets

Washington, D. C.

if they wish it, to make our own terms of support without interference. These are the terms which Dr. Plamey, it is fair to say, desires for us for he personally places great value on what we are doing. He fears I think that his experts will count Arthur Dale as a place for their proposals.

His recommendation is based on some strong intuitive sense. I believe adoption of it will enlist his personal aid with the Board.

Please take care of your cold which is I suspect more troublesome than you admit. Thank you for seeing me.

Sincerely yours
Eisen Clapp

I am returning to Withersdale tonight.

I suggest a meeting with the men at 4:30 after work, which will leave women at home to receive visitors. And with the women after supper, as their meeting will be shorter and allow you to get your train comfortably.

ARTHURDALE
West Virginia

15 Jan 1936

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am enclosing a copy of the wages and a summary of these, also a copy of the amounts charged for rental.

This was the material that I thought it might be well for you to see before you came down and talked to the Homesteaders.

Enclosed also is a copy of the case history of Earl Riley. On the wage sheet you will learn the amount of his and his sons' earnings. I have also noted his unpaid obligations.

When I got back I found that the pressures which root in the fact that they have not enough money to take care of their present obligations or opportunities had produced all kinds of discontents and complaints and feelings of insecurity. I succeeded in getting the executive committee of the men's club and the president to put across to the club the idea that whatever complaints there were, be looked into and that the facts be investigated. After a great deal of discussion the club instructed the executive committee to get together the facts regarding rentals and present these "to Washington" and also to take up with Mr. Flynn the questions regarding labor and wages.

I have seen Mr. Flynn since the meeting. The committee has not yet visited him. I told him the ideas and complaints that they had and he will discuss these with them when they come.

They said that there were a number of men on the project who were employed 40 hours a week although they were limited to 30 hours. This is not the fact, Mr. Flynn says. It is permitted to employ the labor foremen 32½ hours for the checking in and out of their work groups.

They said that the WPA workers in Morgantown and Fairmont were receiving higher wages than they were. Mr. Flynn says that the security wage for this region (#2) is \$30 a month, \$50 a month skilled labor. We were granted an exception so that our wages are as follows:

62	Homesteaders	draw 55¢ per hour	or	\$ 71.50	per month
10	"	(Watchmen and Janitors) draw		67.50	" "
22	"	draw 80¢ per hour	or	104.00	" "
2	"	" 90¢ " "	"	117.00	" "
3	"	work in Craft Shop			
1	Homesteader	works as Store Manager			
1	"	drives School Bus at		71.50	" "

No homesteader on an hourly rate receives less than 55¢ per hour.

They said that WPA workers in Morgantown and elsewhere were paid rain or shine, whether they worked or not, if they report for work, whereas at Arthurdale they were paid only for work done. Mr. Flynn says this is true. The WPA workers elsewhere who are on \$30 and \$50 schedules are paid if they report for work. We, on account of the higher wage, are on a work-done basis.

They said that there were plenty of men at Arthurdale who could do the work of the outside workmen who were brought in. Mr. Flynn says this is not so. That he has (as you see on the schedule above) raised to the skilled level as many, perhaps more men than merit this advance. The two homesteaders who are working at 90¢ an hour are perhaps the only men who can be compared to the outside labor as skilled workmen.

Mr. Flynn has checked this morning with his foremen and made the following report:

"The following men are getting 80¢ per hour and are not worth it -

Harry Miller
John Boggs

"The following men are getting 55¢ per hour and are not worth it -

*Earl Riley J. C. Knight
*Andrew Goldstrom Wm. McNelis
*George Costlow Albert Forman
Smith Tanner Geo. Williams
Mike Dezbor Elza Hawkins"
W. B. Knight

*Three of the men who are most indignant about conditions.

In the group of watchmen and janitors who receive \$67.50 are the following four old and infirm men who just barely manage to do this job. I doubt if elsewhere they would be paid this amount for what they can do -

Floyd Moats David Wilkins
John Mason Jasper Watkins

The men reminisce always about their first days on the project when they were all paid an equal sum for whatever work they did and deplore the fact that times have changed so that they are now paid different amounts. The fact of the matter is, Mr. Flynn says, that the equal amount that all were first paid was 37¢ an hour. I personally doubt if they would like even for a sense of equality to return to this level.

When Uncle Sam ceases to be their employer and they are employed on the usual footing of work for money received, a number of them will prove unemployable and a dozen or more will not be as well paid as they are now. So that this period is really a transition from the early days on the project to the life that every one must face.

I was impressed at the men's meeting by the men's expectations. They had a great deal to say about the American standard of living and the promises that were made to them when they first came here. I want to say again that I think their difficulty all rises from the fact that the money they receive they are not yet able to make cover their present obligations or opportunities. - -

Re Rentals
Regarding rentals, the meeting revealed the fact that people of the first fifty houses on the project believe that you and Mr. Pickett promised them ownership of their houses. They still think that the higher rentals they pay on these houses are because they are buying them. The more recent group of homesteaders know that they are paying rental. They all, I think, feel that what Arthurdale offered was the chance to own their own homes.

I found when I got back that the community's feeling of insecurity had suddenly been located in the school. The fact that the high school has not yet been classified by the state as an accredited school emerged as a cause of panic. I saw the County Superintendent of Schools, who was extremely cooperative and somewhat amused at the situation. He said he thought that Arthurdale School was growing faster than any school he had ever seen. He told me to tell the people that Arthurdale had applied for classification and would undoubtedly receive it just as soon as it met the various points on which classification rests. He and I both hope that the rating can be completed before the end of the year. Mr. Riley was one center of the panic. He sent his child to Masontown High School. When he went to see the County Superintendent Mr. Watson told him to get his child back in Arthurdale High School as quickly as possible. I think that this is simply another instance of their fears and pressures. They are in the frame of mind just now where they resent everything and everybody including each other. We are taking a number of measures to meet these attitudes. They are increased by bad weather, consequent falling off in work, and I think are to be regarded first and last as "growing pains". There is no denying however the fact that they are very negative at the moment and that with their volatile emotional

Mrs. Roosevelt

Page 4

expressiveness their resentment might address itself to almost anything or any person. Yet I think it would be a mistake to take this too seriously. We had a similar midwinter depression last January. Perhaps the fact of the matter is that under pressures they revert to the old pattern of jealousies and complaints.

I hope that you are now supplied with the various facts that you wanted to have.

Sincerely yours

Elsie Ripley Clapp

Elsie Ripley Clapp, Director
Arthurdale School and Community

January 10, 1936

ERC:ab
encls

P.S. Last night we "dedicated" the new Recreation Building by an evening of basketball games against Terra Alta - two High School and one old "Independent" team.

About 400 people were present not only from the Project (everyone came) but from Reedsville, Terra Alta and Countryside -

Everyone felt that this was a dream come true. Everyone had a fine time -

Tonight there is a dance then preceded by another basketball game -

So life has its cheerful moments.

E.R.C.

100
✓
January 13, 1936.

Dear Mrs. Mitchell:

I wonder if you would be willing to continue to serve on the Committee until we really have some financial support for the next five years.

Mr. Pickett told me what troubled you about the situation. I think, however, that those things can be ameliorated, and I do think we will need a united committee if we are going to get any financial support, and I not want to ask Mr. Baruch to continue after this year. I have been entirely unable to earn any money for it myself.

Hoping very much that you will be willing to continue for a little while longer, I am

Very cordially yours,

*Mr. Pickett
Mr. Baruch
Mrs. Mitchell*

COOPERATIVE SCHOOL for STUDENT TEACHERS

bureau of educational experiments • CHELSEA 3-5034 • sixty-nine bank street • new york city

Eleanor Bowman • Elisabeth Irwin • Ellen Steele • Lucy Sprague Mitchell • Jessie Stanton • Elizabeth Healy

January 3, 1936

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I think the time has come for me to resign from the Sponsoring Committee of the Arthurdale School. I find my work, particularly my writing, tremendously cut by committee work. And since I am working directly on the Educational Training Program of the Resettlement Administration my presence on the Sponsoring Committee seems more or less of a decoration. Also, the new phase with the probable Foundation support seems to make "sponsoring" less necessary - indeed irrelevant. So I am hereby sending you my resignation from the committee with appreciation and thanks for letting me be a member. I have talked over the matter with Miss Clapp before taking this definite action.

I expect to be at Reedsville in a few weeks. May the New Year be a happy one for all the resettlement projects!

Sincerely yours,

Lucy Sprague Mitchell

*Jack ...
ask ...*

request for Foundation ...

Cooperating Schools

Carson College for Orphan Girls, Flourtown, Pa.
Woodward School, Brooklyn, New York
Mount Kemble School, Morristown, N. J.

Harriet Johnson Nursery School, New York City
(Bureau of Educational Experiments)

Rosemary Junior School, Greenwich, Conn.
Little Red School House, New York City
Spring Hill School, Litchfield, Conn.

January 15, 1936

Dear Miss Clapp:

I called Dr. Agger as soon as I got your letter and he tells me that while there was a little delay in procurement, they have now straightened it out and anticipate no further trouble in getting supplies to complete the construction of houses. They now have funds and plans all settled to go ahead on the Arthurdale Tavern. This may slow down the building of the houses, but in any case, they feel that they have enough work to keep the men busy for at least a year and there will be no lapse.

They have also cleared all the difficulties in getting the factory started and the lease is in process of being signed. The factory should begin to operate in about four weeks and they feel very hopeful about the whole situation.

Very sincerely yours,

S O

ack
1-15

ARTHURDALE
West Virginia

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am sending you a memorandum of the situation about the work. Mr. Flynn has tried all the avenues open to him to get materials going.

It is true forty new houses have been approved and their locations selected. I hear that money for their building, in hand a few weeks ago, is now hard to find, or at least not apparently forthcoming.

I am ashamed to have to appeal to you on this. It seems to me utterly ridiculous that we cannot do a little job like barns and houses without help from you.

I am, also, in this mail notifying Dr. Agger and am sending copy of this data to Mr. Pickett for whatever assistance he can be in the situation, Mr. Flynn having exhausted all his resources, asking for help from a higher authority.

Very sincerely

Elsie Clapp

Elsie Ripley Clapp, Director
Arthurdale School and Community

January 14, 1936

ERC:zn

P.S. Thank you for asking Dr. Dewey. Will you let me know whether he is coming? According to my count the party on the 20th, including him, numbers 11. Am I correct? Plans are made at this end. Will look for the party at the school about 9:30.

E.R.C.

Miss Elsie R. Clapp
Arthurdale, W. Va.

Barn Lumber

Re: #276 dated December 28, 1935.

Bids opened January 9th. I called
T. C. Crawford, Procurement Officer, on January 13 and
he advised me order had not been placed on account of
lack of funds.

I telegraphed Mr. Frank Schmitt, Director
of the Construction Division on January 13, asking when
order can be placed but have no reply at this time,
January 14, 1:30 p.m.

Work is very scarce, and it will be
difficult to find work for the Homesteaders after
January 20.

G. M. Flynn
Project Manager

January 14, 1936

ARTHURDALE
West Virginia

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

We were very sorry that the weather prevented your coming today. I shall look forward to seeing you on the twenty-seventh.

Will you let me know:

- 1) who is going to be in the party, and
 - 2) do you wish to hold next time the meetings postponed from today? *Yes*
- I think it would be a very good plan to do so, as I do not think it would do for you to come down and not be able to talk to the people. We might arrange both meetings in the afternoon and while you were holding these, show the project to your guests.

You spoke of perhaps wanting to have a dance. Mr. Collins has arranged a "concert", two unusual square dance figures done by an older and a younger group, orchestration based on an old ballad, some fiddling and singing, not a long evenings' entertainment, but something compassable within an hour or so, so that you can still get your ten o'clock train from Fairmont. *188*

I am enclosing in this letter copies of a note I received from Mr. Baruch and a letter from Dr. Dewey enclosing a letter he had from Dr. Rainey. Clarence suggests that you and Dr. Rainey and I should meet sometime. Between the middle and end of February will be the best, as I have prospective Resettlement community managers to train until then. Personally, I feel that it would be a mistake to go against Dr. Rainey's own conviction and instinct in this matter, and I think that we should address ourselves to how to present the application to the General Board with his help.

I would be indebted if you could let me know the plans for next Monday. I think you were wise in deciding not to come today. The main roads are open but the roads on the project are still blocked, so that it would have been very difficult to get around and see anything.

Sincerely yours

Elsie Ripley Clapp

January 20, 1936
ERC:ab

Elsie Ripley Clapp, Director
Arthurdale School and Community

COPY

Letters Telegrams and Station
Georgetown, South Carolina

January 15th

HOBCAW BARONY

Personal

My dear Miss Clapp:-

Just this moment I have finished the detailed report of the meetings under Chairman Strauss at which you were present.

You are always so wise in what you say and in what you do to meet circumstances and conditions that arise.

I wish there were more of you or that you would be listened to more. You seem so practically idealistic. As compared to so many in the project who have good ideas but apparently do not know how to carry the ideas with effect.

I am still of the opinion about Reedsville that we both concurred in. The school is a model. Even I could see that. Evidently your work there is carrying along the whole enterprise but it looks to me that they are all leaning on it. But it is good work and can carry along many but not all of the mistakes agricultural and economic they planned so badly there.

I am fearful of the disappointed hopes of these homesteaders.

Since my last visit there I have stressed to those who asked me to go two things

1. The success of the school and your work generally to be used as a model in other places.
2. The bad planning of earning a subsistence. The need of a cheaper rent which I understand has been reduced to less than \$15 a month. I was promised it less than \$10 a month. That is all that these people can stand.

We must set them on their feet and on sound feet or they never can stand.

You and your work have my hearty approval and good wishes.

Sincerely

(Signed) Bernard M. Baruch

COPY

32 East 72nd St.,
January 16, 1936

Miss Elsie Clapp,
Box 73
Arthurdale, W. Va.

Dear Miss Clapp:-

I am enclosing the reply that I had from Dr. Rainey. As you will see, it does not say anything that you did not already know, nor which, indeed, you had not already said to me. I certainly hope that either through the Commission or one of the Foundations, Arthurdale will receive the support which it so fully deserves.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) John Dewey

COPY

AMERICAN YOUTH COMMISSION
of the
American Council on Education
744 Jackson Place
Washington, D. C.

January 13, 1936

Dr. John Dewey
320 East 72nd St.
New York, New York

Dear Dr. Dewey:

I thank you for your letter of January 9 concerning Miss Elsie Clapp and the work which she is doing at Arthurdale. I appreciate very much your evaluation of her and also of the project which she is directing. I was much interested in the project when I visited it recently.

I am not sure at all that our Commission will find it within its province to give definite financial support to the project. I have talked this matter over twice with Mrs. Roosevelt and several times with Dr. Clarence Pickett. I am not at all sure but that the project would be better served if they were to secure support for it directly from one of the foundations. However, we still have the matter before us and we are giving it thorough consideration.

Very cordially yours,

(Signed) Homer P. Rainey

HPR:MB

January 30, 1936

My dear Miss Clapp:

I just want to send this note to thank you very much for everything you did to make our trip to Reedsville so pleasant. I came away with a feeling that we had interested some very helpful people and that we can expect things to move along toward the goal which we all desire.

With all good wishes,
I am

Very sincerely yours,

Miss Elsie Clapp
Box 73
Reedsville, W. Va.

S:DD

CASE HISTORY OF DALLAS EARL RILEY

Family Background: Mr. Riley is 39 years old and is of Irish descent. He is a man of average height, with brown eyes, black hair, and of slight build. He seems to be rather intelligent, with an energetic, crisp manner, which is attractive.

Mrs. Riley is 27 years old and is of Dutch descent. She is below the average in height, but is good looking. She has brown hair and eyes and an attractive smile. She impressed visitor as being above the average in intelligence and as one who is kind and tolerant. The children seem well cared for, healthy and full of life. There are six members in this family, including the wife of George, the eldest son, who is at present making her home with the family.

Before the depression - that is, until 1927 - Mr. Riley made an adequate living. Between 1909 and 1927 he earned as high as \$44.16 per week and as low as \$24 per week. The social status of the family was good. In 1927 Mr. Riley was injured in a mining accident, and until coming to Arthurdale was unable to work. The family seems to be a harmonious unit and visitor believes that Mr. Riley is the dominant member. The parents seem ambitious for their children. Burward, age 20, seems to be interested in mechanical work. Ralph, age 18, is interested in electrical work and the parents are ambitious for Elvin to complete a University course. Both parents, especially the woman, take part in community activities on the project.

Mr. Riley was born July 26, 1894, near Tunnelton, W. Va. The farm was 600 acres in extent and was owned by his grandmother. He continued to live there until he was 13, by which time he had completed the 8th grade. At this time, as his parents were dead, he entered the mines as a trapper for the Weaver Coal Company. He was employed by this company for about a year, and then helped a farmer for about two years. He next secured work with the Davis and Elkins Coal Company, at Rock Forge, W. Va., and worked for this company and lived in that place until his marriage on August 31, 1914, at Oakland, Md. He and his wife began housekeeping at Sabraton, W. Va. Mr. Riley continued to work for the above company at their various mines until 1922, first as a motorman and then as an electrician, earning on an average of \$44.16 per week. In 1922 he began to work for the Chaplin Collieries Company, Osage, W. Va., as a motorman, and worked for them until 1924, earning about \$44 per week. For 18 months in 1924 and 1925 he worked as an electrician for the American Sheet and Tin Plate Company, at Sabraton, W. Va., where he earned \$24 per week. Between 1925 and 1927 he ran a motor for the Soper-Mitchell Coal Company, at Jere, W. Va., earning \$30 per week. In the latter part of 1927, while working for the Ward Calvery Coal Company at Robk Forge, W. Va., he was injured in an accident, which injured his back and crushed his hips and ribs. He states he was unable to work until securing employment on the Arthurdale project.

He moved from Bretz, W. Va. on June 29, 1934, to the project, where he now resides.

Mrs. Riley was born October 22, 1897, at Valley Falls, W. Va. Her father was a farmer and he devoted his entire time to farming. He owned a farm consisting of 80 acres. Mrs. Riley Completed the 1st year of high school and continued to live with her family until her marriage in 1914. She and her husband began housekeeping at Sabraton, W. Va.

Places of Residence:	Sabraton, W. Va.	4 months	1914-1
	Opekiska, W. Va.	5 months	1914-15
	Sabraton, W. Va.		1915-25
	Jere, W. Va.	4 months	1925
	Morgantown, W. Va.		1925-27
	Rock Forge, W. Va.		1927-33
	Bretz, W. Va.		1933-34
	Arthurdale, W. Va.		1934

Present Living Conditions: This family live in an Arthurdale Homestead consisting of five rooms, with running water and electricity. The house is clean, neat, and well furnished. There were clean curtains at the windows, soft rugs on the floors, and the furniture is comfortable. They have a good radio. A homelike atmosphere prevails. The yard shows signs of care and seems in good shape.

Health: Mr. Riley states that he is almost entirely recovered from his injury which he suffered in a mining accident in 1927. No one else has ever been seriously ill, and there are no physical handicaps in the family. See attached medical report of Dr. Harry G. Timbres.

Attitudes and Personalities: Mr. Riley impressed visitor as being pleasant and congenial, but as one mule-headed over what he thought to be his rights. Mrs. Riley has a winning personality. She seems tolerant, kindly, and easy going. Visitor feels that she gets along well with people and would be able to influence others for their own good. Both Mr. and Mrs. Riley seem to be interested in their neighbors and in the community groups. They attend church occasionally, but not so often as formerly. Neither are members of any religious organization. The children help around the home. Durward, the eldest son, is married and is at present employed on the project. Ralph, age 18, is also working on the project. The youngest son is in school. Mrs. Riley and the children seem to appreciate their home and the opportunities they have on the project.

Intelligence: Both Mr. and Mrs. Riley seem to be slightly above the average in intelligence. Visitor believes they realize the significance of the project.

Financial Status: Mr. Riley is a homesteader and as such is employed as a carpenter's helper on the project. As a homesteader the prospects for future part time employment seem bright. The prospects for employment at

his former work, in and around the coal mines, are not good, due to the condition of the industry and due to Mr. Riley's injury which would probably prevent him from passing an examination by the mine doctor. Two of the children are at present working on the project. Of course, Durward is married and has responsibilities of his own. Mr. Riley states he has no assets except a 1927 Chevrolet and his household furniture. His liabilities consist of \$60 owing to Cobun's Store, Reedsville, W. Va., and \$6.00 owing to Gibson Motor Company, Reedsville. Mr. Riley seems to have an indifferent attitude toward paying his debts - that is, he is rather slow and slightly careless - but his credit is still good.

Skills and Vocations: Mr. Riley was born on a farm and lived there until he was 13 years of age. He has had some special training in electrical work, having taken a correspondence course in the Cook School, Chicago, Ill. He has worked chiefly as a motorman and electrician at the coal mines. He likes to read western stories and likes to dance. He states that his chief interest is his home. Mrs. Riley was also born on a farm and lived there until she was 16. She has had no special training in any trade or profession, but, of course, has had experience in canning and sewing and other household duties. She seems very much interested in community affairs and in her home. She states she likes to swim and canoe.

Terse Appraisal of Wife as Partner in Homestead Undertaking: Mrs. Riley seems pleasant, cooperative and rather capable. She has had farming experience and enjoys living in the country.

General: There are six members in this family

Dallas Earl Riley	Born July 26, 1894 - No record
Rosie D. Helsley Riley	Born Oct. 22, 1897 - Letter written
Durward Elvernon Riley	Born April 25, 1915 - No record
Ralph Alston Riley	Born May 25, 1917 - No record
Elvin Forest Riley	Born Aug. 17, 1921 - No record
Mrs. Sara Ann Riley	Wife of Durward Riley - age 20.

Marriage: August 31, 1914, Oakland, Maryland (Verified) Rev. J. E. Ely.

Criminal Record: None - 1920 to June 17, 1935.

Recommendation: Acceptable.

Philip J. Reed
June 18, 1935

RELATIVES OF DALLAS EARL RILEY

	Father of M.	Deceased when M. was 3
	Mother of M.	Died of Cancer of womb
	Brother of M.	Van Voorhis, W. Va. - Farmer - no ch.
Ed. J. Riley /		
Mrs. Anna Bowman	Sister of M.	Smithtown, W. Va. - Hus. Farmer - 1 ch.
C. W. Riley	Brother of M.	Grafton, W. Va. - Farmer - 1 child
Mrs. Elizabeth Wolfe	Sister of M.	Sabraton, W. Va. Hus. R.R. - 6 ch.
Mrs. Franford Shears	Sister of M.	Kingwood, W. Va. - widow - 4 ch.
Mrs. May Chisler	Sister of M.	Dunbar, Pa. - widow - 4 ch.
Dayton Kiley	Brother of M.	Artnurdale - homesteader - 2 ch.

RELATIVES OF MRS. RILEY

Ellhannon Helsley	Father of W.	Deceased - Pneumonia
Rebecca Helsley	Mother of W.	Valley Falls, W. Va.
William Helsley	Brother of W.	Verona, Pa. - Contractor - 4 ch.
Myrtle Riley	Sister of W.	Valley Falls, W. Va. - Hus. farmer- 1 ch.
Mrs. Kate Prince	Sister of W.	Marquess, W. Va. - Hus. farmer- no ch.
Mrs. Eva Huffman	Sister of W.	Marquess, W. Va. - Hus. farmer- 5 ch.
Nim Helsley	Brother of W.	Unity, Pa. - Contractor, carpenter - 1 ch.
George Helsley	Brother of W.	Verona, Pa. - Carpenter - 2 ch.
Ralph Helsley	Brother of W.	Grafton, W. Va. (Stone mason) 9 ch.
Mrs. Roxy Smith	Sister of W.	Morgantown, W. Va. - Hus. elec. - no ch.
Mrs. Anna Cox	Sister of W.	Grafton, W. Va. (Hus. R.R. Shop) - 4 ch.

REPORT ON PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OF EARL RILEY AND FAMILY

Earl Riley was rather badly smashed up in an accident several years ago but seems to have made a recovery with few sequelae. His general health seems good. His wife, Rosa, 37, is a very intelligent, well-preserved woman who may eventually need a pelvic operation. The oldest son, Durward, suffers from a chronic mastoiditis which was lately operated on by Dr. Hall of Fairmont. Durward has been married recently but is still living at home. Alston, age 17, is healthy and has tested negative for syphilis. Elwen, age 14, was operated on for double inguinal hernia in July and made a normal recovery.

Signed:

Harry G. Timbres, M. D.

October 9, 1935

HGT:ab

REFERENCES

Employment Reference: 6-11-35. Singer Sewing Machine Company, Morgantown, W. Va. Information given by letter from Singer Sewing Machine Company, Pittsburgh, Pa. They say they employed him and re-employed him two or three times as he did not want to work and was not productive. They state they would employ him upon improvement of economic conditions. This letter was not signed and was contradictory.

Credit Reference: 6-19-35. Visitor at office of Personal Finance Company, Morgantown, W. Va. The clerk looked over the files and found no record of Mr. Dallas Riley ever having done business with them.

Credit Reference: 6-14-35. Visitor at Sanders-Miller Insurance Company, Morgantown, W. Va. Talked to Harry Sanders, the Manager. He had no recollection of Mr. Dalls Riley or of any business that he may have done with them.

Employment Reference: 6-14-35. Visitor talked to Walter R. Mitchell who was Manager of the Soper-Mitchell Coal Company where Mr. Riley was employed from 1925 to 1928 as a motorman in the mines. Mr. Mitchell said Mr. Riley was very efficient, was a sober, industrious worker, got along well both with employees and employers, and both sides were satisfied while he was in their employ.

Employment Reference: 6-18-35. Visitor at office of American Sheet & Tin Plate Company, Sabraton, W. Va., talked to H. C. Johnson, Paymaster. Mr. Johnson after looking up Mr. Riley's work record found that he was employed at two different times, the last time during 1924 and part of 1925. Mr. Johnson does not know Mr. Riley, but his record shows that he, Mr. Riley, was employed in the machine shop.

Credit Reference: 6-18-35. Cobun's Store, Reedsville, W. Va., report that D. E. Riley's credit rating is only fair, but they still extend him credit.

NOTE: Chaplin Collieries Company, Ward Calvery Coal Company, Soper-Mitchell Coal Company, are now out of existence. Elkins Coal Company, National, W. Va., has changed hands and is now the National Fuel Company. No records are available as far as past employment is concerned.



EDWARD W. MARTIN, MANAGER
JOHN A. McMAHON, ASST. MANAGER

100
rec


The Lee House
15th and L Streets
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:-

Attached are outlines of NYA-WPA projects which in our judgment offer good opportunities for training the older boys and girls in ways that will lead to earning a livelihood thru a trade or small business. These to be Paunched under the supervision of the High School staff and myself.

We spoke of these. You may remember, at our meeting at Arthur Dale last week, and promised to send you the data about them. I believe you thought that you might be able to effect their operation.

The NYA-WPA project in preparation since August, went into effect finally February 5. It will employ the older boys & girls - all of them - until March 15th. For the most part their employment is employment merely at jobs that have no future. The girls I am attempting to train as practical nurses or housekeepers. With the girls' place I am (until March 15) content. Not the boys.