

# MINISTER TELLS DEPUTATION IDLE SHOULD SECURE WORK ON FARMS

## Ukrainian Committee Interviewed

Hon. Mr. Crothers Concerning  
the Situation Regarding the  
Unemployed.

## CITIES CROWDED WITH MEN OUT OF POSITIONS

## Deputation Also Waited on Mayor

McVeity and Were Promised  
Assistance if Possible in Near  
Future.

At a large mass meeting of the Ukrainian Social Democrat Party held last night on the corner of Rochester and Ellen Street a report of the committee appointed last Sunday by the party to interview Hon. T. W. Crothers, Minister of Labor, and Mayor McVeity, and to present resolutions asking that the government and city council take action to alleviate the present poverty of the working classes, was submitted.

Michael Chopowik, a member of the committee which met the Minister of Labor, and who acted as chairman of the meeting last night, told those present that the committee had been unable to secure any promise of relief from Mr. Crothers. The Minister of Labor, he stated, had refused to admit that there were large numbers of willing men out of work in Ottawa and Canada generally, advising those who could not secure employment in the cities to go out and get work on the farms where there was a demand for laborers.

### Some Walked 600 Miles.

Mr. Chopowik told the minister, he stated, that foreigners, Polacks, Ukrainians, etc., could not get employment in either the cities or country. That some of them had travelled on foot for a distance of six hundred miles, as far west as Fort William, in an effort to get work and had been unable to do so, and that they found that many of the farmers were leaving the country to seek employment in the cities on account of hard times. After an interview with the Minister of Labor which lasted, according to Mr. Chopowik, for an hour and a half, and during which the committee had put forward many powerful arguments in favor of the Government taking action to relieve the distress of the workers, the committee was forced to leave without securing any satisfaction.

"The minister said that there was lots of work in the country for those who wanted to work, and that even if parliament was not proroguing today he would not think it worth while to submit our resolution to the government," said Mr. Chopowik.

### Mayor is Sympathetic.

Mayor McVeity had received the resolution of the committee more favorably, the speaker said. He had admitted that times were hard in the city at present, and promised to do his best to provide work for the unemployed by putting through more civic work. He also promised to present the resolution of the Ukrainians to the city council when that body meets next Monday evening. He, however, explained to the committee that it was impossible for the city to undertake more work than the revenue would warrant.

The mass meeting last night was largely attended, and John Hayda, from Montreal, organizer for the Ukrainian S.D.P. of Canada, was present. The members of the committee which interviewed the Minister of Labor and the Mayor were: Michael Chopowik, W. Prystaj, J. Hnyda, W. Dodej and P. Yakobowsky.