Reliable information of great value in the development of natural resources may be obtained under Project Under Supervision of Compere Pipkin of Mena.

Reliable information of great value in the development of natural resources in Polk county, is expected to be gained from the mineral survey which started March 1. Polk county is one of the 31 Arkansas counties selected for this important work, which is to be handled as a WPA project, employing 15 men. The Arkansas Geological Survey is sponsoring the project.

Compere Pipkin of Mena will be Polk county's supervisor for this work, which is under the general direction of George C. Brunner, state geologist, and R. C. Beckstrom, state supervisor. Supervisor Pipkin recently finished a special course of training in Little Rock in preparation for his important duties. His office will be in the Jack Drug store building.

A selected crew of 14 WPA workers began Tuesday to take a course of instruction under Supervisor Pipkin in preparation for field work which will start possibly this week.

The purpose of the survey, briefly stated, is to make an inventory of all mineral resources in Polk county that may be recorded, with definite data concerning each kind and location of one of the office of the state geologist for free use of the public. This means measurements, estimates, descriptions, tests, maps, a work that is estimated will require possibly two years time.

In aiding the possibilities of the mineral survey, Supervisor Pipkin gave this explanation:

Field crews will observe, estimate, measure, identify, map, and describe the occurrences of minerals in the county, including those minerals which may be expected to attract industry to the locality, those which may be used to lower the cost of road and highway construction and public buildings, and those which may be of importance to national defense. And will so locate as to show their availability to road and railroad transportation and ready water supply and electric power.

"While this survey does not expect to make spectacular discoveries, such as gold mines, oil wells, lenticular deposits, etc., in Polk county, it does expect to locate accurately the minerals which are here, but have not been hitherto developed because of their exact location and extent and have been lost sight of, and because a detailed investigation of this has been too costly for a single firm to develop in the face of known deposits already being developed elsewhere.

"It may be possible that this survey will prove the availability and commercial extent of several other minerals, such as novaculite, bone stone, mineral waters and others, as well as a greater abundance of those already mentioned. While it is not expected that commercial quantities of the "precious" metals will be found, the survey will welcome definite information of their occurrences, and will try to investigate thoroughly such information as appears.

"The field crew will make only a tentative identification of the minerals, their possibilities as information and their potentialities as minerals. Samples will be sent to the laboratories provided by the state geological survey for thorough analysis of each will be made. All wells and springs will be examined for their use as water supplies, and the results of the survey may be made known.

"Every person owning land in the county will have an opportunity to have a hand in the preparation of the report of the county, all tests being made at a nominal charge. Among the various tests to be made will be present at the gathering, accompanied by the chairman of the association, presided over.

"The survey is particularly interested in wells and springs, as their water give evidence of nearby deposits and the general nature of the sub-strata which may be located to be evidenced on the surface."
Polk County Rock Goes to New York

When geologists assemble at the World’s Fair in New York City next year, they’ll find a Polk county rock on exhibition that is likely to command much attention. This rock was started Friday on a journey that is expected to reach the Arkansas mineral exhibit in the New York show, and then go on to a permanent home in the big city’s museum of Natural History.

This Polk county rock that has gone traveling was taken to Little Rock Friday by Compere Pipkin, supervisor of the local mineral survey, who was accompanied by Hugh Gore and Eddie Miller, assistants. It will be left along with old Polk county specimens at the office of State Geologist Branner where the Arkansas exhibit will be made up.

There are few places in the country where blue and white Slickenside quartz is found, and that makes this Polk county specimen of more than ordinary interest to students of geology. The fragment taken away is about 9/16 of an inch in thickness and is as smooth as glass. It was found on what is known as the Six-Mile fault, in the Bowers & Cran dell shaft, located west of Cave near the Oklahoma line. The find was made at a depth of about 20 feet below the earth’s surface.

According to geological science, this specimen of Slickenside quartz must have been in a slide that moved at least 1,000 feet in one of nature’s convulsions to attain its smoothness and thinness. There are but few places in the Ouachitas where these slides have occurred.

New Tenants in Building Over Lindsay’s

Rooms formerly occupied by the University Extension Service, commonly referred to as the county agents’ offices, over the Lindsay Jewelry store, now have a different class of tenants. The City of Mena in providing quarters for the WPA sewing room, found it had more room than needed for this agency of working women and took on two additional tenants. One is the local police court over which Judge W. I. Greer presides. Another unoccupied room is the new home of the Polk County Mineral Survey. The Farm Security Administration, which happens to be one of the few federal agencies that does ask for rent free quarters, still occupies the rooms it has always had in the rear of the building.

Floyd “Chick” Carter, whose boyhood days were spent in Mena, but who is now a business man at De Queen, where he’s lived for years, was a Mena visitor Tuesday. Among other matters attended to while here was to arrange with Compere Pipkin, supervisor of the county mineral survey, to come to De Queen Thursday and make a talk about the work before the De Queen Commercial Club.

Annual Roll Call

MENA
Allen Compere Pipkin
Allen Compere Pipkin II
Michael Bruce Pipkin
Mrs. Compere Pipkin

HATFIELD
P. O. Yeakey
W. T. Rowe
E. A. Bruce
J. H. Daniels
W. P. Hicks

Though handicapped in his work because of an eye injury, Community Leader F. O. Yeakey has never quit enrolling Red Cross members at Hatfield. He’s been delayed, he admits, in getting around, but he’s not at all through.

This former soldier and postal worker was in Mena Monday and made a partial report at Red Cross headquarters, turning in names of eight he’s enrolled to date.

A family record for a 100 per cent enrollment has won a Red Cross flag for Compere Pipkin, supervisor of the Polk County Mineral Survey. This younger Pipkin family also lays claim to a record made in past years, when Allen Compere Pipkin II became a member of the great humanitarian agency at an age none other has equaled. This branch of one of Polk county’s oldest family trees was enrolled originally when only two weeks of age, which is a record worthwhile.

The Mena Elks had the first of what is expected to be a series of talks by various members of the organization at the regular Monday night meeting when Compere Pipkin gave an illustrated lecture based on geology and mineralogy, particularly that relative to Polk county and Arkansas. Other speeches will be assigned from time to time to members with the topics being something relating to their own business or profession.

Until more permanent quarters can be had the Polk County Mineral Survey office will be in the rear of the Pipkin building on De Queen street.
Field Work of Mineral Survey Is Finished

Water Testing Laboratory
Now in Operation—Visitors Welcome to See Display in Lochridge Building.

Field work of the State Mineral Survey in Polk county has been completed. The entire county was mapped so that a permanent record of the geological formations throughout the county will be available from the office of George C. Branner, state geologist, sponsor of the program, when work on the field notes has been completed in the state office of the survey, and the samples collected by the field crew have been analyzed. Meanwhile a water testing laboratory has been established in the Lochridge building at 405 N. Mena street, under the direction of Edie R. Miller, where tests for carbon dioxide, iron, chlorides, and hardness are conducted by Walter Philpot, chemist. Claud Newsom and Fred Wilhlem gather water samples and work up the required records and statistics. It is contemplated that this work, together with some additional field mapping of parts of the county, will require the remainder of this year. This important work was made possible in Polk county through the co-operation of County Judge Will Alexander, Mayor Albert Middleton, the Chamber of Commerce, the city council, and the local set-up of the WPA.

The public is cordially invited to visit the laboratory at any time and see the water tests run. The laboratory crew works regularly from Monday through Friday, and will be glad to show visitors who may be interested just what work is being done.

A display of minerals is also kept in the display case in the laboratory at all times, which is changed from time to time. At this time a display of limestones is being shown, including specimens gathered by the survey from Montgomery and Sevier counties, and from several counties in the north Arkansas lime belt. The display includes also several types of celestite, a specimen of unpolished black marble, a chalk specimen from White Cliffs in Little River county, and fossiliferous ponderosa oyster shells from the marls of southern Sevier county. At least seven additional displays are planned, including metals, common rocks, rare minerals, fossils, Magnet Cove minerals, useful cheap minerals, etc. Announcement of display changes will be made from time to time in this paper.