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WPA OFFICES SHUT IN THIRTY STATES

Agency That Will Expire on July 1 Is Winding Up Its Affairs Over Nation
Special to the New York Times

Washington, May 1 — A government agency which has spent more than ten billion dollars and at one time passed out monthly checks to 3,300,000 persons came to the virtual end of the trail this week.

This is the Work Projects Administration, darling of the relief program in the days when millions were unemployed. All of its work projects in the continental United States have now been liquidated and by June 15 practically all of its administrative offices will be closed. It will expire legally on July 1.

Such liquidation as has not been completed by July 1 will be taken over by the Federal Works Agency and projects which are not finished will, for the most part, be completed by their local sponsors.

Between July, 1935, and February, 1943, the latest date for which figures are available, WPA spent \$10,111,000,000. In the Autumn of 1938 it had 3,300,000 persons on its rolls. That was the peak.

In 1939 the agency had an administrative staff of 36,000, of whom 1,800 worked in the central office in Washington, which was housed in three large buildings.

This week the total on the rolls had dwindled to 37,000 in the whole United States. The central office administrative staff was down to 250 and employees were leaving day by day to take other government jobs or find work in industry.

The administrative employees who remain, instead of disbursing millions of dollars and planning scores of new projects, are engaged in microfilming essential records, transferring property to the Treasury Procurement Division, closing accounts and generally winding up WPA affairs.