Hopkins Issues Statement on Kansas School Situation.

In reply to inquiries relative to the financing of rural schools in Kansas, Harry L. Hopkins, Administrator of the Works Progress Administration, stated today that on January 5, 1935, Governor Alf M. Landon made application to the Federal Emergency Relief Administration for $150,000 to prevent the closing of rural schools in that State.

Administrator Hopkins said he telegraphed Governor Landon to the effect that "Since your Legislature is now in session and considering legislation for school reorganization and support, I believe it would be proper to ask it to make the relatively small appropriation required for temporary aid to rural schools."

Administrator Hopkins further stated that previous to the Governor's request, he received a wire from John Stutz, recently prominent in the press regarding high administrative costs for direct relief in Kansas, to the effect that "Several rural schools in this State unable to open account lack of funds due to poor tax collections. Several other schools can operate only one and two months."

Mr. Hopkins stated further: "I did not feel at the time and do not feel now that Kansas should have had any Federal grant in the spring of 1935 for keeping rural schools open, although at the time I regretted that it meant the teachers would either have to go without pay or schools would have to close."