

(Submitted to Committee
members preparatory to
meeting of May 21st, 1931.)

(8)

MEMORANDUM TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

In the light of the discussion of research projects at the last Council meeting, and in view of the need for definite statement of our research fields, I would submit the following suggestions to the Executive Committee, as the material from which with your criticism and modification such a statement can be prepared.

1. Each of the departments to which we are looking first for investigational work is interested in a number of subjects (all of them related to unemployment)*. I would suggest, firstly, that each department concentrate, for the time being and so far as is consistent with the efficiency of the research, on one only of the several subjects in which it is interested. The subjects whose choice I would suggest are listed below (but these must, of course, be considered also by representatives of the departments).

2. In the case, then, of a department which is able or anxious to accommodate more than one student or assistant (e.g., three at \$650 or some lesser sum each for the first year), such students should be working on different parts or aspects of this one subject. For example (see 3 below), in Economics - the organisation of Montreal dock labour, skilled and unskilled employment in railway work, a survey of the field of casual or temporary engagements in Montreal: or in Sociology, - studies of immigration agencies and their work, the adjustment problems of a selected British group, and of a selected foreign group; could proceed coincidentally. The planning of studies in this way may be difficult, but the integrative possibilities of this method merit its trial.

3. The choice of subjects suggested is as follows:

* listed in report to Council on May 13th, 1931.