

# LABORERS BY SCORE LOSING EMPLOYMENT

## Effects of the War Have Be- come Most Apparent at Labor Temple.

With startling suddenness the effects of the war have become apparent at the Labor Temple. Hundreds of men belonging to many unions have reported themselves out of work and the number is rapidly increasing. Outside the Temple large groups of men kept collecting all morning, and the business agents inside were kept busy dealing with applications for jobs.

"Between 40 and 50 of our men were laid off on Friday and Saturday, and more are being laid off to-day," declared L. H. Gibbins, of the machinists' local. "There is no news but bad news to-day."

"There must be between 100 and 200 of our men out of work to-day," was the statement of Joseph Bamber, agent of the bricklayers', masons' and plasterers' union. "It may be only a temporary condition, but it is altogether unusual and is certainly due to the war. And it is not only the small contractor who is suspending operations. Several of the large Toronto firms are cutting down the number of their employes a whole lot."

The plumbers and steamfitters and the building trades men have also been hit.

"I couldn't give an estimate of the number who are out of work," said H. B. Woodrow, of the latter organization, "but every branch of the building trade is feeling the effects. The painters are perhaps the least hard hit, but even amongst them a good number haven't a job to-day."

The same tale was told by the carpenters. Indeed, the street railway employes' union was about the only organization canvassed whose officers had no qualms.

While everyone expected that the war would have its effects on the labor element of the city, few appear to have thought that the situation would develop to such a degree in so short a time. A hard winter is in sight.

Even private individuals and manufacturing firms are ceasing work on various undertakings. A large piano firm is said to have cut down the number of men employed by it.