

Table of Roads in Existence in the Provinces in Mindanao and Sulu from December 31, 1935 to June 30, 1937

Province	FIRST CLASS			SECOND CLASS			THIRD CLASS		
	June 30 1935	June 30 1937	Increase or decrease	June 30 1935	June 30 1937	Increase or decrease	June 30 1935	June 30 1937	Increase or decrease
Agusan	68.0	68.0	—	28.1	36.2	8.1	4.8	11.2	6.4
Bukidnon	99.7	120.9	21.2	25.9	23.2	(2.7)	55.7	50.8	(4.9)
Cotabato	86.2	86.2	—	89.1	131.0	41.9	56.2	81.6	25.4
Davao	63.9	81.3	17.4	74.1	93.1	19.0	21.8	55.2	33.4
Lanao	52.8	53.4	.6	129.9	141.4	11.5	26.3	29.4	3.1
Occ. Misamis	101.7	125.7	24.0	19.6	9.6	(10.0)	19.4	43.0	23.6
Or. Misamis	163.2	163.2	—	133.0	154.4	21.4	16.5	13.8	(2.7)
Sulu	135.1	137.1	2.0	3.2	23.7	20.5	52.4	42.5	(9.9)
Surigao	105.3	117.7	12.4	40.2	46.8	6.6	79.3	79.7	.4
Zamboanga	67.7	80.7	13.0	214.1	216.7	2.6	52.4	63.4	11.0
Totals	943.6	1034.2	90.6	757.2	876.1	118.9	384.8	470.6	85.8

Hand in hand with road construction activities, the Bureau of Lands is subdividing suitable public agricultural lands and establishing townsites along completed roads and roads under construction. This Bureau has adopted the policy of making subdivisions into lots of six hectares each within the first kilometer on both sides of the road; 12 hectares each, in the second kilometer, and 18 to 24 hectares each, in the third kilometer, which is the minimum limit established by law for such agricultural subdivisions. Beyond the 3-kilometer limits is the zone where sales application or leases for large tracts of land are permitted.

In the subdivisions started last year by the Bureau of Lands along the Cotabato-Davao interprovincial road, hundreds of lots have been disposed of, and they are taken up as fast as they are released for occupation. In the high land sections the settlers usually come from Cebu, Bohol, Leyte, Oriental Negros and Oriental Misamis, as they prefer to plant hemp, corn and fruit trees. The Ilocano homeseekers and those coming from Pangasinan, Nueva Ecija, Tarlac, Zambales, Capiz, Iloilo and Antique prefer to settle in the lowlands where they can develop irrigation systems and plant lowland rice.

Luzon is the largest island in the Philippines, having an area of 105,300 square kilometers and a population of 6,300,000, and Mindanao is the next in size with an area of 98,071 square kilometers and only a population of 1,500,000. Up to the end of 1936, Luzon Island had the following kilometerage of roads:

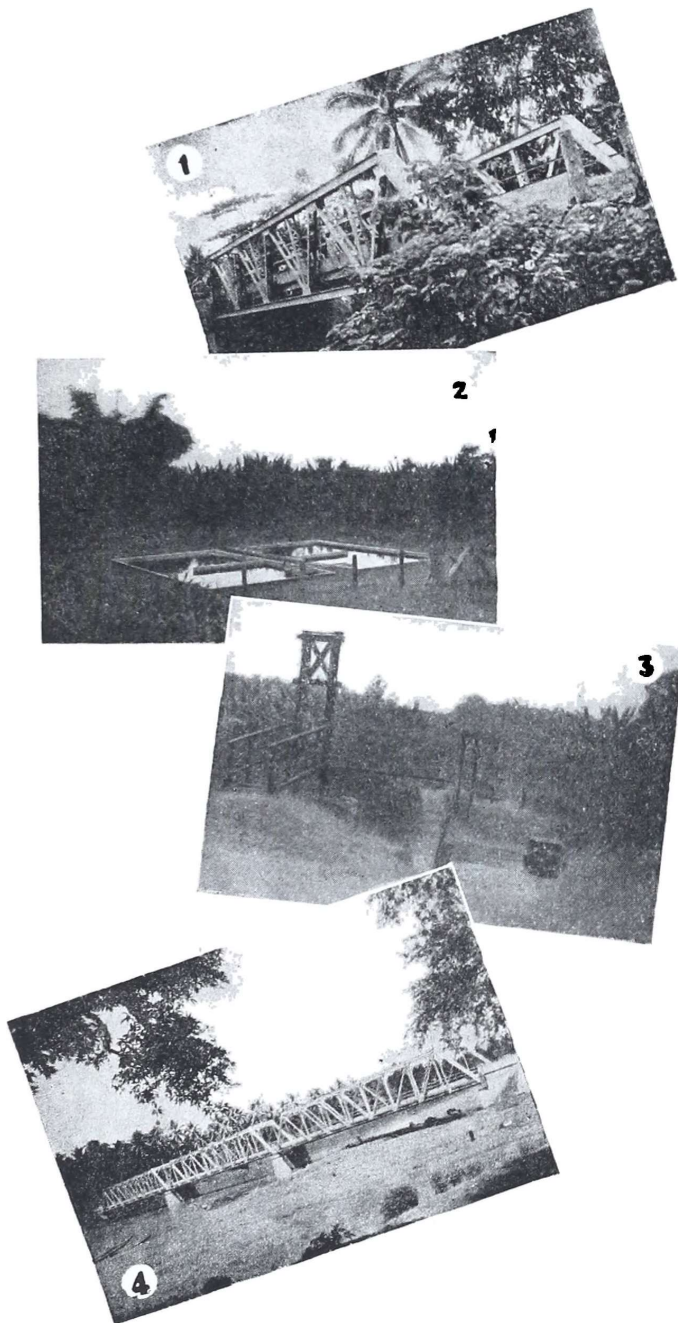
First Class	4,691.5 Kilometers
Second Class	2,464.0 Kilometers
Third Class	926.7 Kilometers
Total	8,082.2 Kilometers

while Mindanao had only:

First Class	1,024.9 Kilometers
Second Class	784.2 Kilometers
Third Class	468.8 Kilometers
Total	2,277.9 Kilometers

Compared with Mindanao, Luzon Island, as indicated by its present population and kilometerage of roads, is relatively well developed, with the exception of the provinces of Nueva Vizcaya, Isabela and Cagayan and portions of Tayabas and Camarines Norte, which still have extensive areas of undeveloped public lands due to the fact that only in recent years interprovincial roads have been completed, or are being completed, to connect these provinces with the road system in Luzon and with Manila, the capital of the Philippines. In order, therefore, to place Mindanao in the same state of development as her big sister Island of Luzon, it will require the investment of as many millions of pesos as have been spent for road work in the Island of Luzon, and the emigration thereto of all the excess population from Luzon and the Visayan Islands. It is encouraging to note that, beginning with our great President, all the high officials of the Commonwealth Government are taking great interest in the development of Mindanao and Sulu. Within the past two years they started to consider the development work of Mindanao and Sulu as a national problem and are now bending every effort to find ways and means to finance important public undertakings, especially the construction of roads. Four Department Secretaries, with their bureau chiefs, have separately made careful inspection of the Moro provinces to study the problems confronting their respective Departments in the development work. Honorable Mariano Jesus Cuenco, Secretary of Public Works and Communications, firmly believes that the most expeditious way to settle and develop Mindanao, and thus eventually solve the problem of excess population in the other parts of the Philippine Archipelago, is by building a network of roads to traverse the extensive agricultural lands in this Island. In a conference he had last April with the Division Engineer and the Commissioner for

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1. Talomo bridge, Km. 7, Davao south road, Davao.  
 2. Davao Waterworks Reservoir and sitting basin, Davao.  
 3. Suspension bridge over Digas River, Davao south road, Davao.  
 4. Generoso bridge, Km. 2, Davao south road, Davao.



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## INDIANA'S MAGNIFICENT McNUTT

*Washington news dispatches label High Commissioner Paul V. McNutt in the biggest question-mark in today's American national politics. Commissioner McNutt is wearing well here, so far as we learn, and the following American Mercury story about him in Indiana written by James Stevens will no doubt be widely appreciated.*

January, 1933, and the inaugural of Paul V. McNutt as the Hoosier governor. The State was ripe for one-man rule. Public and private finances were crashing under the burden of huge deficits, and a tornado of tax delinquencies and busting banks. Schools were closing, unpaid teachers were organizing hunger marches, the jobless in the industrial cities were roaring for bread and beer, hell was smoldering in the steel mills and already exploding in the coal mines. McNutt went after dictatorial powers, and got them. Within sixty days the new Governor jammed through a reorganization measure that reduced 169 administrative bureaus to eight departments under his control. He machine-gunned on, with a sales-tax law that was soothingly labeled a "gross-income tax"; a bill that revolutionized the State banking system; a law that was to reduce Indiana property taxes \$50,000,000 in four years; a law that gave the State an actual police force instead of a pack of political choreboys; an enactment that buried the State's Ku-Klux bone-dry law and cleared the way for Modification and Repeal; and a slew of measures which knocked down and rebuilt the major State commissions, the system of municipal elections, and the State set-ups for dealing with Depression emergencies.

So much, and much more, before March 4th. Every measure had been in secret preparation for months and was heaved at a flabbergasted Legislature without warning. The

Republicans yelled, and a few Farley-Peters Democrats took walks, but the surprise attacks scuttled all opposition.

Yet McNutt the Magnificent is a product of plain Hoosier earth, and so fits the need of democratic legend. His father was an appellate judge, but the country town of Franklin, Indiana, was his birthplace and he grew among barefoot boys. No stories of moment have come out of his youth. Then, it seems, he was only handsome. At Indiana University the hero's powers unfolded, and he achieved the presidency of his class. A year at Harvard, and he came home with a Bachelor of Laws degree and to an assistant-professorship in the Law School of the State university. There McNutt first demonstrated his abilities as a political strategist, a master of patient self-advancement.

The facts of young McNutt's coming to power over William Low Bryan, then and now president of Indiana University, have never been told. The McNutt enemies relate a melodramatic story of black intrigue against the then-aged Dean Hepburn of the Law School; the McNutt loyalists give a poetic recitation about ability and virtue meeting a just reward; the truth probably lies betwixt and between. In any case, Hepburn was retired and McNutt was installed in his chair before a thunderstruck faculty could raise a whisper of protest. The appointment stuck.

Concurrently rose McNutt's World War career. Wonderfully made for military regalia, incomparably voiced for patriotic oratory, Soldier McNutt was kept at home to inflame the recruits of the Wilson crusade. At Camp Stanley, Leon Springs, Texas, he fairly bounced from a captaincy in the Field Artillery to brigade command, and finally returned to Bloomington with sufficient, if bloodless, glory.

But to get back to his story, in 1930, the Indiana Democracy had real hope, for the first time in fourteen years, of driving the Republicans from the lush political feed-runs. . . . McNutt, in plumes and shining armor that bore no smear of politics, was anointed by State Chairman Peters as key-noter for the State Convention.

. . . Many of the delegates there saw McNutt for the first time. He knew it was his fateful hour. Inspired, he struck all present as a Great Light leaning downward. He held silence until not a breath issued from his audience. Then the golden voice clanged a battle cry:

"We have met to prepare for a change in government and for its restoration to the people!"

As the echo rang, McNutt was made. Patriot Democrats who had schemed and sweated through years of famine for places at the head of the Hoosier trough were forced to stand at attention in the ranks while Boss Peters escorted the Magnificent McNutt to the front of the feed-line parade.

For two years the Hero seemed compliant in the role of drum-major. Then, at Chicago, in a day, he stripped his baton of its gilt, and revealed a leaded big stick.

In 1934, with one Democratic faction supporting Peters for the U. S. Senatorial nomination, and the Van Nuys faction boosting another, McNutt easily nominated his benchman, Sherman Minton. In 1936, the gubernatorial nomination was the State Convention prize. Minton, by now a roaring New Dealer, was bold enough to advance a candidate of his own. Van Nuys tried again. McNutt did not even trouble to endorse officially his candidate, Mr. Clifford Townsend, then lieutenant-governor. One ballot was enough. The Magnificent One remained the master of all the Hoosiers.

Then, the '36 campaign. The Republicans, hugely heartened by Democratic factional fights, revived the 1934 cry of "Stop McNutt!" So again in Indiana the Rooseveltian New Deal played second fiddle to the McNutt Dictatorship in an election. The hero himself was not a candidate because the Indiana Constitution denies a second term to a governor. Nevertheless, the retiring governor was the central figure of the campaign.

By this time he had perfected his public-forum method of campaigning. Every conceivable question and argument that might be fired at him from an audience had been carefully considered, and answers were stored up for all. Now McNutt the Magnificent was at his best. Standing alone on a vast stage, with lamps flaring upon his towering silver mane, classic features, and pine-like form, his smile as ever a