

consist of complicated machinery and expensive appliances. Rubber tips and sharp points attached to the feet of ladders, prevent more accidents, than costly guards attached to intricate mechanism. Falls from ladders are responsible for more accidents in the industries, on the farms and in the homes, than any other source according to 25 years of German statistics. Experts claim that it is possible to prevent 300,000 painful accidents and the loss of \$40,000,000 annually in the United States alone, by proper precaution in the construction and use of ladders. That would mean in Canada by the same proportion, 50,000 painful accidents prevented and \$6,600,000 annual losses saved.

Most people have the idea that the railroads are the most dangerous of all occupations; but it may be well to say that this is not so. According to the best statistics obtainable, the farms, (agricultural employments), are responsible for 43% of all the accidents, and 30% of all the deaths. No one will dispute the fact that the railroads are dangerous, but we must also admit that a great many of the accidents happen to people who are trespassers on the right of way. Take for instance a report of the Interstate Commerce Commission of the United States for the year ending June 30th last. 318 passengers killed, 16,386 passengers injured, 3,635 employes killed, 142,442 employes injured, 6,632 trespassers and others killed, 120,710 trespassers and others injured. You will see from this that the trespassers killed were nearly twice as many as the employes and over twenty times that of the passengers. Do you, as railroad workers, realize that in Canada and the United States, that your ranks are being called upon daily for an average of 15 dead and over 600 injured men. Don't you think it is about time that we should all get together and try to prevent this wholesale slaughter? In February there were 68 fatal accidents in Canada, 38 furnished by the railways. In March, 402 accidents, 55 fatal, 347 serious injuries. The pictures that I will show this evening will no doubt interest you and ought to make you think deeply on this subject. As I said before everybody is using safety first now, and the attempt to read all the articles being published by trade magazines and the need of more time to keep up with them, reminds me of an old colored man in the South. "Uncle Mose owned an old mule, with one great failing he would balk; one day as Uncle Mose was hauling a small load of wood home, the mule, as usual, balked at the foot of a hill; Uncle Mose used all the kinds of persuasion that he knew about, moral, physical and intellectual. He coaxed and cussed and beat without results; just as he gave