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THE WORKS PROGRAM

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--Works Progress Administration--

For Release to Morning Newspapers, Saturday, May 8, 1937.

STEVENS APPOINTED TO SUCCEED KEY AS OKLAHOMA WPA ADMINISTRATOR

Harry L. Hopkins, Works Progress Administrator, late today announced the resignation of Col. W.S. Key, Oklahoma WPA Administrator, and the appointment of Ron Stevens, Lawton, Assistant Administrator under Colonel Key, as his successor.

Colonel Key has been Administrator for Oklahoma since June 1, 1935, the beginning of WPA operations in the State. His resignation will be effective June 1, just two years later, when he will return to private business.

Mr. Stevens was with the Emergency Relief Administration in Oklahoma and came to WPA at the start of its operations as Director of the Seventh Oklahoma District. One year ago he was called to State Headquarters to become Assistant Administrator in charge of the Division of Information.

In his letter of resignation, Colonel Key wrote:

"Business conditions in Oklahoma make it necessary for me to sever my connections with the Works Progress Administration. Accordingly I request that you accept my resignation as Administrator of Oklahoma effective at the expiration of my accrued leave of absence, which I desire to avail myself of beginning June 1.

"I am grateful for the fine cooperation which you have extended to me, and for the generous aid which has been given to Oklahoma through your organization. I appreciate the interest which you have at all times manifested in the welfare of the unemployed in my State, and am happy to have had the privilege of being associated with you in this great work."

Replying, Administrator Hopkins said:

"I am terribly sorry to receive your resignation. You have done a fine job for us and it has been a great privilege to work with you. I hope you will find it possible to continue your interest in the Works Progress Administration."

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