

I. Economics.

The unemployment problems of particular Montreal industries.

One possible statement of the "causes" of unemployment is that they comprise (1) seasonal fluctuations, (2) cyclical or "trade cycle" fluctuations, (3) technical progress and industrial change, (4) the organisation of the labour market. But each industry has its special problems of mode of recruitment, technology, seasonality, etc., - it is in itself a miniature reflection of the entire unemployment problem - yet these problems depend on its own structure and organisation. The understanding and analysis of these is the first step towards realising the possibilities of stabilisation of unemployment within industry itself.

[Two studies on these lines - of the construction industry and the men's clothing industry - have already been undertaken].

II. Sociology.

The social and occupational adjustment of immigrant groups in Montreal.

Montreal is the dominant city of entry to Canada to which immigrant individuals and families come, and also the city to which many return (or in which they stay) in the event of inadequate adjustment. The racial character of the working-force, and the success or non-success of the new entrant to the country, are very substantial elements in the Canadian unemployment problem. We need more detailed studies of the functioning of immigration agencies, the comparative success, tendencies, and problems of particular groups, etc.

III. Education.

The permanence of the effects of school teaching and its relevance to employability.

The first steps to a more scientific understanding of the importance of elementary education in affecting the chances of an individual's economic success are attempts to test the degree and character of the persistence of school-taught knowledge, and its existence as between employed and unemployed groups. The devising of such tests and the careful selection of groups should enable new light to be thrown on the unemployment problem.

IV. Psychology.

The qualitative character and industrial aptitudes of unemployed as compared with employed groups.

What may be called the "economic quality" of the unemployed is a constantly discussed subject, yet one on which we have