Colonel F. C. Harrington, Works Progress Administrator, today announced the appointment of Howard O. Hunter as Deputy Administrator of WPA.

Mr. Hunter, who has been Assistant Administrator and Field Representative in charge of 13 Midwestern States, succeeds Aubrey Williams, who recently was named Administrator of the National Youth Administration.

The Deputy Administrator will assume his new duties February 1.

Mr. Hunter has been a field representative in charge of relief and work relief activities in the Middle West for five and a half years, serving in this capacity for the Federal Emergency Relief Administration and the Civil Works Administration as well as WPA. Operations in this region have been the largest in WPA, employing from 35 to 40 per cent of the total number on WPA rolls.

During the severe drought throughout the Great Plains area in 1936, Mr. Hunter was in charge of the WPA program for this entire area.

Again in 1937 he personally directed emergency and rehabilitation measures following the disastrous flood in the Ohio Valley and along the upper Mississippi.

Before assuming direction of the Federal Emergency Relief program in the Midwest, in August, 1935, Mr. Hunter was associated with Community Chest organizations for 10 years. In addition to field work for the National Association of Community Chests, out of New York City, he also was active in this work in Bridgeport, Conn., and Grand Rapids, Mich.

Mr. Hunter was born in Darien, Ga. He moved, at an early age, to Baton Rouge, La., where the family resided for many years.

Upon graduation from Louisiana State University in 1917, Mr. Hunter immediately enlisted in the army, joining the Tulane University medical unit. He served in France for 18 months and was discharged from the army in May, 1919.

Mr. Hunter is married and has two children. After a conference with Colonel Harrington, he is returning to Chicago to arrange his affairs for removal to Washington late this month.