

and pretty soon the whole neighborhood in Red Hook was building a shrine to Our Lady.

Library Branches Renovated by 1,300 On Rolls of WPA

Practically every branch of the New York Public Library, including the central branch, at 5th Ave. and 42d St., Manhattan, is being renovated by WPA workers under an appropriation of approximately \$2,000,000 of WPA funds, giving work to some 1,350 persons.

The work involves general repairs to the buildings of the system throughout the boroughs of Manhattan, the Bronx and Richmond, the construction of extensions to these buildings and the erection of stages in library auditoriums.

In the 42d St. main library much of the work has been done on the equipment which makes for the comfort of the users of the library—the heating, ventilating and lighting systems. But there are several jobs handled by the relief workers in this building which the public sees every day. For example, the new treads on the interior stairs.

The old marble treads were so badly worn as to be a constant source of danger. Marble workers from the WPA rolls cut these old treads down to a level surface, about an inch below the original surface, and then fitted in precast terrazzo treads with carborundum inlays. The terrazzo itself is harder than the original marble and the carborundum is still harder. Moreover, the carborundum provides a gripping surface for shoe soles at the edge of the treads where the old smooth marble had been most dangerously slippery.

The interiors of most of the system's branches have been painted. Bookcases and woodwork have been refinished, masonry and brickwork painted, wall and roof leaks fixed up, plastering repaired, heating systems reconditioned and lighting systems rewired, and the building in general placed in proper condition.

Clipped By:



fdc

Sat, Dec 14, 2019