Works Progress Administration Harry L. Hopkins today issued the following statement in reply to demands for statistical data in regard to WPA administrative costs made by John Stutz, Executive Director of the Kansas Emergency Relief Committee:

"I sympathize with John Stutz in his predicament. What he is up against is a naturally higher cost for administering a direct relief program than is required for administering a Work Program. It is too bad, however, that he seems to think it necessary to pull this stuff that he can't get at our records in order to divert the attention of people from his own situation. It is another one of those red herrings. Stutz makes it pretty clear that he has put himself in the hands of the Republican National Committee. As a matter of fact, our records are open to John Stutz or to anybody who has a legitimate reason to see them, but we won't allow these records to be abused by individuals who would exploit them if they got their hands on them. Mr. Stutz's complaint about Federal agencies forcing local communities to share in the cost of relief is a thing we have been up against in Kansas all along. The State of Kansas has never been willing to pay anything toward the aid of the unemployed. Other states seem to think that it is only fair that the cost of unemployment relief should be jointly borne by local, state, and federal governments."