

FOUR HUNDRED FOREIGNERS ARE NOW STARVING, SAYS CHOPOWICK

Only Forty-five of Unemployed Army Get Work Yesterday and To-day From the Civic Corporation.

ALLEGED FAVORITISM IN SELECTING MEN

Chopowick Claims That Talker Picked Out Relatives and Friends for Civic Jobs—Married Men Didn't Come First, He States.

That the work which was today provided for a small percentage of the unemployed of the city as a result of their march to the city hall yesterday is not being given to the most deserving men was the statement made to The Journal by Michael Chopowick this morning.

"Mr. J. Talker, of 286 LeBreton street, was given permission by the city engineer's department to select thirty of the men who were given work by the corporation this morning" said Chopowick, "and instead of selecting the married men whose families are destitute, Talker picked out his relatives and the men who owe him money and sent them to the city engineer, and these are the men who are now working for the city.

Bread or Starvation.

"Yesterday afternoon some men whom I know, went to Rev. Father Knijpik, the Ruthenian priest, who has charge of the distribution of bread which he receives from charitable institutions, and asked him to give them bread as their families were starving. He replied that what he had was only for distribution to the residents in the vicinity of Elizabeth street, and that he would give none to those residing on either Pine or Rochester streets.

"These men must have bread or they will starve to death and I know what I am talking about. I know at least four hundred men who are practically starving and something must be done immediately to provide these men with work so that they may live."

Chopowick stated that in accordance with instructions given him by Assistant City Engineer Askwith he had selected fifteen of the married men living in his district who were in the greatest need of assistance and they had been given work by the corporation this morning.

Want to Earn a Dollar.

On the steps of the City Hall an official announced this morning that fifteen men would be given work at one o'clock to-day at the new Carling theatre. Chopowick interpreted this announcement to the mob of his fellow countrymen who were congregated in front of the steps, and all at once appealed to be included in the lucky fifteen who are to be given a chance to ward off starvation for the time being.

"Give us a chance to earn only a dollar," they shouted. The most deserving were selected, and they will start work this afternoon at the theatre, where the job will last for about one week.

Chopowick stated that the majority of the men who are now idle have been residents of Ottawa for the last three years, while a small percentage have drifted in from the railway construction camps. Since yesterday the corporation has provided work for 45 men.