

Director George R. Swinton had ordered work resumed this week for completion of the Baltic avenue paving project.

"Northside residents are particularly interested in this project because the entire job has been done by Negroes.

"Not only have Negroes performed the unskilled labor in taking up the old wood blocks with which the street was paved a number of years ago; cleaning the old concrete foundation and laying an additional three inches of new concrete thereon, but they have also contributed the skilled workmen--mechanics, cement workers and carpenters who built the forms for the construction of the new concrete gutters; the superintendents, foremen and timekeepers. All are Negro residents of Atlantic City.

"And now the project is progressing in its final stage--the work of laying the asphalt top dressing. There are 124 Negroes engaged in this work, and they are doing a job so satisfactory in all its details that they have not only won the commendation of Director Swinton, but the praise of city officials, also, for a well-performed task.

"Negro residents are naturally proud of this job, not only because the representatives of their race have performed faithfully and well, but have been zealous in turning out a finished product that will compare favorably with any similar project in any part of the country.....

"Total cost of paving Baltic avenue will aggregate \$95,855.10. Of this sum the WPA contribution will be \$56,540.50, and that of the sponsor \$39,344.60.

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JOBLESS MUST PICK COTTON OR STARVE

The Houston Informer claims that despite orders from Washington to the contrary, WPA workers are being forced to work in the cotton fields at sub-normal wages:

"AUSTIN.---(CNA)---"Pick cotton or starve!" This ultimatum has again been delivered to thousands of destitute Negro, Mexican and white workers in Texas. The town constables have been oiling their guns and local relief officials have been cutting their rolls in a determined effort to force every manual worker to toil in the hot Texas fields for less than one dollar a day. For the next few months, there will be an increase of "vagrancy arrests in Texas since under the Southern landlord code any worker refusing to pick cotton for any wage the landlords want to pay is vagrant.

"Reports from all over the state indicate that WPA projects are being suspended in order to drive workers to the farms. At Cleburne, the mayor