For Release in Morning Newspapers
Monday, September 28, 1936.

Survey of 13 Cities Shows Rise in Former Relief Cases Now Supported by Private Employment.

Increase in the proportion of former urban relief cases supported entirely by income from private employment is revealed in a study of 13 representative cities by the Social Research Division of the Works Progress Administration, Corrington Gill, Acting Administrator, announced today.

The survey, covering changes in source of household income from October 1, 1935, to August 1, 1936, in 6,144 former urban relief cases selected at random, showed a small but steady increase in the ranks of those supported wholly by private employment during the first six months of this period. The gain from October through March was from 13.7 to 17.1 per cent. A more rapid increase during the next four months brought the percentage to 25.6 per cent in July.

A corresponding rise in the number of those partially supported by private employment was noted, the proportion rising from 31.9 per cent to 39.3 per cent from March to July. "The growing importance of this group of cases," the report adds, "reflects seasonal improvement in business."

Each month registered a decrease in the number of former urban cases receiving aid from relief agencies or the Works Program. The decline from October to March was from 85.1 per cent to 79.7 per cent. Between March and July the rate of decrease was accelerated to such an extent that the latter five months covered
by the survey showed twice as many leaving relief or Works Program rolls as
during the first five months.

The study was based on cases selected from Atlanta, Ga.; Baltimore, Md.; Bridgeport, Conn.; Butte, Mont.; Chicago, Ill.; Detroit, Mich; Houston, Texas; Manchester, N. H.; Omaha, Nebr.; Paterson, N. J.; St. Louis, Mo.; San Francisco, Cal. and Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

A copy of the report is attached.