Harry L. Hopkins, Works Progress Administrator and Federal Emergency Relief Administrator, today announced that employment on projects under the Works Program has brought an end to Federal relief in Alabama and Wyoming. In these two States the program has achieved its immediate objective.

With 32,000 men and women at work under the Works Program in Alabama and Wyoming, Mr. Hopkins announced that these two States will receive no grants of Federal funds for emergency relief in September. The Federal Government has "quit this business of relief" in these States.

Through August 27, Works Program projects approved for Alabama totalled 110, and the total Federal allotment was $35,170,730.

Through the same date, Works Program projects approved for Wyoming totalled 105, and the total Federal allotment was $18,061,471.

Additional projects will be submitted from time to time by both States to provide jobs for the necessary volume of Works Program workers.

With preliminary preparation on many projects now complete, the rate of starting them in terms of putting men and women from the relief rolls at work will be considerably accelerated.

Among the first to send Works Program projects to Washington and to receive approval, Alabama and Wyoming have rapidly transferred their able employed from relief rolls to the pay rolls of the program. Their Works Program schedule calls for the assignment of many others to projects in the remainder of August and through September so that their activities will quickly into full swing.
In explaining the significance of the achievement, Mr. Hopkins said:

"The Works Program has reached its immediate objective according to the
schedules for Alabama and Wyoming. The employable needy have been taken
from the relief rolls and put to work on useful public projects at security
wages. Those who have not already been transferred to work projects will be
soon, so that during September further Federal relief funds will not be re-
quired.

"Balances of Federal relief funds now in the hands of the two States will
assist them in adjusting to the new situation, so that in the period of reorgani-
zation all needs will be met.

"State and local provisions in the future will take care of the unemploy-
ables, such as the aged, the physically handicapped, mothers with dependent
children, and others who constitute the local welfare problem.

"The Federal Government, through the Works Program, has recognized that
the problem created by unemployment is primarily national. On the other hand,
local and State financial responsibility for the unemployables is based on the
obvious local character of this aspect of relief needs. This concept, defining
the two phases of the relief problem, according to national responsibility for
employable persons and State and local responsibility for unemployables, has
been recognized by the FERA since its beginning.

"However, the President’s message to Congress on the Works Program
emphasized more clearly the division which places responsibility for direct
relief for unemployables on States and localities, while the Federal Government
assumes the responsibility for employable persons whose need is caused by the
national problem of unemployment."

Various preparations have been made by the two States and their cities,
counties, and towns to carry the costs of direct relief.

Alabama has made $3,000,000 available for the period beginning July 1,
1935, and the governor can use it for various relief purposes, according to the
needs of the various types of unemployables. This is expected to be supplemented
by about $1,000,000 of local funds.