

By the Chairman:

Q. How long has that minimum wage been in existence?—A. I think since about 1921 or '22; I am not positive.

By Mr. Hamilton:

Q. What is the lowest wage you pay to any girl?—A. In my department, ten dollars a week. That is for an inexperienced girl about 18 years of age. That is the minimum. The law is that we cannot start them at less than ten dollars a week—that is, nine dollars a week for the first six months, and ten dollars a week for the next six months.

By the Chairman:

Q. And they can work up to what maximum?—A. The maximum is eleven dollars for an experienced adult female.

By Mr. Woodsworth:

Q. The maximum-minimum, as it were?—A. The maximum-minimum.

Q. They are paid higher than that?—A. Quite so. I have two girls now, one is not yet 20 years of age, while the other is a young married woman, working on cutting blankets after they are napped—they are cut into pairs and folded—and I saw the payroll for this week, and I noticed particularly it was \$19.85 for each of them.

By Mr. Hamilton:

Q. For four days?—A. No, sir, fifty hours.

By Mr. White (Mount Royal):

Q. They work on piece work?—A. Yes.

By Mr. Hamilton:

Q. Now, besides that \$19 a week that these young girls earn, or the ten dollars that the younger ones earn, up to about six weeks ago they were entitled to a bonus?—A. Yes.

Q. That bonus as I understand it, was given to them on condition that there were a certain number of days they must not lose in three months—the bonus was paid every three months?—A. Yes, sir. There was a standard of production set by the company which was very low, and for every one-half of one per cent production over that standard they were paid one-half of one per cent of the total earnings for three months, as a bonus.

By the Chairman:

Q. The total earnings of the company?—A. No, the total earnings of the operative. For instance, if an operative worked thirteen weeks at ten dollars a week, she would get \$130, and would get a bonus of one-half of one per cent of that.

By the Chairman:

Q. One two-hundredth of that?—A. Yes. That is, for every one-half of one per cent of production. Now, it was possible to make from eight to fifteen per cent over the standard. This has been made in Cornwall, so that she