TO DIRECTORS OF RELIEF, DROUGHT RELIEF DIRECTORS, AND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS IN THE DROUGHT AREA OF WISCONSIN.

Gentlemen:

Re: Purchase of Hay

It has come to our attention that it has become rather difficult in some counties for dealers to secure sufficient quantities of good quality hay at reasonable prices. It may become necessary in some counties for the Directors of Relief or the County Agricultural Agents to take a hand in this situation and assist the dealers in securing hay at reasonable prices, or even so far as to assist in the distribution of this hay themselves to feed relief clients.

In order to assist in this matter I have wired to the State Departments of Agriculture in Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska, for information regarding available supplies of hay and present prices. Some of these Departments of Agriculture have sent us lists of hay shippers in their state, and some have turned their wires over to shippers in the various states who have replied directly.

Following are wires that I have received from various places, and I am sending you this material with the thought that it may give you some desirable information.

"Kansas City Mo April 17, 1934
Reference your wire sixteenth following Kansas shippers: WJ Small Neodesha; CD Robbins, Rose; H H Peters, Yatescenter; Bish Eades, Yatescenter; stop Following Oklahoma shippers: Stewart Calkins Company, Chelsea Cottle Stanislaus Vinita, Vinita Hay Company, Vinita also Kansas City dealers stop Above prairie hay shippers furnished without implying responsibility. stop Available stocks prairie extremely light. Quality No. 2 mostly lower selling approximately $6.65 FOB country shipping point. Kansas City prices Alfalfa No. 2 leafy $12.50 to $13.50, No. 2 $11.50 to $12.00, No. 3 $10.00 to $10.50. Letter follows A D Harlan"

"Kansas City, Mo April 17, 1934
Answering your wire to Agricultural Department here. We offer you 25 cars Upland Prairie Hay basis nine fifty ton track, Kansas City. Will furnish United States official number 2 grade certificates with cars. Hay in our barns ready to load immediately. Your immediate wire acceptance Fitzgerald Hay Co."

"Kansas City Mo April 17, 1934
Retell Agricultural Dept offer last of our storage ten cars high quality leafy brown alfalfa $13.50, Kansas City immediate
shipment or scattered two weeks. This hay will be cheaper and feed further than their tons prairie which will cost you nine to ten here. Wire

Carlisle Commission Co."

"Kansas City, Mo April 17, 1934
Your telegram Crispin. Offer U. S. Grade 2 Alfalfa Kansas City Federal inspection certificate to govern $14.25 per ton on cars Kansas City.

North & Co. Inc."

"Kansas City, Mo April 17, 1934
Have three cars two or better Alfalfa loaded Union Pacific Central City, Nebraska. Can Ship tomorrow $10.50 FOB. Also have 200 or more tons No. 2 or better Prairie. Can load this and next week at St. Paul, Nebraska on Union Pacific at $9.00 per ton FOB. All hay will ship drought territory your state emergency rate. Can probably offer more alfalfa if want. Answer quickly by Westernunion if want any or all of hay offered.

Gateway Hay Co."

It is absolutely essential that hay of a proper quality be secured at a reasonable price, and we are asking the cooperation of each county to see to it that no unreasonable price is paid for hay in their respective county, which means that the margin of profit allowed to dealers must be closely supervised, and this is just as much a responsibility of the local Drought Relief Committee as is the issuing of feed orders.

Hay should be ordered from shippers on the basis of U. S. gradcs, and as previously instructed, feed orders issued should likewise call for hay of U. S. No. 3 grade, or better. In all cases it will be advisable to get a price from the various shippers on the basis of U. S. grade delivered to your station on drought rates before definitely placing orders.

Very sincerely yours,

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

James H. Dance

JHD:VLJ

Director, Drought Relief