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Award of a contract for grading, draining and crushed-gravel surfacing of 13.4 miles of road on the Lower Brule Indian Reservation in Lyman County, S. Dak., to R. C. Van Houten and Sons, Rapid City, . S. Dak., was announced today by the Department of the Interior.

Van Houten's bid of $112,882.94 was the lowest of eight received. The others ranged from $115,985.94 to $168,140.82.

The project is part of a larger plan to provide all-weather transportation for a distance of about 43 miles across the reservation from the Subagency headquarters to the extreme northwest corner. Five miles of this road from the Subagency has already been improved to a standard that will meet the traffic needs.