

A PLEA BY THE UNEMPLOYED FOR CO-OPERATION IN RE-ESTABLISHMENT.

The Unemployed must go. For fifteen years the people of Britain have endeavoured to find a place to which to send them. For the last few years the doors of the Dominion and the United States have been closed against them. Such countries now have unemployment problems of their own and are themselves seeking a place to which to send their own unemployed who ^{have} flocked to the cities and become a burden on the taxpayer. The problems of our Cities in caring for their relief costs have become serious. For humanitarian reasons, they cannot, and, for other reasons, they dare not, cut off relief no matter what the burden may be nor their ability to meet it indefinitely. A day of reckoning will come and I doubt not that in certain centres the unemployed will suffer before some final settlement is made of our problems.

Business is improving and ultimately, no doubt, we shall, measured by financial statistics, have emerged from the depression. However, gratifying as that event shall be, let us be under no delusions that we shall have solved the problem of unemployment when our industrial concerns are all out of the red. The problem of the re-establishment of the Canadian unemployed represents a case which has no precedent in the history of this country. Left to itself the solution will not automatically come by the mere virtue of increased activity in the business world. When the depression of 1929 dumped millions on the hands of the Social Service Agencies of the United States, these bureaus were still caring for the victims of the comparatively minor depression of 1921, nor were these latter all to be classed as unemployables. American writers state that even at the peak of the pre-depression prosperity era there was always a large army of unemployed - possible of some two millions - and this was not altogether to be explained as being due to seasonable unemployment.

Relative figures might, I believe, be quoted for Canada. Whatever prosperity we may have had in the 1920,s was very "spotty". Too many have been fooled by prosperity and now, with relief measures under some degree of organization, and

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