WPA Rescue Crews Turn to Mississippi River As Ohio Valley Mop-Up Begins.

Harry L. Hopkins, Works Progress Administrator, tonight reported all available WPA employes in States bordering the Mississippi river south of Cairo, Ill., in readiness to assist Army officials in territory as the flood menace develops.

In northeastern Arkansas, one of the first areas to be evacuated if levees should fail to hold the outpouring from the Ohio, crews of 250 WPA men each were held in reserve at every danger point, to go into action immediately upon a call from Army Engineers. Concentration points for refugees were being designated and, where housing facilities are inadequate, tents will be put up. Thirty thousand tents, capable of sheltering 250,000 persons, were said to be available.

Above Cairo on the Ohio river, as the emergency lessened, a vast program of clean up, with special attention to restoration of sanitation, was under way. Twenty thousand WPA workers were on flood duty in Kentucky, where serious conditions still prevailed in western river counties. In eastern Kentucky residents were returning to their homes as the water receded and sanitation projects were being organized. In the Cincinnati area and at other points along the northern banks of the Ohio, similar work was getting under way, with WPA offering all possible assistance in public health measures.

Reports late today from Cairo, Ill., were that the 2,000 WPA workers on duty there have done everything possible to strengthen the levees, five feet of frame and sandbag structure having been added, and that the majority of these may be moved to other sections soon.

West Virginia WPA officials tonight reported the emergency ended in that State, but that WPA forces were being increased to clean up mud and debris and restore sanitation.