

PLAN TO REGULARIZE EMPLOYMENT.

(SUGGESTED BY CANADIAN CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION).

The following brief outline of a plan to regularize employment is intended as a basis for discussion at a conference which it is hoped the Federal Government will see fit to call immediately, with a view to adopting some permanent plan to regularize employment throughout Canada.

It is proposed that this plan be adopted and put into practice for at least three or four years, with a view to making it continuous, as a solution of the serious unemployment problem which recurs periodically under present conditions.

This plan should be a combination of the Federal relief measure passed last Fall, with the best principles of Insurance as practiced in other countries. The former should provide employment and the latter provide the means.

Under this plan every individual employee on a salary or wage basis (except those employed on relief work) would be required to contribute. Every employer would also be required to contribute an amount equal to the total assessed on his employees, and the Federal Government would also assist by contributing a like amount.

In order to establish a fund immediately, the Federal Government should be asked to vote an amount, which would be considered as a loan, to establish this employment plan.

A Federal Commission should be appointed to carry out this proposed plan, and might be organized on a similar basis as the Provincial Workmen's Compensation Boards.

All relief works performed under this plan should be in the nature of general improvements of all kinds, but otherwise should be non-productive, that is, nothing would be produced for sale. The result of these works would be to create an increased demand for the productions of existing industry, thus indirectly providing greater employment and more steady work for those who would be contributing to the fund.

The wages and salaries paid on all such relief work should be considerably below those paid on regular normal work, so that workers would be