

Q.—Would it not be an advantage for the good wife to have the money on Saturday, so that she might get the Sunday's supplies? A.—Friday or Thursday night would be preferable for marketing; it gives a chance for the Saturday market.

Q.—Do you think it an advantage to have the drinking places closed on Saturday night? A.—I do; I go for that every time, although I am not a teetotaler. I go for closing them altogether if you like.

Q.—Do you think there is less or more drinking amongst working people now than there was twelve or fifteen years ago? A.—Well, I fancy, perhaps, there is about the same. Of course, our population has increased so much since then that it is larger on the whole, but in proportion to the population I suppose there is not much difference.

Q.—Is the shop you work in run by machinery? A.—No, sir.

By Mr. ARMSTRONG:—

Q.—What is your opinion of the present lien law; is it a benefit to the workmen? A.—I think it is, but I never had any occasion to avail myself of it. I have heard some say that it was no good. I know of a case where a man went down to the registry office and paid a dollar to get it registered, and a month or two afterwards he said it was no good; that it did not avoid difficulty, but whether that was the fault of the law or of the party who applied for it, I don't know. In another case where the employer went away and did not pay his men, two of them got liens on the building, and though they got their money it was only after five or six months, and I do not know if they got it all then. I could not say if the law is of much benefit or not.

By Mr. FREED:—

Q.—Do you know whether in consequence of the lien law a weak man financially would be enabled to get a contract? A.—Well, I do not know; I am not aware of it.

By Mr. ARMSTRONG:—

Q.—Were there interviews took place towards a settlement between the employers and the employees before the strike you speak of? A.—I think there were.

Q.—And after they had the strike they tried to arbitrate? A.—As I said previously the grading of wages is a difficulty. They want to fix a certain wage, and I suppose the employers would not agree to it, and such being the case they considered there was nothing to arbitrate upon. I believe it was said that if the carpenters would come to the grading system they could have settled the affair very nicely, but when you put all the men on the same scale that is where the difficulty exists.

Q.—In the carpenter's trade is a certain notice given before a raise of wages is asked? A.—I think there is six months, but being out of the society myself I cannot speak with certainty.

By Mr. FREED:—

Q.—Do you know the condition of the machinery in those carpenter shops in which there is machinery? Is it properly protected so as to avoid accidents? A.—Yes, all the shops I have been in. When I was in Gearing's, J. D. Smith's and Jacques and Hay's everything seemed to be secure.

Q.—But that shop was altogether furniture manufacture? A.—Yes.

By Mr. ARMSTRONG:—

Q.—Of course it is only within the past few years that the carpenters have commenced to organize. Has organized labor among them benefited them in any respect with regard to increase of wages or the shortening of hours of labor? A.—Well, in shortening the hours it may have. A good many of us outside wanted eight hours; we tried hard for that for a long time, and we think that we outside have been the means of getting the nine-hour arrangement.

Q.—We have in Toronto an English Society, an American Brotherhood and also an Independent Labor Union. What is its object chiefly—that is, the one you