
DISTRIBUTION TO GET UNDER WAY MONDAY

Tons of Flour, Meat and Dried
Milk Turned Over to Welfare

Department

1/18/36

Surplus commodities stored by the federal government in the old post-office building have been released, and distribution to unemployed families in desperate circumstances will begin Monday under the direction of the county welfare department.

The long-awaited release is seen by officials as a god-send for the 500 or more unfortunate families in Durham who are unable to qualify for WPA jobs, and who must turn to a sympathetic, but financially handicapped welfare department for necessities.

The release of the food which comprises tons of flour, canned meat, and dried milk was ordered by H. J. Johnson, director of commodity distribution for the state ERA, who was in the city yesterday and this morning conferring with welfare officials as to the manner of distribution.

Welfare workers today were making out food orders for the families on the welfare department's roster of the poor. Each family will be allotted food for a period of two weeks, and the allotment will be carried directly to each home.

Superintendent W. E. Stanley of the welfare department said volunteer aid would be necessary for distribution to homes, but no plan for securing volunteer aid had been perfected this afternoon.

Food stored includes approximately 12 tons of flour, hundred cases of canned meats including hamburger, stew meat and soup stock, and nearly 14,000 pounds of dried milk. The stock will be supplemented early next week with food recently received at Raleigh for the entire state.

The release of the food is expected to alleviate suffering here which is said to be worse now than at any time during the depths of the depression. Flour and meat will not be available to those on the WPA payroll, but only to unemployables and employables who are needy but do not have a relief status and can not qualify for the WPA. The latter group includes approximately 300 families who were thrown out of work shortly before Christmas when the cotton hosiery branch of the Durham Hosiery mills ceased operation.
