

At the request of the Bishop of Montreal and of Lord Atholstan, a conference was held in regard to the homeless man situation, and it was decided to organize a bureau which would register all homeless men except French Catholics, and provide relief for them if necessary. The personnel of the Committee in charge of this Central Registration Bureau for Homeless Men was:- Dr. Grant Fleming, Chairman, Father Joseph Fallon, Brig. F. H. Knight, Col. J. F. Buckley, Dean Arthur Carlisle, J. S. Brierley, W. A. Tooke. The Protestant Bureau for Homeless Men agreed to operate the Bureau, and the Canadian National Railways generously made available quarters at 755 Vitre St. W. A tentative budget of \$20,000 was drawn up and a finance committee, composed of Rev. Dean Arthur Carlisle, Father Joseph Fallon, George Lyman, W. A. Tooke and R. P. Jellett, undertook to issue an appeal for this amount. The immediate results of the appeal were very disappointing, although ultimately \$12,920 was subscribed. With finances so uncertain, it was impossible to make adequate arrangements and the procedure was to issue meal tickets for a selected restaurant on Craig St. This was expensive and unsatisfactory, but obviated the necessity of a large capital outlay for kitchen equipment.

In August the City decided to take over the care of homeless men and appointed a committee - the Montreal Relief Committee - under the chairmanship of Gen. G. E. McCuaig, to operate a refuge for the purpose. This refuge at 756 Vitre St. was opened on August 10th, 1931, and has operated continuously since. At the present time, some 5,000 men are being fed there daily, or twice the number fed at the Dufferin Refuge last year, and about 1,600 men are being housed at night.

The Central Registration Bureau operated from June 22nd to August 9th, 1931, during which time 4,571 men were registered and given assistance. The Bureau thanks to the activity of the Finance Committee, closed its books without a deficit. The recognition of the City of its responsibility for the transient homeless man and the appointment of a committee to handle the matter is, we believe, a very favourable outcome of the work of the Dufferin Refuge and the Central Registration Bureau for Homeless Men. In all this the energy and capacity of Mr. J. S. Brierley played a most important part. Mr. Brierley not only had the ability to direct the work, but was able also to secure the services of a great many volunteers, who under his leadership contributed unsparingly of their time and energy. The Protestant Bureau for Homeless Men, under the presidency of Mr. F. R. Campbell, is continuing its case work service to selected homeless men, and the Protestant House of Industry and Refuge is co-operating in a very substantial way.

The Emergency Unemployment Relief Committee, which had closed on May 2nd, 1931, was compelled to re-open about June 1st, 1931, and has been operating ever since with a steadily increasing load. From the week ending May 31st, 1931, to January 2nd, 1932, 3,831 families had been registered of which 891 were foreign born and the weekly case load at the end of 1931 had risen to about 2,000 families.

In August the Special Committee on Unemployment, which had been inactive during June and July, reconvened with a slightly altered personnel. Plans for the winter were made and the present season's activities may be described under several headings.

Protestant Family Relief

All Protestant families in distress due to unemployment, regardless of race, are eligible for relief at the Emergency Unemployment Relief Committee, 1027 St. George St. The applicants are investigated and if genuinely in need,