

Q. Outside work at the prices mentioned does not include button-holes? A. No; they are made inside at our own charge by machine, except low-priced pants, and in fact all pants made outside.

By Mr. HEAKES:—

Q. Have they constant employment? A. I think they have. There are four or five concerns engaged in manufacturing clothing, and if they leave their names with several concerns they will have work right along.

Q. For those whose names are on your books there is constant employment? A. Yes, except at intervals.

Q. Do you know what people pay for house rent in Halifax? A. No. I know what I pay myself.

Q. Do you pay your hands cash? A. Yes.

Q. Do you pay once a week? A. We pay the outside people when they bring their work in.

Q. If there is any work that does not pass examination what becomes of it? A. It has to go back. We do not receive it until it passes the examination.

Q. In every case? A. Yes.

Q. Do your people sign engagements? A. We give them lists of instructions.

Q. Are there fines or penalties for breaches of discipline, or work spoilt? A. No; except that we do not receive the work until it is right, and if they cannot make it right we take off what we can get it done for in the building.

Q. Can you give us a copy of your printed rules? A. Yes.

By Mr. ARMSTRONG:—

Q. Is the door closed at a certain time? A. Yes; it is closed three minutes after the time for going to work.

Q. What time is that? A. Three minutes after 8 o'clock.

Q. Do they come back if they are late? A. No; they lose half a day.

By Mr. McLEAN:—

Q. How high is your building? A. Four stories on one street and three on another.

Q. How high up do the employes work? A. They work at the top of the building. They have to go up two flights of stairs.

Q. How do the doors open; in or out? A. Out.

Q. Are there any fire escapes? A. No; but the stairs are not connected with the rest of the building.

Q. How wide are the stairs? A. Three feet.

RUFUS BYERS (of McDonald & Co., brass founders) sworn.

By Mr. WALSH:—

Q. Will you please state what industry you are engaged in? A. Brass founding is the chief branch; also machine work, steamfitting, coppersmithing and plumbing.

Q. You represent the firm of McDonald & Co.? A. Yes.

Q. How many men have you in your employ; you need not state the exact number, but about the average? A. From sixty-five to ninety-five.

Q. Have you any small boys employed in your business? A. About fifteen years is the youngest.

Q. How many of those have you? A. Probably three or four.

Q. Now, I suppose perhaps it may be better in your own way to divide the men according to their different branches, and tell us, if you please, the average wages they each receive? A. The wages average for skilled men about \$10 per week, the less skilled men would be young men receiving about \$8 per week; the highest wages would be \$12.