

OLD AGE PENSIONS: Federal Grants, to whom paid

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April 22, 1936

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Miss Reba E. Choate
Assistant Commissioner
Old Age Assistance Division
Jefferson City, Missouri

Dear Madam:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter requesting an opinion from this Department, which reads as follows:

"We have received a telegram from Jane M. Hoey, Director, Bureau of Public Assistance, Federal Social Security Board, which reads as follows:

" 'To facilitate consideration of your fourth quarter Federal fund request we need statement of Attorney General as to proper person to receive Federal funds.'

"May we, as quickly as possible, have your statement pertaining to this information to Miss Hoey."

Section 27 of the Old Age Assistance Act, Laws of Missouri 1935, page 314, is determinative of your inquiry. Said section reads as follows:

"The State Treasurer is hereby authorized, empowered and directed

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to accept gifts, grants, devises and bequests of money or property and credit or hold same to or for the account of the Old Age Pension Fund. Whenever the Government of the United States by act of Congress, or otherwise, appropriates or grants money to the respective states for the payment of Old Age Pensions or for the payment of Old Age Assistance, and for the expenses of the administration thereof, then this State hereby accepts the benefit thereof and the State Board shall cooperate with the Federal Government in the administration of this Act, furnish the Federal Government with any and all information desired relative to the payment of pensions or old age assistance and the cost of administration of this Act, and do any and all other things which may be necessary or required so that the State of Missouri may secure the full benefit of any Act of Congress providing for payment of all or part of the costs of carrying out the provisions of this act."

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, it is the opinion of this Department that Federal grants of moneys to the State of Missouri for old age pensions should be paid to the State Treasurer, whose duty it is to accept such grants and to hold same for the account of the Old Age Pension Fund.

Yours very truly,

J. E. TAYLOR
Assistant Attorney General

APPROVED:

JOHN W. HOFFMAN, Jr.
(Acting) Attorney General

JET:LC