



FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY
WORK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION

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RAPID EMPLOYMENT TURNOVER SHOWN BY WPA

The rapid rate of turnover on the WPA rolls is illustrated by a report made public today by Colonel F. C. Harrington, Commissioner of Work Projects, which discloses that only 2.2 percent of the WPA project workers in January had been employed continuously for a year and a half.

A report on assignments and separations shows that 48,000 persons were dismissed in January because of 18 months' continuous employment, as required by the WPA Appropriation Act, in comparison with an average enrollment of 2,216,000 in January.

The 18-month dismissals in January represent one-seventh of the 311,500 persons who were assigned to WPA projects in July, 1938, eighteen months prior to January, 1940. The others left voluntarily or were dismissed at some time during the period.

In January, the report shows, 206,000 persons left the rolls while 320,000 were being added. Of the separations, 76,000 were voluntary, and most are assumed to have left to take private employment. In addition to the 48,000 who were dismissed under the 18 month provision, 82,000 were discharged or laid off.

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