
Inventory of the State Relief Administration Records

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Descriptive Summary

Title: State Relief Administration records,

Date (inclusive): 1933-1944

Collection number: F3448

Creator: California. State Relief Administration.

Extent: 5 cubic feet

Repository: California State Archives
Sacramento, California

Abstract: The State Emergency Relief Administration was created in 1933, and succeeded by the State Relief Administration in 1935. Both agencies were developed to alleviate certain conditions caused by the Great Depression. The records from both agencies include reports, statistics, surveys, operating procedures, budgets and bulletins. There is no correspondence included in these records.

Physical location: California State Archives

Language: English.

Access

Collection is open for research.

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], State Relief Administration Records, F3448:[folder number], California State Archives, Office of the Secretary of State, Sacramento, California.

Acquisition Information

These records were sent to the California State Archives after the State Relief Administration was disbanded in 1944.

Biographical Note

The State Emergency Relief Administration (SERA) was created in 1933 as a provision of the Unemployment Bond Relief Act. In 1935, SERA was succeeded by the State Relief Administration (SRA). Both agencies were created to help alleviate certain conditions caused by the Great Depression, and their responsibilities included the distribution of state and federal funds for unemployment relief. The activities of the State Relief Administration frequently overlapped activities of other local, federal and even state agencies created for similar purposes. Consequently, the organization of the SRA was constantly changing and it is difficult to decisively state the the number or names of the agency's divisions at any given date. See Elsey Hurt, *California State Government - an Outline of Its Administrative Organization*, vol. 2, 1939, for more details.

Scope and Contents Note

The records of the State Relief Administration (SRA) include reports, statistics, surveys, operating procedures, budgets and bulletins created or gathered by various divisions of the SRA and its predecessor, the State Emergency Relief Administration. There is no correspondence included in these records.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been associated with these materials in the Archives' automated public access system (currently in development, December 2004).

Subjects

Great Depression
Unemployment
Migrant Labor

Box-folder F3448:1-15a **Administrator's Office, 1933-1941** Series 1.

Creator: California. State Relief Administration.

Physical Description: 17 file folders

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by date of report.

Series Scope and Content Summary

These records include a review of activities, 1933-1935, a report on California unemployment relief, 1936, a report on agricultural migratory laborers in San Joaquin Valley, 1937, a resume of state participation in unemployment relief, 1938, three volumes of monthly reports, 1936-1939, a report to Governor's Commission on Reemployment, 1939, report to Governor's Council, 1940, and the SRA Manual, chapter 1, Rules of Eligibility and Standards for Assistance, 1941.

Access Note

Records are open for research.

Box-folder F3448:16-24 **Division of Statistics and Audits, 1933-1941** Series 2.

Creator: California. State Relief Administration.

Physical Description: 9 file folders

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by date of report.

Series Scope and Content Summary

These records include statistical tables relating to relief in California, 1933-34, an unemployment relief bulletin, 1933-1935, a summary of replies to SRA on the subject of migratory labor, four volumes of weekly bulletins from Los Angeles and San Francisco, 1939-1941, a report on the problem of interstate migration as it affected the SRA, 1940, and a comparison of rents paid by SRA cases with maximum SRA rent allowances, 1941.

Access Note

Records are open for research.

Box-folder F3448:25-41 **Division of Social and County Administration, 1933-1942** Series 3.

Creator: California. State Relief Administration.

Physical Description: 12 file folders

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by date of report.

Series Scope and Content Summary

These records include nutrition and dietary data, 1933-1935, a study of Riverside County Social Service, 1935, a report on transient men and camps, 1935, the Manual of the Social Service Division, 1936, county office procedure forms, 1939, a social case work training syllabus, and the organization chart of the State Department of Social Welfare, 1942.

Access Note

Records are open for research.

Box-folder F3448:42-52 **Field Service Division, 1934-1940** Series 4.

Creator: California. State Relief Administration.

Physical Description: 11 file folders

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by date of report.

Series Scope and Content Summary

These records include a summary of unemployment relief in Orange County, 1934-1936, a fact sheet on the proposed SRA work relief programs, 1939, a report on public welfare in California, 1939, and reorganization plans for SRA administration in San Francisco County, 1940.

Access Note

Records are open for research.

Box-folder F3448:53-56 **Bureau of Community Relations, 1939-1940** Series 5.

Physical Description: 4 file folders

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by date of report.

Series Scope and Content Summary

These records include a handbook of child welfare service, 1939, a report on children on relief, 1939, a report on children on relief, and questions and answers on the Governor's Reemployment Program, 1940.

Access Note

Records are open for research.

Box-folder F3448:57-73a **Accounting Division, 1936-1940** Series 6.

Creator: California. State Relief Administration.

Physical Description: 17 file folders

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by date of report.

Series Scope and Content Summary

These records include 4 volumes of weekly bulletins from San Francisco, 1936-1939, budgets, 1937-1941, and budget of proposed expenditures, 1940.

Access Note

Records are open for research.

Box-folder F3448:74-79 **Division of Personnel, 1938-1941** Series 7.

Creator: California. State Relief Administration.

Physical Description: 5 file folders

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by date of report.

Series Scope and Content Summary

These records include a performance report handbook, 1938, a directory of personnel, 1939, an outline for training, 1940, and rules and regulations for personnel standards and appeals, 1940-1941.

Access Note

Records are open for research.

Box-folder F3448:79a **Division of Planning and Research, 1940** Series 8.

Creator: California. State Relief Administration.

Physical Description: 1 file folder

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by date of report.

Series Scope and Content Summary

This record is a summary of the findings of the California Youth Survey, 1940.

Access Note

Record is open for research.

Box-folder F3448:80-84 **Bureau of Social and Administrative Audits, 1940** Series 9.

Creator: California. State Relief Administration.

Physical Description: 5 file folders

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by date of report.

Series Scope and Content Summary

These records include an intake eligibility report for Los Angeles County, 1940, a survey of rejections and closed cases for San Diego County, 1940, a list of eligibility and investigation processes for San Diego County, 1940, and a bibliography.

Access Note

Records are open for research.

Box-folder F3448:85-94 **Division of Research and Surveys, 1934-1940** Series 10.

Creator: California. State Relief Administration.

Physical Description: 10 file folders

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by date of report.

Series Scope and Content Summary

These records include a survey of economic trends in California, 1934, a survey of population trends in California, 1934, monthly bulletins, 1935, a survey of agricultural requirements in California counties, 1935, and cost statements of California SRA by program and function, 1940.

Access Note

Records are open for research.

Box-folder F3448:95-135 **Division of Special Surveys and Studies, 1935-1941** Series 11.

Creator: California. State Relief Administration.

Physical Description: 41 file folders

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by date of report.

Series Scope and Content Summary

These records include a Sacramento depression settlement survey, 1935, a report on Italians in San Francisco: their adjustment and acculturation, 1935, a report on transients in California, with photos, 1936, a report on migratory labor in California, with photos, 1936, a national unemployment census, 1938, a study of unemployment relief in California, 1939, excerpts from the H. Dewey Anderson address to the Legislative Congress in Sacramento, March 11, 1939, a summary of activities of the SRA operating in Los Angeles County during the period of the reorganization program, 1940, a report on county medical facilities and the Medical Health Program, 1940, a list of SRA expenditures and obligations, 1940, a report on relief standards and migration, 1940, monthly statistical summaries, 1940, a report to the California delegation appointed to draft program on migrant program, 1940, and an estimated effect on county expenditures for indigent and unemployment relief, 1941.

Access Note

Records are open for research.

Box-folder F3448:136-14 **Bureau of Commodity Distribution, 1935-1940** Series 12.

Creator: California. State Relief Administration.

Physical Description: 14 file folders

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by date of report.

Series Scope and Content Summary

These records include a report on surplus commodity distribution, 1933-1935, statistics of surplus commodities, 1935, statistics on food conservation, 1936, semi-annual reports on commodity distribution, 1935-1940, a survey of the school lunch program in California, 1940, a survey of the school lunch program in northern California, 1941, a survey of stamp plan operation, 1941, a survey of Bureau of Surplus Commodities, 1941, and a Manual of Operations for Stamp Plan in Los Angeles County - School Lunch and Direct Distribution Field Kit, 1939-1940.

Access Note

Records are open for research.

Box-folder F3448:150-15 **Bureau of Resident Projects - Camp Operations Department, 1935-1940** Series 13.

Physical Description: 10 file folders

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by date of report.

Series Scope and Content Summary

These records include CCC instructions, suggestions, questions and answers, 1935-1936, CCC regulations, 1937, CCC enrollment in California, 1937 & 1940, nutrition regulations and instructions, 1935-1937, a list of WPA employees checking out of camps owing board, 1940, a report on the resident project of the SRA 1940, and the resident project pamphlet - Facts about a Worthwhile Service to California's Single Men, 1940.

Access Note

Records are open for research.

Box-folder F4338:160-165 **Transient Division, 1935-1940** Series 14.

Creator: California. State Relief Administration.

Physical Description: 6 file folders

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by date of report.

Series Scope and Content Summary

These records include a study of transients and homeless in California, 1935, California Training Service's Progress and Methods of Approach (contains CYCLORAMA: an Investigator's Impression of Transient America), 1935, a public statement regarding transient relief, 1939, preliminary reports on the transient program, 1939, and a report to administrator on Bureau of Resident Projects, 1940.

Access Note

Records are open for research.

Box-folder F3448:166-175 **Bureau of Self-Help - Division of Self-Help Cooperatives, 1935-1939** Series 15.

Creator: California. State Relief Administration.

Physical Description: 12 file folders

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by date of report.

Series Scope and Content Summary

These records include semi-annual reports, 1935, annual reports, 1935-1936, a summary of a proposed plan for self-help cooperatives, 1936, a prospectus, 1936, final reports of plans and estimates of self-help cooperative projects nos. 6859, 8238, 1937-1938, a report on self-help cooperatives in California, 1938, a study on cooperatives, 1938, and administrative study, 1939.

Access Note

Records are open for research.

Box-folder F3448:177a **Division of Operations, 1938** Series 16.

Creator: California. State Relief Administration.

Physical Description: 1 file folder

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically by date of report.

Series Scope and Content Summary

This record is the Manual of Correspondence Procedure, 1938.

Access Note

Record is open for research.