THE CONGRESSIONAL FRONT
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16th District

AFTEP THE FLOOD
When the forces of Nature once more become stable and the flood waters recede, there comes the task of appraising the damage and setting in motion the forces of rehabilitation. Lands have been leached away, levees will slough off, buildings, structures and machinery have been ruined or destroyed, the seed and labor or the farmer has been extinguished. On the eve of a joint meeting between Illinois Members of the Senate and House with representatives of the State, it might be useful to set forth in brief compass, the existing agencies of government which are authorized to provide relief.

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
The War Food Administration under the direction of Chester C. Davis has already dispatched several top officials to the flood area to make a complete survey and report. Various agencies of the Department of Agriculture including the County Extension and Home Bureau are assembling data and information for the respective counties and forwarding it to Washington so that an immediate determination can be made of the needs of each area with special reference to the food situation and the production of food. This will embrace seed, feed, and machinery needs and every effort will be made to cut through administrative red tape to provide expeditious assistance. Full information will doubtless be available through the Agricultural Extension and Home Bureau agents.

DISASTER LOAN CORPORATION
This is a subsidiary agency in the Federal Loan Agency which is authorized to make loans for rebuilding purposes. It cannot make grants. Loans can be made to individuals for home rebuilding or repair purposes to corporations, and to municipalities. Regional offices are maintained at Chicago and St. Louis. Field men are already engaged in making surveys and will prepare estimates without delay. Such men will contact city, county and state officials and Chambers of Commerce. Temporary field offices will be set up wherever necessary and the Corporation will work with local committees in expediting consideration of applications. The Corporation has flexible authority and can use its own discretion in providing liberal terms on loans.

CORPS OF ARMY ENGINEERS
Operating thru Division and District Engineer offices, the Corps of Engineers of the War Department are on the job. They have an emergency fund of $1,000,000 for making emergency repairs to levees etc., including drainage district and sanitary district levees. They are not authorized however to enlarge or make additions to levees without further legislative authority.

RED CROSS - DISASTER SECTION
Through their district offices in Chicago and St. Louis, the Disaster Section of the American Red Cross is equipped with funds and personnel to handle relief. While empowered to make loans for the rebuilding or the repair of homes, the re-furnishing of homes and the purchase of livestock, it has been customary to hold it's operations on the side of emergent relief and refer cases where loans are required to the Disaster Loan Corporation.

WAR PRODUCTION BOARD
The War Production Board has authorized all district and field offices to cooperate fully in providing aid and to handle applications for necessary lumber, building materials etc up to $10,000 without reference to the Washington office. Limitations on the dollar value of building replacement will be waived or substantially modified so that all persons, firms and corporations in the flood areas may procure necessary materials without undue delay.

CONGRESS
Representatives in Congress and Senate from all the flooded areas will meet to determine on appropriate action for further relief measures and for the appropriation of necessary funds to carry on the work of rehabilitating the devastated areas.