

In line with the proverbial variety of his interests the last forty-five years of his life represent an unbroken sequence of efforts to make the allegiance of Canada and America one.

---

M. A.

ECONOMICS

FRED. V. STONE

UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF  
IN WESTERN CANADA.

Unemployment in Western Canada in the post-war period has been characterized by both seasonal and cyclical fluctuations. The volume of employment in the normal year at the beginning of April in the Prairie Provinces is 25 per cent less than in August, the month of maximum employment. Cyclical unemployment has been evident in the years 1920 to 1923 and 1929 to 1933. Unemployment relief in which the municipal, provincial, and dominion governments participated has been necessary during both periods of cyclical unemployment. It has been found impossible to provide sufficient employment through public works to render direct relief unnecessary. The administration of direct relief has been, for the most part, in the hands of the municipal authorities thereby giving rise to a great deal of variation and lack of uniformity in policy. The placing of primary responsibility for unemployment relief upon the municipalities is a feature of public policy that has many disadvantages in practice. The recent organization of provincial commissions in Western Canada to take charge of single homeless men marks a step in the direction of much-needed centralized control.

---

M. A.

CHINESE STUDIES

GORDON R. TAYLOR

THE CHINESE SCHOOLS IN CANADA.

During the closing years of the Ch'ing Dynasty (1644-1912) there was apparent throughout China a spreading dissatisfaction with the purely literary nature of the school curriculum and a growing discontent with the exclusive study of the classical texts was evidenced. In the first decade of the Republic popular readers in literary style replaced the classical texts and several scientific studies found their place in the curriculum. During the second decade Mass Education and, despite its inherent limitations, the use of *Pai-hua Wên* (colloquial style) have engaged the attention of the Board of Education in its attempt to solve the problem of China's illiteracy.

The early Chinese immigrants into Canada had secured their education in the Schools of the Ch'ing Dynasty. But doubtless the majority of those China-born and now resident in Canada attended school in the first decade of the Republic. The influx of teen-age boys during the period 1920-1922 and the natural increase in the number of native-born Chinese, whether Eurasian, or of purely Chinese parentage, have necessitated the establishment of Chinese Schools in the larger Chinese communities. Administered originally by the various Chinese Benevolent Societies these schools particularly in Eastern Canada have latterly fallen under the control of religious and political organizations.

Failure to maintain proper standards of qualification for teachers and to co-operate with the Municipal school boards, except in a few isolated cases, has produced results detrimental to the best interests of Chinese education. Adaptation of the curriculum to the needs of Chinese in Canada has been fairly successful but greater co-ordination of effort is to be desired and co-operation with the municipal school boards to be encouraged.

---

M. A.

PSYCHOLOGY

EDWARD C. WEBSTER

AN EXPERIMENTAL APPROACH TO VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE.

A presentation has been made of the results of a study to consider a number of problems associated with a programme of vocational guidance in Montreal. Particular emphasis was given to the selective factors influencing the choice of curriculum by boys entering high school; to differences in ability and achievement of boys in various high school courses; to the prognostic value of standardized tests and school marks in predicting high school success; and to differences between Grade 8 and unemployed boys in Montreal. Results indicated that boys superior in intelligence and achievement tend to enter the high school course leading to B.A. matriculation in preference to the B.Sc. matriculation curriculum. No differences were found between this latter group and boys entering Commercial School. To predict Grade 8 success, a combination of Grade 7 marks and standardized test results was found desirable. Large differences were found between high school boys and unemployed juveniles.

---