NORTHWEST TERRITORY COMMISSION: Manner of spending appropriation.

January 6, 1938.

Hon. Buford Cadle,
Director, Indiana Commission for the Northwest Territory Celebration,
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 5, 1938, in which you ask as to the authority of the Indiana Commission for the Northwest Territory Celebration to pay in advance to the Federal Commission for the historical pageant to be presented in twenty-seven Indiana cities during the year of 1938.

In reply to this question, your attention is directed to section 8, chapter 279, Acts of Indiana General Assembly of 1937, which reads as follows:

"Sec. 8. The sum of fifteen thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the general fund of the state treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the respective uses of the commission in carrying out the purpose and intent of this Act. The appropriation hereby made shall be available upon the passage of this Act and shall continue available until expended or until the purpose for which such appropriation is made shall have been accomplished. All expenses incurred by the commission shall be paid by vouchers, approved by the president of the commission, and upon warrant of the Auditor of State."

In my opinion the above statute is sufficient authority for the payment of this item of expense and the only remaining question is whether or not such payment can be made in advance of the service rendered.

I find no statutory authority which forbids this payment in advance if in the judgment of the commission they think it advisable so to do.