

UNEMPLOYED PROBLEM.

Ruthenian Delegation Appear Before Portage Mayor Requesting Work.

Portage la Prairie, Man., May 18.—

Portage is being faced with a problem of the unemployed, but as yet it has not assumed serious proportions.

At the council meeting a delegation of Ruthenians appeared with the request for work, stating that they were starving. They made the charge that men are employed by the parks board who are single men and not naturalized, but when pressed for names could not furnish them. Ald. O'Brien stated that only a few days ago he had offered work to men of their nationality at \$1.50 a day, but that they had refused such a low wage.

Mayor Taylor told the delegation that the city would do all it could, that it was unfortunate that people at this time hesitate about hiring

them, but there are also a number of Englishmen and Canadians out of work, and it is the city's duty to first provide for their own. Mayor Taylor also intimated to the delegation that they had selected as their spokesman a man who did not want to work, and that their cause would have been made better by selecting someone else.