

9-10 EDWARD VII., A. 1910

1. *Laws limiting the hours of labour of women and children.*—Thirty-eight out of forty-six states have enacted legislation of widely varying stringency covering one or both of these classes.

2. *Laws limiting the hours of labour of men engaged in railroading with the object of safeguarding the general public.*—Twenty-five states have laws providing that railroad employees actively engaged in transportation may not be compelled to work more than a certain number of continuous hours, varying from thirteen to twenty-four, without an eight or ten hour rest, while eight states (Arkansas, Connecticut, Maryland, Nevada, North Carolina, Texas, West Virginia, Wisconsin) limit to eight hours the day's work of railroad telegraphers and train despatchers.

3. *Laws limiting the honours of labour in certain dangerous or exhausting industries with the object of safeguarding, not the public health, but the health and safety of the men employed.*—New Jersey limits the hours of labour in bakeries to ten, while nine states and territories—Arizona, Colorado, Iowa, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Wyoming—limit the hours of labour in mines and smelters to eight, and Maryland to ten hours. This eight-hour law is the same type as our British Columbia law and the enactment recently passed in Great Britain regarding mines.

*By Mr. Smith:*

Q. You say it is ten hours and——A. In Maryland ten hours, in the other nine states, eight hours.

*By Mr. Macdonell:*

Q. What is it in England?—A. Eight hours.

*By Mr. Smith:*

Q. In the United Kingdom they passed the eight-hour law last session?—A. Yes.

*By Mr. Verville:*

Q. It is the same in Alberta is it not?—A. I believe so.

4. I place in the next division *Laws defining the hours of labour on public roads.*—Twenty-one states and territories have passed laws on this subject, all, with two exceptions designating eight hours' labour as a day's work. They establish a minimum rather than fix a limit beyond which labour is forbidden, and apply more particularly to statute labour than to the employment of wage labour. They are simply laws which the citizens of the state lay down for their own guidance when engaged in statute labour and do not apply to wage labour.

*By Mr. Staples:*

Q. Just a question here as a matter of information. Is it necessary to have a federal law before you can pass these provincial laws? The provinces have jurisdiction in this matter have they not?—A. In all these cases.

Q. In all these cases which the provinces would have in Canada?—A. Precisely.

Q. Then what necessity is there for a federal law, because the localities are so different throughout the Dominion of Canada? Why cannot this legislation be left to the provinces?

Mr. MACDONELL.—It is with that view the professor is eliminating by a process of exclusion everything but what we should consider.

PROFESSOR SKELTON.—I am trying, Mr. Staples, to include in this survey all that legislation which falls exclusively within the jurisdiction of the states or provinces.

The CHAIRMAN.—We considered that point at the last meeting, Mr. Staples, as to whether it would be wise for Professor Skelton in his review to go into the question of eight hours generally or confine his remarks entirely to public work under

PROF. SKELTON.