

INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS

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BIOLOGICAL SURVEY ENLARGES RODENT BAIT SUPPLY DEPOT

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Construction of an addition to the rodent and predator control bait-supply depot of the U. S. Biological Survey at Pocatello, Idaho, for storing grain and other supplies used in making bait is under way. The addition, 160 by 65 feet and one-story high, is being built with the help of W. P. A. labor and is expected to be completed by next fall.

About 3,000,000 pounds of treated oats for cooperative rodent control projects are shipped annually from the supply depot. Distribution in the eastern States is made from shipments stored at Washington, D. C. Large quantities of other types of bait are also processed at the Pocatello plant.

"The demand of farmers, stockmen, and others for cooperative assistance in controlling rodents and predators on their lands," says Stanley P. Young, chief of the Bureau's Division of Predator and Rodent Control, "has increased greatly in recent years and at times has taxed the production and distribution facilities of the supply depot. Enlargement of the depot also makes it possible to improve the bait-mixing facilities, the laboratory, and office quarters."

Research dealing with the mechanical processing of toxic materials will also be conducted at the depot when the addition is completed, as it is planned to move part of the equipment from the Bureau's laboratory at Denver, Colo., to Pocatello.

The supply depot, established in 1927 at McCammon, Idaho, was moved into rented quarters in Pocatello in 1932. Purchase of the present site and building, construction of the addition, and purchase and installation of necessary machinery was authorized by Congress in June 1936.

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