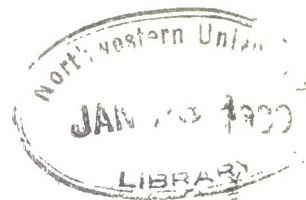


WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

For Release to Newspapers,
Sunday, January 29, 1939.



AMERICAN GUIDE SERIES REPORTS SHOW SPONSORS' PLEDGES TOTALING \$500,000.

Approximately 275 public officials and non-profit organizations -- among them six governors and 33 chambers of commerce -- had assumed financial responsibility at the end of 1938 to the amount of \$500,000 for publication costs of books published or in preparation by the Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration, it was announced today.

These figures were revealed in a report made by Henry G. Alsberg, national director of the project, to Mrs. Florence Kerr, Assistant Administrator in charge of the Women's and Professional Division.

The American Guide Series, general title of the guidebooks written by the project, already numbers more than 170 publications. As sponsors for these books, tax-supported agencies, public officials and non-profit groups assure the cost of publication.

In addition, sponsorship arrangements have been made for 476 books now in preparation.

Guides to their states have been sponsored by the Governors of Connecticut, New Hampshire, Illinois, Indiana, Virginia, and Alaska, and the Lieutenant Governor of Delaware sponsored the guide to that State.

Among the other sponsors are six secretaries of state, one state librarian, 35 state agencies, 17 mayors and city managers, 61 state departments, 33 chambers of commerce, four women's clubs, 14 colleges and universities, 31 state and local historical societies, and 48 other groups and committees, including the New York World's Fair, an American Legion Post and the military department of the State of Kentucky.

The books are published at no cost to the government, and in many cases publishers have agreed to pay royalties on the books. These royalties are used either to defray non-labor costs of the project, or turned over to the United States Treasury.

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