

Q. What hours do you work in your factory? A. Ten hours a day.

Q. Would that be from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.? A. Yes; in winter time we work nine hours mostly.

Q. What day do you pay your men? A. Saturday.

Q. How often do you pay them? A. Once a week.

Q. Do you consider Saturday the best day for your workmen to be paid? A. I do not know; we have never had any complaints made in that direction. It has been our custom for years to pay our hands on Saturday.

Q.—Is all your machinery fully protected from danger; or have you had any accident in your factory from your machinery? A. Once in a while there has been an accident in the factory.

Q. Was it a serious accident? A. Nothing more than an injury from a circular saw.

Q. Have you any guards on these saws to prevent accidents? A. No guards.

By the CHAIRMAN:—

Q. Do any of your workmen own the houses in which they live? A. Yes; three of my workmen own their own houses.

Q. Do you think they saved the money to build these houses out of their wages, or did they get it from other sources? A. I think that they saved the money out of their earnings.

Q. Do you think that a man working at the wages you have spoken of, if he has a large family to support, can save money enough to build himself a house? A. If he has a large family he cannot, but if he has only one or two children he can save a little all the time.

Q. Have you an idea that there are many mechanics in this community who are building houses for themselves? A. Not lately; some years ago, I think, quite a number did build houses.

Q. Did they get better wages at that time? A. I think they were more steadily employed; but since the great fire of 1877 things have fallen down, and our workmen have not so much to do as they formerly had.

Q. Do you think that times were better for working people then? A. I do.

Q. Has land increased in price since then? A. Real estate has fallen very much since then.

Q. Then, a man who wishes a lot can buy it on reasonable terms? A. Yes; I think he could buy it for one-half what he could get it for before the fire of 1877. Real estate was never so low in St. John as at present.

By Mr. WALSH:—

Q. Is the average cost of living higher or lower than it was ten years ago? A. I think that most all kinds of food are lower than for years past.

Q. Has the rent of houses increased any since then? A. No; it has fallen some. I think the workingman in St. John, according to the wages he gets, is fully as well off now as ever he was; his wages are about an average one and his living is as low as it ever was. That being so, the man who is employed regularly, and paid, finds no trouble in getting along and may possibly save a little for himself.

By Mr. ARMSTRONG:—

Q. Would \$8 a week be the wages paid to both mechanics and juniors? A. Some helpers would be paid that much.

Q. What are good, skilled working mechanics worth here? A. From \$10 to \$12 a week.

Q. Do you do any work outside of the shop? A. Yes; we do considerable outside.

Q. Are the wages of outside men the same as those on the bench? A. About the same.

Q. Do the men receive the same wages all the year round, winter and summer?