
Pogue Declares IERC Violates Pact to Pay

Relief Workers to Be
Without Funds for
Week With Relief Cut
Off, No WPA Payday.

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ility does not begin until the men receive their first full check, covering a two weeks' period of employment.

"The understanding between the Works Progress administration and the Illinois Emergency Relief administration has been that clients would continue to receive until they receive their first full WPA check.

"If the men in question have not previously received a full WPA check, and are to be cut off relief rolls before their first full check arrives, then that is being

done as an action of the relief administration. Perhaps the agreement that the men were to be continued on relief until receipt of their first full pay is an elastic regulation, under which county relief administrators are free to discontinue relief at any time. If that is the case, I am not aware of it, but that is a matter within the jurisdiction of the relief administration. I have no authority to instruct any relief official as to his course of action, and will not presume to do so.

"I imagine the situation in

Champaign county is typical of that existing pretty well over the United States at present. here is some delay in the delivery of checks, but with 350 projects now in progress in the district, it is impossible at present to get the checks to the men any more rapidly than is being done at present."

At no time will it be possible to pay the men on the day on which their work period ends. Mr Pogue said. Time tickets are collected at the end of the two weeks' pay period, taken to the Decatur district office for audit, then go to Chicago and re-checked before checks are made out in the district office of the U. S. Treasury. The checks then are sent to the district paymaster, and from his office are distributed to the men on their jobs.

This process requires from a week to 10 days' time, Pogue said. In any case, there seldom is more than one or two days' variance in the periods between arrival of checks. Workers must learn to make one check last until the next

arrives.

In some cases, where there has been undue delay in delivery of checks, merchants have been asked to extend credit to WPA workers until they are paid. Unless bills thus incurred by the workers are payed by them immediately on arrival of their checks, no such requests in their behalf will be made in the future.

The relief office is endeavoring to help working relief clients meet the "no relief, no pay check" situation by a promise to issue additional federal surplus commodities. It was said at county relief headquarters that "We have sufficient canned surplus commodities" and that relief clients can substitute some canned meat to reduce their need for groceries.

"The main complaint made by relief clients against the canned meat is that it lacks variety. We have supplied them with recipes by which they can vary methods of preparing. Canned vegetables, part of the surplus commodities, can be cooked with the meat and is excellent," it was said.

Miss Gugenheim said "I have tried the canned meat myself and know this to be true."