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THE ONE GREAT PROBLEM.

We were very much interested in an editorial that appeared in the July issue of the Pulp and Paper Magazine on the unemployment problem which is rightly under the title of "the one great problem"—The article after quoting the Ontario Labor Educational Association's dictum that "unemployment is inherently a product of our present industrial system" roundly condemns society for its sin in allowing what it terms "a social crime." But the gist of the editorial is in the following paragraph:

"Who will answer the challenge of the times? who will take from the groaning world the scourge of poverty? why should it not be the business man, the manufacturer, the man who deals with practical problems?"

This coming from a journal published in the interests of a large industry is surprising though we welcome the idea that the trade organs are at least recognizing that the unemployment problem in Canada to-day is essentially an industrial problem—brought about largely by lack of that true spirit of responsibility on the part of the large industrial concerns. But we have little confidence that the manufacturers will "answer the challenge of the times." During the last twelve months the municipalities alone have answered the challenge. The "practical" man certainly has not. But there is still hope and if the Pulp and Paper Magazine can convince its readers that theirs is the responsibility of unemployment, at least something will have been done. But in the meantime the municipalities bear the burden.

ERROR

By inadvertance we did not give the name of the writer of the splendid article on finance, entitled "How Capital Expenditures are Paid For" which appeared in the July issue of the Journal. The author is Coutts Milne. We regret the slip, as the article in question had taken up much of Mr. Milne's time. We hope shortly to publish another article from his pen.

EFFICIENCY FIRST.

At the annual conference of the Mayors and officials of fifty-four cities in New York State the idea underlying the deliberations was "efficiency" in every phase of municipal life—a uniform system of accounting, a more comprehensive health survey of the cities, more efficient by budgets and a more complete system of town planning, being some of the reforms aimed at. As a first step towards the consummation the conference determined to establish a state bureau of municipal information, to be supported and operated by the cities themselves the managing committee to consist of five mayors, elected annually.

The conference, which has our very good wishes, in its ambitious schemes, is not taking up something new for each has been taken up at different times at the conventions of the Union of Canadian Municipalities and advocated in this Journal, so that in municipal reform we can honestly claim Canada to be in the vanguard. A bureau of municipal information was suggested at the foundation of the Union of Canadian Municipalities in 1901, and has been in operation ever since.

ALIEN ENEMIES.

Mayor Young of Fort William and Mayor Moon-ey of Port Arthur recently interviewed the Federal Government on the alien problem which is affecting the twin cities considerably. As Mayor Mooney stated the unemployment problem in both Port Arthur and Fort William would be soon settled if the Government would take up its responsibility in taking care of the alien enemies—there being over 5,000 Austrians on their hands.