

of members of each of the above organizations—the family, fraternal order and church—and partake, in their efforts, of the experience of its members. Possibly none ever suffered actual deprivation. Not a single officer or investigator of the majority of our charity organizations has learned sympathy, doubtless, through severe destitute suffering.

Hence how can they possibly see the absolute need, much less feel the necessity of aiding, the army of unemployed we already have within our gates of our city beautiful with hanging flower boxes in the windows of all the banks in the loop?

These unemployed must surely know by now, before the zero weather, that they must organize—not as a parade to exhibit their destitution and want, but as an organization of human beings with hearts, brain, brawn and bellies.

By now they realize that they can trust one of their fellow sufferers to report on their needs more readily than the paid professional investigator of the Associated Charities. The unemployed are ashamed to beg. They, for the most part, are able to work, and asking alms is beneath their dignity.

The organization known as the Associated Charities has a host of professional beggars asking alms for the needy, and doling out 80 per cent of the collections, not to the needy poor, but to the expense and salaries of the organization.

The unemployed could have a mass meeting, appoint a chairman, pass rules, elect officers and start out—not each for himself to get a dime for a can of beer and then go and get another, etc., but start out in pairs to collect for a fund with which to establish several places of abode. These places could be leased, such as the old C. B. & Q. office building, Franklin and Adams. Installment furniture houses which today are doing slow business would be pleased to deliver the cots, blankets, mats, towels, etc.,

for a small payment down, balance weekly or monthly.

Never fear that all of this will be given free. No, not any more than we get our water free, although the city owns its plant. The Organization would own the fund; all collections would be turned in to the treasurer. A permit or card would be issued to each solicitor. This, then, would be charity where it belongs. The needy and honest worker would in this way find at least a means of existence until he could get through the crisis.

The Organization could charge a small fee for lodging, issuing a ticket or bill which could be paid off in labor of some sort, making beds, sweeping, etc. A few eating places could be established and serve food for labor in lieu of cash. This would eliminate the drones and help the deserving, through organization, to aid themselves.

The only asset the unemployed possess is labor. They have no land upon which to build, or upon which to borrow money to keep their hunger appeased while they are in idleness—so they must in a law-abiding way use what they possess to sustain life—their labor.

An employment bureau could be in connection and the prevailing union scale of wages obtain, so that a man could cancel his organization debt by accepting a job outside—the employer paying the wages into the Organization if the worker has been eating and lodging and unable until this time to really work. Last, but not least, the Organization could have a newspaper, not to "calamity howl," but to tell the news.

You see if all of these newspapers and Giant-Standard-Oilized corporations really realized that they were killing the goose that laid the golden eggs when they lock out labor—if they realized who composed the "public" for the most part, they would chip right in right now—not money, but idle bonds—loan them to