

WANKLYN, FREDERICK, Montreal, Assistant Mechanical Superintendent, Grand Trunk Railway.....Page **741**

Has occupied present position since 1882 (030570). At the railway works at Point St. Charles from 1,000 to 1,100 men are employed in the locomotive department; in the yard shops 750, in the running shops 250 (030571-73). Intemperance is of the rarest occurrence (030574); the men do not lose time through intemperance (030575-77). Nearly all the men belong to labour unions, but not to temperance societies (030578-81); never had an accident in the shop that was attributable to intemperance (030582-83). The company supplies oatmeal and water in the summer as a beverage (030585-87). The company have a literary and scientific institute, also reading room and mess room (030588-91). Had resided many years in Lancashire, England (030592); there is a marked difference between the character of workmen in Canada and in England, the comparison being greatly in favour of Canada (030593-94). Our men are becoming more intelligent, and less strikes occur (030595). Beneficial effects have no doubt followed the establishment of the reading rooms and institutions, in which entertainments are frequently given (030597). Had had experience under the Maine law and the Scott Act at Brockville (030598). In Maine the law made no difference as to the amount of drinking, only as to the quality of the liquor; the sellers have no object in keeping liquor up to the standard (030599-600). Favours compensation to brewers and distillers in the event of the adoption of total prohibition (030601). Liquor sales in parks should be confined to beer and light wines (030603-04). Lived in Italy for two years among the working people, and never saw a drunken person, although wine is used like water (030605-06). During eleven years had not seen three drunken men in the Grand Trunk works; they can drink whatever they like, but are never allowed to bring liquor into the work shops (030606-14). Three or four saloons are within a block or two of the works, and no attempt had been made to remove them by the company (030616-20). Coffee rooms have been established about half a mile from the works, but are too far distant to be much use (030623-24). Grand Trunk workmen are almost absolutely free from excessive drinking habits, and there is not a better lot of men anywhere; they would work just as well without rules as with them (030625-40). Mr. Spicer was at one time a strong advocate of total abstinence, but he has since altered his mind; if he issued a circular it was of his own motion and was not embodied in the company's rules (030741-45). Opposed to prohibition—impossible to make men moral by Act of Parliament and men would get liquor (030646-54). No difficulty arises because of the drunkenness of employees at the company's works (030665). If men drink to excess, of course it interferes with efficiency; if legislation were enacted to improve the quality of the liquor sold and to prevent adulteration, it would be more desirable than prohibition—the great difficulty is that bad liquor is sold to the working classes (030656).

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Has been connected with Inland Revenue Department for 18 years (28984-85); assisted in making a seizure of liquor in a compounder's establishment in Montreal (28986-87); whisky was being illicitly manufactured and was being used in making brandy and gin (28988-89); the offender had previously held a compounder's license, but the period for which it was granted had expired (28990); the illicit still would produce 30 or 40 gallons per day (28990); prosecutions were instituted both for distilling and compounding, and a fine was imposed in the first case and the second is still before the court on legal technicalities; the seizure was made in August, 1889 or 1890 (28991-008); in addition to alcohol, bead oil, oil of bitter almonds, and other ingredients were found, which would render the compound deleterious. the whisky was a very crude spirit of unrefined alcohol (28009-18); both illicit distillation and illicit