FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY WORK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION

ROOM A



For Release to Newspapers Saturday, October 19, 1940.

HUNTER REAFFIRMS WPA WORKERS' RIGHT TO MAKE VOTING THEIR OWN BUSINESS

Every WPA worker's right to vote as he pleases is reaffirmed in a letter to be enclosed with pay checks issued in the near future, Howard O. Hunter, Acting Commissioner of Work Projects, announced today.

The letter, which will reach all WPA employees before the November 5 general election and will be posted immediately on all project and administrative bulletin boards, also restates that it is illegal for anyone to ask a WPA employee for a political contribution.

The letter, over the signature of Mr. Hunter and addressed to "all employees of the Work Projects Administration," follows:

In order that there can be no misunderstanding of Work Projects Administration rules about voting rights of employees, regulations of this Administration on this matter are restated as follows:

- 1. You are entitled to vote or not vote, as you choose.
- 2. No one either connected with or not connected with the Work Projects Administration can get you fired or change your wages because you do or do not vote or because you belong to or do not belong to a political party. It is against the law for <u>anyone</u> to ask you for money for any political campaign.
- 3. If you are employed in an administrative or supervisory capacity you may vote as you please and express privately your opinion on political subjects. However, it is against the law for persons who are employed in an administrative or supervisory capacity to engage in political activity or to take an active part or use their influence directly or indirectly in political management or political Digitizations or in political conventions Original from NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

- 4. Every effort will be made to arrange the working schedules so that you will not lose the necessary time taken for voting purposes.
- 5. Voting is your own business. Keep it that way.

As Acting Commissioner of Work Projects, I will not tolerate any violation of the above regulations. The Work Projects Administration is not in politics and does not take part in politics, either directly or indirectly.