

# TO RELIEVE UNEMPLOYED

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## Local Labor Men Are to Study the Question

"There can be no doubt that unless something is done to relieve the unemployment in the city there will be a great increase in suffering and possibly crime in the city," said Mr. J. T. Foster, president of the Trades and Labor Council yesterday, when discussing the unemployment situation. He also said that a number of the prominent members of the labor movement were studying this question which had as it is they predict is going to be worse. They had two meetings already and were going to have an-

other when they hoped their plan would be complete.

"We question the policy of some of the large employers in closing down their plants, although it is stated that they cannot help doing so. Neither are we satisfied with the discharging of aliens as being a wise thing to do in view of the fact that no steps have been taken by the Government to see that these men are taken care of. This is also a matter we are going to study," he went on.

In reference to the food speculator, they have already put some suggestions for dealing with him before the Government.

One of their proposals will be the going on with all public works, federal, provincial and municipal. This they believe the Government can well afford to do, and is done by a few of the advanced European countries in times of stress like the present, giving considerable relief to the unemployed and the merchant class.

The Montreal local of the Bricklayers' Union will keep the members who go to the war in good standing in their local. That is, the Montreal local will be responsible for the members' dues. Any bricklayer who wishes to take advantage of this privilege will have to see the secretary and produce proof that he is going to the war. President Foster said that this line would probably be followed by all the unions in the city. Among the organized men who had volunteered he said that he found very few who were going that did not have to, that is army reservists. The organized workers today want to know why they should go to war, and they are not less patriotic on that account, he said.