

shop, and they spoke about it, and I went in for myself, and my employers said they did not care if it was eight hours, if they did not have to pay for it.

Q.—You think conciliation in Toronto has been a failure? A.—I do.

Q.—Is there any convict labor in Toronto in your trade? A.—They speak about the Central Prison, but I am not aware as to that. I have heard of the existence of different trades in the Central Prison, but whether it amounts to much I do not know. I am not aware of having seen anything out of the place come through my hands.

By Mr. FREED :—

Q.—Has there ever been any co-operative industry among the carpenters? Have the workmen amongst the carpenters ever co-operated to do work on their own account? A.—No, they have talked about it, but I do not think it ever came to anything.

By Mr. HEAKES :—

Q.—What are the sanitary arrangements in connection with the different shops and factories that you have worked in? A.—Very good; nothing to complain of. I speak, of course of Jacques and Hay's, and Gearing's, J. D. Smith's, where I have been; they seem to be all right. Jacques and Hay's was the best I ever saw; the closets there had hose by which the water could be put on so as to cleanse them right out.

By the CHAIRMAN :—

Q.—You think that everything necessary was done as far as they were concerned? A.—Yes.

By Mr. HEAKES :—

Q.—What is the condition of the workmen's dwellings? A.—Those I am acquainted with live comfortable enough; of course, some of them may have a pretty hard time through misfortunes or things of that kind.

By Mr. ARMSTRONG :—

Q.—You believe that the apprentice system has a tendency towards making good workmen? A.—Yes, I believe that indenturing a boy with a good employer is a good thing; I believe in serving on time, and I think it was really a mistake doing away with the indenturing system, because boys can now go away after serving a year or two to another place, perhaps because they get a little more a week. This is really an injustice to an employer, and even to other fellow workmen; and these boys are a class who a year or two afterwards will be agitating perhaps, and get a whole gang to go out on strike.

By Mr. WALSH :—

Q.—Do you think that as a general rule the workmen with whom you have been associated are anxious about doing their work well for their employers? A.—Yes, I do.

Q.—Have you ever been connected with any employing firm where there was any system of fining the men for any breach of duty? A.—No, never.

Q.—Such as neglect of hours? A.—No, not in Toronto.

Q.—Have you known of it in any other place than Toronto? A.—Yes, I heard of one shop at London, and two at Aberdeen, Scotland. In going into a shop there were regulations hung up which you had to abide by, but, of course, it was optional whether you went to work or not.

By Mr. FREED :—

Q.—Do many men with whom you are acquainted save money? A.—Yes.

Q.—How do they invest that money? A.—In the Post Office Savings Bank; a good many do that.