

Factory Act, and although on the whole profitable, it took up time which should have been given to other matters, and we have no time to go over all the phases of the question.

I will first repeat the last question put last evening, as possibly there may be present to night some who can throw further light upon it.

Have there been any authenticated instances of contagious diseases having been spread by means of garments made in contractors' shops or private houses?

MR. LOVE. I know of no cases in Toronto at any rate.

THE COMMISSIONER. I was told of two cases of scarlet fever in a house where clothing was made, but do not know that any bad results came from it, although that might easily be.

MR. W. MACKEY.—I don't quite understand what you're driving at. I thought that it was the hours of work and the wages that we paid that you wanted to know. I did not come here to learn anything about diseases. I am going to tell you the hours that I work and these other gentlemen can do the same and who we employ, how long we've been in the trade, and how long hands work for us.

THE COMMISSIONER.—That is all very well, then, we will be glad to have it. You understand that we want to get at the facts in the trade as far as possible. If there is any question left unasked that you want to have asked, or if you have any information whatever that you want to give us, we will be only too glad to have you do so.

MR. MACKEY.—Well, we begin at half past seven in the morning, get an hour for dinner and quit at six as the bell rings. We quit at twelve o'clock Saturdays. My hands earn from one dollar per week—that is for little apprentices over fourteen years of age of course—to seven dollars per week. I have had them for over ten years in my employment. The men I have got from five to twelve dollars per week.

THE COMMISSIONER.—Then the first figures you gave were in reference to girls.

MR. MACKEY.—Yes; a little girl apprentice would get one dollar a week to begin with. I defy any man to contradict that, and the wages run up to seven dollars per week.

THE COMMISSIONER.—About the men, please give the figures.

MR. MACKEY.—They will get from five to eight, and from eight to twelve dollars. That is what I pay and that is all I have to say.

MR. GEROSKY.—Would it be fair to ask the last witness a question? He said he had paid six dollars, but now pays his lowest man five dollars and his highest twelve. How many men has he at twelve dollars and how many girls at seven and how many at from two to four dollars?

MR. MACKEY.—I could not just exactly give an off-hand answer to that question.

THE COMMISSIONER.—(To Mr. Mackey) You stated that you could not give the answer to that question off-hand. Will you give it to me if I call at your place?

MR. MACKEY.—With pleasure.

THE COMMISSIONER.—What kind of garments are mostly made up under the contract system?

MR. MACKEY.—All I make is coats.

THE COMMISSIONER.—But I suppose pants and nickers also.

MR. MACKEY.—Oh, certainly.

THE COMMISSIONER.—Mr. Love, I think you work on overcoats largely do you not?

MR. LOVE.—All kinds of coats according to seasons.

MR. SNIDERMAN.—The bosses need not be afraid to tell all they know, 'tis for their own benefit.

MR. LOVE.—I am glad of that and thank this gentleman for his kindness. I do not think from the look of the man that I would be very much afraid of him. But we are here to give all the information requisite as far as we can, if it is going to be of any benefit to the trade and to give it intelligently. I hope there will be no falling out about what has been. It is a mistake for the speakers to attack each other personally.

THE COMMISSIONER.—We need not ventilate anything of that kind; we are here to get information for the good of the trade. I have only got the answer for coats but I presume that it applies to pants and nickers.