Proportion of Relief Workers on WPA Shows Continued Rise

All but 3.7 per cent of the employees on Works Progress Administration rolls as of April 24 were persons certified as in need of relief, Administrator Harry L. Hopkins announced today.

Less than 5 per cent, the maximum proportion of non-relief workers now generally allowed on WPA rolls, is shown since the first of the year with the exception of a brief period in February when emergency assignments for flood relief were authorized. The 10 per cent non-relief limit previously fixed was never approached in actual practice, reports for the entire program reveal.

For the week ending January 30, 1937, the percentage of WPA workers certified as in need of relief was 95.3. During the last week of February it stood at 94.9. By the last week of March, it had risen to 95.6. Percentages for the four weeks in April followed:

April 3 .................. 95.6
April 10 ................. 95.8
April 17 ................. 95.9
April 24 ................. 96.3

Some non-relief employment usually is necessary to complete individual projects, Mr. Hopkins explained, but the greater part of such costs are defrayed by local governmental units which sponsor the projects.