

WORK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION

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WPA EMPLOYMENT TO BE REDUCED TO 2,100,000 BY AUGUST 1, CHIEFLY BY
DROPPING WORKERS ON ROLLS 18 MONTHS

Colonel F. C. Harrington, Work Projects Commissioner, announced today upon return from an administrative conference in Chicago that WPA employment would be reduced to 2,100,000 by August 1, chiefly by dropping workers who have been on the rolls for 18 consecutive months. Employment now stands at 2,400,000, the number previously authorized for July.

Decision to begin dropping workers who have been on the rolls 18 months was influenced largely by a survey indicating that approximately 650,000 would have been affected August 31 by the requirement of the new WPA appropriation act, making lay-offs mandatory for such persons after that date, Colonel Harrington said.

By beginning now to drop these workers, the WPA Commissioner pointed out, it will be possible to lessen the magnitude of the sudden cut in project personnel, which would have practically closed down entire sections of the program.

Those persons dropped because of having had 18 months employment can regain employment on WPA only by being recertified as in need and securing reassignment, it was explained. Such reassignment, Colonel Harrington said, will be made on the basis of the individual person's qualifications for performing essential duties on a project on which there were vacancies and on the basis of relative need, as required by the act.

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