

whose previous acts they have implicitly adopted by appropriating the funds which the previous associations obtained, and by undertaking to carry out their obligations. Taking the Plumbers' Association first. That seems to have been instituted about 1895, but without dealing with the earlier records, and referring to the minutes as they appear subsequently to 1902, we find that a committee, as early as 24th November, 1902, reported with respect to prices, and that those prices at that time were nearly 100 per cent. or nearly double the prices which were paid to union men. It is impossible to read the minutes of the two associations from that time down, one apart from the other, because they continuously have relation to each other, and relation to an agreement that undoubtedly existed between those associations. It will be idle to quote from the minutes the numerous passages that sustain that view. A few references may be made. Reference is made as early as January, 1903, to non-union plumbers that are carrying on plumbing business without a proper business place. One of the members spoke with reference to his report and told the meeting that if it was possible they would have another meeting with the supply men before the next regular meeting. Communications were then read at a subsequent meeting from the various supply houses, and a committee was appointed to deal with the matter at once, and a special meeting was called. All that would be unintelligible, perhaps, from the minutes themselves, were it not that what took place subsequently shewed clearly what it had reference to. There was an arrangement, the exact nature of which is not disclosed, existing between the two associations at this time, and the negotiations that took place had relation to the perfecting of that arrangement. The final agreement that was reached we have before us: that is called the agreement of 1903, agreed to on 6th May. Before referring to the terms of that agreement, it may be convenient to look at the minutes as evidencing the fact that an agreement was understood before that, but that its terms were not explicitly set out, had not perhaps been agreed to by all the members of the Supply Association; but on referring to the minutes of 6th April, 1903, I find it stated that a discussion arose that all members were not charging the 20 per cent. increase "as we had agreed to." It was generally discussed and a conclusion reached that until "we got our secretary and got all