

that it is only on consideration of work at fair wages that they bind themselves to come. Very few of them can be persuaded to go away. We have no law preventing the importation and that to my mind is the most serious phase of the difficulty.

The COMMISSIONER.—Well, at any rate, even if the Ontario law is defective it is as far as the Constitution allows the province to go.

Mr. JURY.—The unions affected by the strikes will support a man if he is willing to break his contract.

Mr. O'DONOGHUE.—In all the cases that have come under my notice for over thirty years these men were justified in breaking the contracts. In every instance they made contracts or were caught, you might say, under contracts by false pretences.

The COMMISSIONER.—In the shops and other places which do not come under the provisions of the Factories Act, are the conditions usually or often unsanitary?

Miss CARLILE.—I do not think them very sanitary.

The COMMISSIONER.—If you were to visit a place that did come under the provisions of the Factory Act, but had not proper sanitary conditions, would you consider it a right thing to do to order the conditions to be changed?

Miss CARLILE.—Yes.

Mr. JURY.—So far as my experience goes, in tailors' back shops, as a rule, there is only one set of sanitary conveniences, for male and female—not private.

Inspector BROWN.—In many cases, as Mr. Jury states, they have only the one convenience, but in other cases there are more than the one convenience, although not belonging to the same factory. I have endeavoured to arrange that there should be one for males and one for females, and that where there is only the one closet, it should be for the use of the females, and rather let the males go out. I went to see one place where the man was just starting in the business. I asked him if he intended to employ females. On his answering yes, I told him that he must not attempt to employ girls until he had a proper convenience for them, and, if he did, I would prosecute him. He moved, and I could not again find him.

Mr. GUROFSKY.—Is that all you mean by the question—just closets?

The COMMISSIONER.—No, it is intended to cover the whole question as to whether the shops are healthy or not.

Mr. GUROFSKY.—There are shops in which gas-irons are burning all the time. There are no attempts at proper ventilation. Morning and night, from twelve to fifteen gas-lights are burning for about two hours, and the stove is going all the time. I have not heard of any establishment being ordered to be properly ventilated. The inspectors look over the closets, but do not see the establishments themselves.

Inspector BARBER.—I suppose that this discussion is not in order. Mr. Gurofsky speaks about ventilation. Of course it is very bad where gas irons are used, not only in tailor shops but in laundries, and in tailor shops there is no machinery for supplying fans for artificial ventilation. In the winter season especially, there is apt to be an accumulation of foul air. On the other hand, there seems to be only one way to secure proper ventilation—through open windows. There is, however, objection raised by those working near the windows, should they be opened. The people in the centre of the room, of course, would not feel the draught. These are some of the difficulties met with in the matter.

Inspector BROWN.—I have often found the same difficulty that Mr. Barber speaks of. I remember, in one place, asking the men if they had any objections to having the windows opened. These men were working in the centre of the room. They answered, certainly not. The men near the windows did not want them opened.

Mr. GUROFSKY.—I think that there should be ways devised to properly ventilate such establishments. If it could not be done without expensive arrangements, the bosses should be made to go to the expense.

The COMMISSIONER.—The factory inspectors of course are only able to apply the law as it stands.

Mr. CAREY.—Is it not the duty of the Factory Inspector if the conditions are such as will likely be injurious to the health of the people to report them?