

From R. E. Stryker  
To Russell Lee,  
Arthur Rothstein,  
in particular

FSA

February 19, 1942

- I. Production of foods-fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, eggs, milk and milk products, miscellaneous products.
  - a. Packaging and processing of above
  - b. Picking, hauling, sorting, preparing, drying, canning packaging, loading for shipping
  - c. Field operations --planting; cultivation, sowing
  - d. Dramatic pictures of fields, show "pattern" of the country; get feeling of the productive earth, boundless acres.
  - e. Warehouses filled with food, raw and processed, cans boxes, bags, etc.
- II. Poultry--large-scale operations
  - Hatching, shipping chicks
  - Get a few pictures "cute" of little chicks
  - Real close-ups
  - Eggs--get "pictorial" shots of eggs in baskets, in piles, in crates (get pattern pictures for posters)
  - Dressed poultry
  - Chickens in pens and yards
  - Feeding operations
- III. General farming -- get pictures of representative small farms (California -- Texas) General farming, buildings, farmer & family, farmer at work.
- IV. Small town under war conditions
  - Select a small town some distance from large cities and make a camera study of how this town looks under war conditions.
  - Civilian Defense Activities
  - Meetings of all kinds--Red Cross
  - Farm groups, etc.
  - Look for a town near an Army Camp
  - Signs--stores, filling stations, etc.
  - Selective Service
  - Registration of new age groups
  - Home gardens, Civilian Defense Activities
  - Schools, More neighborliness (Any evidence of this?)
- V. Auto and auto tire rationing. A civilian population gets off rubber tires. (Many things should be photographed now before disappearance of marked decline. Old tires piles  
Used car lots. Especially when enormous number of cars are stored.
- Signs--any sign which suggests rubber (or other commodity) shortage, rationing, etc. Horse-drawn vehicles. Blacksmith shops, harness shops, buggies, delivery wagons, horse drays (for trucks), bicycles. (What will happen to roadside hamburger stand?)  
Watch for closed filling stations or eat joints.
- VI. The highway
  - Watch for any signs which indicate a country at war. "Man at Work" pictures. We are still short of these pictures. These should include:  
highway building - big stuff, e.g., in the Rocky Mts. of major highways.
  - Repair and maintenance.
  - Emphasize the men.
- VII. (for R. Lee) Mining, California, Arizona, New Mexico
  - Get pictures showing increased activities among prospective and small operating outfits.
  - Mercury--near San Jose, California. Cement, Kaiser's cement plant near San Jose, California. (See Jack Tolan. Also Sat. Eve. Post article on Kaiser.)
  - Minders--faces & miners at work
- VIII. The land
  - The long shots for a "feel" of the country
  - Details
- IX. People - we must have at once:
  - Pictures of men, women and children who appear as if they really believed in the U.S. Get people with a little spirit. Too many in our file now paint the U.S. as an old person's home and that just about everyone is too old to work and too malnourished to care much what happens. (Don't misunderstand the above. FSA is still interested in the lower income groups and we want to continue to photograph this group.) We particularly need young men and women who work in our factories, the young men who build our bridges, roads, dams and large factories.
  - Housewives in their kitchen or in the yard picking flowers.
  - More contented-looking old couples--woman sewing, man reading; sitting on porch; working in garden; sitting in park; coming from church; at picnics, at meetings.