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WPA Nursery School Units Caring for 50,000 Children.

Works Progress Administration nursery school units increased from 265 in October, 1933, to more than 1,600 in February, 1937, according to an announcement by Harry L. Hopkins, Works Progress Administrator. Approximately 50,500 children between the ages of two and four years are attending and employment at WPA wages is provided for 5,400 nurses, nutritionists, teachers and others.

Parent education groups also have increased from 300 in October, 1933, to 4,000 in February, 1937, with an enrollment of more than 70,000 mothers and fathers who assemble regularly for instruction in family relationship, mental hygiene, problems of adolescence, community relationship and allied subjects.

Miss Isabel Robinson, recently appointed assistant to Dr. Grace Langdon, director of the nursery school and parent education program of the Works Progress Administration, returned this week from a field trip during which she visited nursery schools and parent education classes in a number of States. Commenting on her work, Miss Robinson stressed the importance of this phase of the Works Program as an educational benefit to underprivileged families and as a stimulus to improved community life. She pointed out that
nursery schools and parent education programs function in areas not served by other agencies or provide needed supplementary aid. Both groups operate for the benefit of very low income, underprivileged families and their children, and are sponsored in the States by a recognized educational agency, usually the State Department of Education.

Miss Robinson was appointed Iowa State supervisor of Nursery Schools and Parent Education in December, 1933. She was born in Maine, attended the University of Chicago, was kindergarten critic teacher in the University of Chicago School of Education. For several years was on the staff of the Pre-School Education Department of Western Reserve University during which time she made special contacts with pre-school and nursery education centers in Cleveland, supervised practice teaching and conducted meetings with parents.