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Description: Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt's visit to the National Youth Administration Quoddy Village Project.

The Boston American
June 23, 1941

MY DAY
By Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt

Eastport, Maine, Sunday - We are having the most wonderful weather, but even for this cool spot, it is warm and almost breathless. Yesterday morning, on the water, it was cool and we had a grand breeze on our way over to Eastport. Once landed there, we took a taxi and went out to Quoddy Village to visit the NYA resident project.

I had not seen this project since it had been turned over to the boys. I was impressed by the excellence of the work shops and by the tremendous interest which the boys show in the work they are doing in aviation mechanics and the regular machine shops. They have good classrooms and have set up an instrument room now, because they found a demand for men who could work on instruments.

The gliders they are making are extraordinarily good, and I hope the Army will send somebody up to inspect them, because I feel they could be used for experimental purposes. An airfield is being built quite nearby, so that some day they will actually see their engines take a plane off the grounds, we hope.

PERHAPS the most exciting part of this project is the actual practice of democracy. The law allows no discrimination of race or religion, and these boys have entered into the spirit of real democracy. Since they govern themselves, they see to it that no discrimination exists. They have a mayor, a council and a court. They also hold elections.

They had called a meeting and agreed that, though it was a Saturday, these boys knew that I would want to see them at work. It was decided to take Wednesday afternoon off and to work yesterday morning; no one was to ask me for autographs while I walked around.

I saw them have dinner. The food is good and yet they do it on 38 cents per boy per day. They plan a full recreational program and seem interested and happy. I think the NYA project at Quoddy is a very valuable project, for it seems to be turning out good men.