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FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY
UNITED STATES HOUSING AUTHORITY
Washington

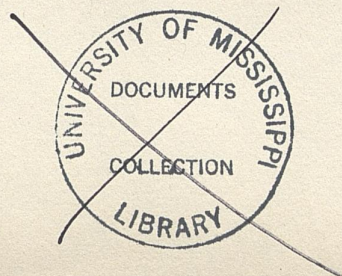
USHA PRESS SECTION
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RELEASE NO. 382

The attached remarks will be made by Nathan Straus, Administrator of the United States Housing Authority on Friday afternoon, September 15, 1939, at Allentown, Pa., on the occasion of flag raising ceremonies at "Hanover Acres," a 322-dwelling USHA-aided project in that city.

For release in the afternoon papers of September 15.

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Allentown may well feel proud of itself on this occasion.

"Hanover Acres" is one of the very first low-rent housing projects to be completed under the USHA program. It is the first project in Pennsylvania.

A year or so ago the words "low-rent housing project" were, to most residents of Allentown, little more than words. Today they represent brick and mortar realities. Today the first section of Hanover Acres is almost entirely completed. The finishing touches are even now being applied. And in a short time, families of low income who until now have been living in substandard dwellings will be enjoying life in healthful homes and wholesome neighborhood environment.

A few months ago there may have been some who doubted whether or not the rents in Hanover Acres would be low enough. Today, such doubts have been dispelled. Today, we know that the cost of living in this project will be every bit as low as the cost of living in the slums. The families that leave the slum areas and move into Hanover Acres will pay no more than about \$14 a month for a 4-room house -- and probably less. If you add the cost of electricity and other utilities, the total rent for a 4 room house will very likely be less than \$21.50 a month.

But rents as low as these for homes as good as these do not come into being through the waving of some magic wand. "Hanover Acres" is the product of hard labor on the part of many groups and many individuals. It is the product of close collaboration between the Allentown Housing Authority and the United States Housing Authority. It represents the coordinated efforts of the Allentown city government, the Allentown Housing Authority, Allentown

business men, Allentown labor unions and Allentown architects. It is a living proof that people from all walks of life can get together on a democratic "give-and-take" basis and work out a satisfactory solution for their common problems. That is the "American way". That is the vital principle which this flag represents.

My heartiest congratulations to the people of Allentown. "Hanover Acres" is a solid testimonial to your social vision. During the years to come it will stand as an enduring landmark in your struggle for better housing and will point the way toward the time when the slums of Allentown can be wiped out completely.