

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION
FOR KANSAS

NEW ENGLAND BUILDING, TOPEKA, KANSAS

to wear a clean shirt and a necktie. This does not necessarily mean that they wear a coat as some of the boys do not have suits.

For entertainment we usually sing songs at the table that rang all the way from "I've been working on the railroad" to "God bless America." From all indications they enjoys this very much. One day about a month ago I got the bright idea when I heard one of the boys playing on his trumpet to form a swing band. At the present time that ~~idea~~ is not only an idea but a reality. You would be surprised to hear them. Some of them have actually played in swing bands before and know something about how to play. Before we could do much with the orchestra we had to have a piano so by some short curves with the State Procurement office I bought a dandy piano for us for only \$30.00. Next we lacked only the piano player, music and orchestra stands. I sent the ways and means committee to Miss Laughlin and she donated \$10.00 for music. The boys are building the stands out of scrap lumber. One of the members of the band knew a fellow in town who played the piano and who at one time had an orchestra of his own. He consented to play and instruct the boys and also he had several old orchestrations that he donated. That left the drummer without any drums and the guitar player with out a guitar. The piano player is a pawn broker and he furnished them with their playing equipment. Now we have a bass fiddle player with out a bass fiddle and one of the boys here has offered to make him a base fiddle out of a wash tub and a broom stick. I don't know how it ~~will~~ will sound but they will have a lot of fun/

Because there is so much running back and forth I had to use my car but that was running up a gasoline bill, and a repair bill that would make the war debt look small, I talked Miss Laughlin into giving me a government car. The car will be here about Monday. I tried to talk her into a raise in salary but could do nothing about that angle. However she did promise that as soon as the buildings were completed and all the construction and painting was done she would take care of me on this matter. The project at Eskridge Kansas has been causing her non to little worry and I think I picked about the worst time I could to talk finances with her.

I almost forgot to mention that we have formed a basketball team. The boys attend the church about two blocks away and have started to play in the church league. I got the Ripley gym for them once a week and work out with them if I have time. Some of the boys are fairly good. If I find any likely prospects I will send them to K.U. but I doubt if they are that good.

Here at the dormitory I eat, sleep, and play with the boys. I am on duty 24 hours a day. Several night I have been called out of bed at 2:00 or 3:00 o'clock in the morning to take care of a sick boy. That is all in a 24 hour days work. I think I will live thru it tho. If and when I leave this job there isn't many jobs that I couldn't qualify for. I am a doctor, an authority on Sheet Metal, Radio, photography, wood-working, cooking, machine shop and welding, and all problems dealing