

**TRENDS
IN RELIEF
EXPENDITURES
1910 1935**

**WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
DIVISION OF SOCIAL RESEARCH**

Research Monographs
of the Division of Social Research
Works Progress Administration

- I. Six Rural Problem Areas, Relief—Resources—Rehabilitation
 - II. Comparative Study of Rural Relief and Non-Relief Households
 - III. The Transient Unemployed
 - IV. Urban Workers on Relief
 - V. Landlord and Tenant on the Cotton Plantation
 - VI. Chronology of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, May 12, 1933, to December 31, 1935
 - VII. The Migratory-Casual Worker
 - VIII. Farmers on Relief and Rehabilitation
 - IX. Part-Time Farming in the Southeast
 - X. Trends in Relief Expenditures, 1910-1935
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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Harry L. Hopkins, Administrator

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DIVISION OF SOCIAL RESEARCH

Howard B. Myers, Director

TRENDS IN RELIEF EXPENDITURES

1910-1935

By

ANNE E. GEDDES

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WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, D. C., July 15, 1937.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith a report entitled *Trends in Relief Expenditures, 1910-1935*. The object of this report is to give perspective to recent relief developments by relating them to long-time trends.

In the study are collected, for the first time, scattered and fragmentary data on outdoor relief expenditures prior to the recent depression. Taken singly, these relief series for individual States, cities, and groups of cities are too limited in coverage to warrant any generalizations concerning long-time relief trends in the United States. Taken together, they offer convincing evidence of a strong underlying upward trend in expenditures for at least two decades before the precipitous rise beginning in 1930. They show also a progressive tendency toward increased specialization in the forms of aid and relatively greater dependence on public than on private resources long before the period of Federal participation in emergency unemployment relief measures.

This report was prepared by Anne E. Geddes under the direction of Howard B. Myers, Director of the Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration. Enid Baird and Franklin Aaronson cooperated in the preparation of the report. The Division of Research, Statistics, and Records, in addition to making available the basic statistical data for the FERA, the CWA, and the Works Program, prepared various special tabulations of the data for use in Part II of the report.

Acknowledgment is made to Ralph G. Hurlin of the Russell Sage Foundation and to Paul Webbink of the Social Science Research Council, who have rendered invaluable advisory and critical assistance. Respectfully submitted.

CORRINGTON GILL,
Assistant Administrator.

HON. HARRY L. HOPKINS,
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