

show throughout the year 1927, month by month, the number of men who were registered with the Employment Service as being out of work and applying for work, as follows, starting with the month of January; January, 555; February, 586; March, 591; April, 469; May, 399; June, 448; July, 338; August, 326; September, 307, which was the lowest month; October, 374; November, 465; December, 538. In 1928, January, 653; February, 480; March, 460; April, 303. There is also a column showing the number of placements made by the Protestant Employment Bureau: Starting with 1927, in January the number of placements was 148; February, 184; March, 282; April, 399; May, 332; June, 248; July, 199; August, 215; September, 274; October, 340; November, 378; December, 298. January, 1928, 250; February, 332; March, 418; April, 432.

The significance of these figures is that they only cover the English-speaking Protestant population of the whole city. The figures are very considerable, and they give you an idea of the amount of unemployment we have to contend against.

(At this point Mr. Woodsworth took the Chair.)

By the Acting Chairman:

Q. Is that Bureau connected with the Government Employment Bureau?

—A. No, it is not, in any way.

Q. What is the reason for its existence at all?—A. The situation unfortunately is this, that the experience of our social agencies in Montreal dealing with Protestants has been that somehow the English speaking Protestant does not get a job readily through the Government Employment Service. Since we established this employment service, which we finance ourselves, there has been an amazing difference in the number of Protestants for whom we can get employment. As a matter of fact, we have been placing almost as many men as the Dominion Government Employment Service in Montreal.

Q. Does that cover both men and women?—A. No, that only covers men. I would like to deal with women from another viewpoint, in a moment or two.

Another set of figures which I would like to submit shows the volume of Protestant Unemployment Relief for 1924-25, 1925-26, 1926-27 and 1927-28; this table shows that in 1924-25 the number of families helped was 950 at an expense of \$26,912; 1925-26, 786 families were helped at a cost of \$24,962; 1926-27, 506 families were helped (conditions having improved) at an expense of \$9,432, and 1927-28, 280 families were helped at a cost of \$6,958. Conditions have been considerably better.

By Mr. Neill:

Q. I thought you said there were only some 400 unemployed every month?

—A. These figures are for people in actual distress, who had to have money spent upon them. We find it cheaper to spend money on Employment Service than to hand out relief.

The next statement I would like to submit is one which I think is very significant. I have here the records for the years 1923 to 1927, inclusive, of the Women's Labour Bureau of the Family Welfare Association. The Family Welfare Association is a voluntary relief and service organization, which takes the place of the Social Service Commission, of which Miss Childs is Secretary in Winnipeg, who has given some evidence before this Committee. There is no municipal outdoor relief in Montreal. These women are working women, who have to subsidize the earnings of the family, especially during the winter months, when the men are unemployed. In 1923 the number of women employed was 864, in 1924 the number was 524, in 1925 the number was 648, in 1926 the number was 442, and in 1927 the number was 489. The number

[Mr. Howard T. Falk.]