

Current Poetry

Unsolicited contributions to this department will not be returned. Unpublished poetry is not acceptable

DEEP HARVEST

BY HILDEGARDE FLANNER

The mild, the solid sound, American
Of lawnmowers roving on a grassy day
Is a mellow clatter, it is not only
A twist of blade laying the lawn away.
It is the audible summer in the States,
When hayfields wallow in the lovely grain
And bees shoot in their tongues after the honey
As clovers hum and rock under the strain.
Now all over the land the wheat is blond,
It hisses and is quiet on its roots
As wind and windless happen to a place
And heat strikes home into the twinkling
fruits,

The green blood of the leaves is duller now,
It is a foliage in her elegies;
From the great barns crawl out the loud
machines

And the deep harvest lapses under these
Yours and a native song let make, O blade,
Before the bough is blank and the cricket dead,
About my country's grass and the white crops,
How you possess them fragrant and to bed.
—The New Republic.

POEM

BY DORIS CAESAR

There's beauty
In a storm
That shakes the trees
And twists their boughs
And strips them
Of their leaves—
But there's little beauty
In the storms
Of grief and fear
That shake
The human heart—
Beauty lies then,
Not in the storm,
But in the strength
With which our weakness
Bends,
And bears the weight.

—Phantom Thoughts, Doris Caesar, G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

OLD DOG AUTUMN

BY THOMAS CALDECOTT CHUBB

Old dog Autumn is in my heart,
A lazy fellow with lop ears.
All Summer long he has dozed apart,
But now he stretches, and now he peers.

Old dog Autumn with gold-brown coat,
And nose of velvet and big paws;
With deep eyes, and with handsome throat,
And with tongue as pink as the fruit of haws.

He tells me that quail are covied close
In the sweetgum hedgerows beyond the hill.
He gets to his feet, and he lifts his nose
To catch the scent, as a good dog will.

He tells me that frost has cut the sedge.
He tells me the air is crisp and fine.
He says that the wind has a knife-keen edge
And that fields are as ruddy as ripe old wine.
—The New York Times.

MOON COMPASSES

BY ROBERT FROST

I stole forth dimly in the dripping pause
Between two downpours to see what there
was,
And a masked moon had spread down compass rays

To a cone mountain in the midnight haze,
As if the final estimate were hers,
And as it measured in her calipers,
The mountain stood exalted in its place.
So love will take between the hands a face.
—Yale Review.

“— amazingly rich in
Hormone-like* substances”

explains
DR. R. E. LEE

Dr. R. E. Lee, Director of Fleischmann Health Research, explains: “Discovered by a noted scientist, it's a new yeast 'strain'!”

“... that's why this new yeast acts quicker!”

Doctors tested this new “XR” Yeast thoroughly—report: “Twice as quick-acting.” “Constipation—indigestion—skin troubles—run-down condition—corrected astonishingly.” Hormone-like* substances rich in “XR” Yeast explain why it speeds digestive juices, action . . . acts faster.

Constipation, Indigestion and related Skin Troubles corrected much sooner. (New Vitamin A checks colds!)

THINK OF IT! . . . a new yeast so much quicker acting it astounds doctors. If you have any questions, read these answers by Dr. Lee:—

Why does “XR” Yeast act quicker?
Because it's a stronger “strain” of fresh yeast, much more vigorous, and so . . . faster! It's rich in hormone-like* substances.

***What are Hormone-like Substances?**
They are “activators” (like natural body stimulants) which speed the flow of your digestive juices and strengthen digestive muscles from the stomach right on down.

Will it correct Constipation and Indigestion very much faster?

Positively! By making juices flow fast and muscles work harder inside you, “XR” Yeast makes your foods softer—better “churned,” digested. Indigestion, constipation should soon stop. “XR” Yeast really “normalizes” you.



““XR” Yeast is much faster,” writes Mrs. Helen Van Pelt, Stapleton, N. Y. “My whole system was sluggish . . . I had headaches, no appetite. I started eating the new ‘XR’ Yeast and in just a few days felt grand.”
(As good as ever for baking!)



Fleischmann's XR Yeast
AT GROCERS, RESTAURANTS, SODA FOUNTAINS

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Rehabilitation—Substitute for the Dole

Washington Busies Itself Finding Means of Keeping Two Million Americans Off Direct-Relief Rolls by Finding Work for Them to Do in Another Depression Winter

ROOFs through which rain has dripped for years will be secure against the winter's storms. Public buildings which have weathered the seasons will be bright and newly decorated. Roads which have been checked off as impassable after the first snows will remain open. Documents which have piled up in back rooms of offices, libraries and colleges will be straightened out and cataloged.

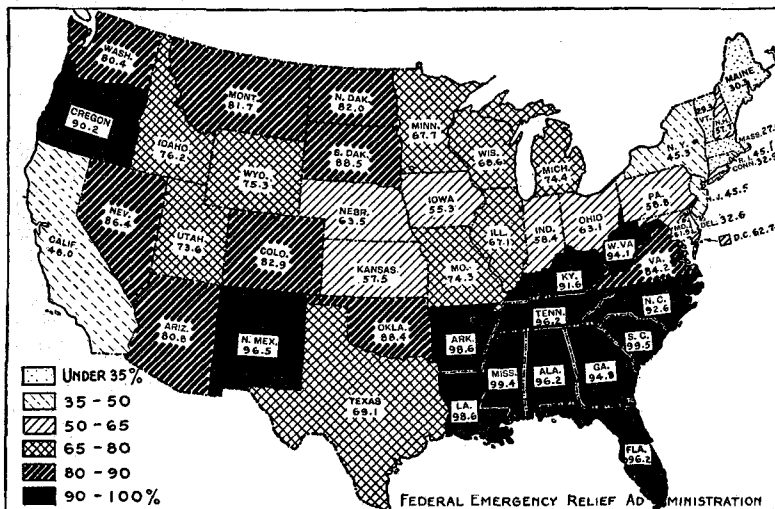
This rush of activity is not prompted by any inordinate desire to put State and Nation into shipshape order. It does not mean that ways of spending money are being sought for the sake of spending alone. It has come about because a corps of busy men in Washington has been devoting itself to finding means of keeping approximately 2,000,000 Americans off direct-relief rolls, and finding for them work to do for which they may get a return to tide them through another depression winter.

Workshop Plan Studied

Harold L. Ickes, Public Works Administrator, announces that the program is benefiting almost 7,000,000 persons, including wage-earners and their dependents. Harry L. Hopkins, Federal Emergency Relief Administrator, turned his attention to a vast program of self-liquidating housing and rehabilitation projects as a substitute for the straight dole, just as the board of directors of the Home Owners' Loan Corporation announced that it would accept no more applications for loans, because those pending are in excess of resources.

At some points the plans for permanent employment and for temporary relief seem at odds. In the face of criticism, the FERA studies a plan for relief-financed workshops, and a drive for the general five-day week is projected. President Roosevelt's loan committee to coordinate Federal agencies may eliminate this confusion.

These planners do not discount the seriousness of the figures before them on which they are basing their winter conferences. In August, one out of every seven Americans was receiving help. The total for that month, the latest complete statistics available when the conferences began, was 17,902,974 persons, or 15 per cent. of the population. There was no reason to believe that this number would automatically decrease, even tho it does not reach the predicted figure of 4,000,000 families, or 20,000,000 persons, cited in the report a few months ago by Donald R. Richberg, chairman of the executive committee.



Courtesy of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration
Per cent. of public unemployment relief funds supplied by the Federal Government, January 1, 1933, to June 30, 1934

Almost as fast as recovery efforts are taking the erstwhile needy off direct-relief, and putting them back to work, those vacated places on the lists are being taken by those whose savings have run out and who have turned to the Government as a last resort. The word "emergency" is heard less and less in the relief agencies as the need for something better than the dole as a lasting remedy becomes more evident.

Reports have come out of Washington that Congress will be asked to appropriate from five to seven billions of dollars for public-works projects and relief when it convenes in January.

This would top the record sum of \$3,300,000,000 public-works and relief funds appropriated at President Roosevelt's request in 1933. The precise nature of the 1935 attack on unemployment, in relation to a continuing program, however, will not be known until Mr. Hopkins has completed his survey of the relief situation.

Evidence that FERA is the biggest business enterprise in the country is provided by the staggering purchases of foodstuffs and other necessities for the needy. Almost every day the Washington headquarters announce new contracts for great quantities of butter, cheese, fuel, and cotton.

In twelve months the organization bought more than 692,000,000 pounds of foodstuffs, 1,133,790 tons of fuel, 13,000,000 pounds of feed grains, 23,000,000 pounds of cotton, and 12,615,000 yards of printed cotton material. This by no means completes the list.

Federal, State, and local relief-costs from January 1, 1933, to June 30, 1934, were \$1,341,453,765, to which must be added \$900,000,000 for the civil-works experiment, and additional PWA and CCC funds. Relief expenditures have been steadily upward, and are almost double what they were last year. Among the reasons are the raising of relief standards, the greater dollar cost of work-relief, and the provision of live-stock feed and necessities in the drought area.

Since the CWA undertaking ended last May, effort has been made to place more and more unemployed on work-relief. One setback to the expansion of this phase of adjustment is the cost of materials and the need of adequate supervision.

Manufacturers Critical

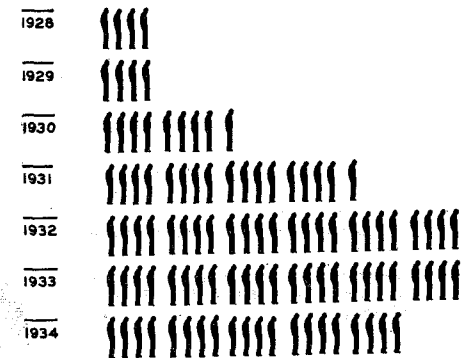
The strongest criticism has come from manufacturers who feel that the Government is embarking on business enterprises in competition with private concerns in setting up canning plants and factories for the production of such items as mattresses. Mr. Hopkins has replied that only a small fraction of the relief recipients ever have been so employed, and that production has been exclusively for relief purposes, not for general sale.

In the aggregate, sums mentioned in connection with relief are startling. In other terms they are not so impressive. The average amount paid to a family on relief in America is \$23 a month, which represents an increase which has been steady since the disbursement began.

Among the States, South Dakota led last summer with 35 per cent. of its population on relief. Families whose lands were parched by the drought swelled that number. New Mexico was second with 27 per cent., Florida, third, with 25 per cent.

All told, there were nine States with 20 per cent. or more of the residents on relief, and only nine States had less than 10 per cent. New Hampshire and Vermont fared best, with 6 per cent. each.

Naturally, this uneven distribution has resulted in heavy Federal expenditures in some areas. A glance at the FERA map shows that Washington supplies almost all the relief funds for the Southeast.



Courtesy of the Committee on Economic Security
Unemployed in the United States, 1928-1934. Each figure represents a half-million persons