

## SOO'S UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM DEMANDS A BIG CITY GARDENING SCHEME.

The Soo is so situated that it is bound to be the Mecca of most of the unemployed in the district. Some 300 men came to town some days ago from outside points and the city will have to look after these as well as its own unemployed. The monthly bill for aid to those in need has run as high as \$1,800, and it must be expected that the bill will grow.

The council realizes the gravity of the situation, and an effort is to be made to get the Dominion and Provincial Governments to recognize the Soo's peculiar position in some way. There is a good deal of governmental work now being held up here, and the council will suggest that some of it might be gone on with at once.

The city will plow up seven acres of land on the drydock site, for the planting of potatoes, and turnips. The labor for this will be done by those whom the city is helping.

The mayor and council realize that they face a situation unique in the history of the Soo. Next winter the problem of the unemployed will be a prodigious one. All the food that the city can raise should be raised. There are no doubt hundreds of acres of idle land that might be secured free of use and it would be the part of wisdom to plant every acre of it. There is no time to lose if good use of vacant land is to be made this year.

At this week's meeting in the City Hall to discuss the matter of unemployment, the council might, with advantage, submit an effective plan for civic gardening.

A quarter of the taxes of last year are not yet paid, and doubtless the percentage will be much higher this fall. If the city in addition has to give up a big sum of money for civic aid, there would seem to be wisdom in making preparations at once for eventualities.