

Chairman,—

I heard someone say a while ago about the low wages paid to the man who is supposed to take care of the elevator. What I want to get at is, our mothers, wives, sisters, etc., are continually going up and down in these buildings, therefore we are deeply interested in their safety. Now I want to know who is responsible for these elevators. For instance, Mr. Wilson takes the utmost care of the elevators for the firm he is working for, and the elevator people say they have put in the machine all right, and the young man who operates the elevator does his best. Who is really responsible for that elevator in case of accident?

Mr. Shales,—

The elevators are supposed to be inspected every three months by the City Inspector, also by the Insurance people, who is your humble servant. Twelve months ago there was no city elevator inspector.

Chairman,—

In the small places where they have a boy to run the elevator there is the greatest risk then. I do not think there are many accidents on elevators, but it seems to me that it is a serious proposition.

Mr. Shales,—

Both Eaton's and Simpson's have a monthly inspection, by some competent man, but the small building is where the danger lies in all cases.

Mr. Brent,—

I am glad you touched on that point. I asked an elevator operator one day what that slack rope was for, and he said it was for safety. A short time after that the cable gave way and that slack rope was just as defective as the cable. The car came down killing twenty people. What I was going to ask, does every firm that has its own plant, have a governor on the elevator or is it compelled by the government to put one on.

Mr. Shales,—

Each firm has a governor of its own but they all are about the same type.

Mr. Lewkowiez,—

Going back to the matter of electric motor pumps and the matter of economy between steam and electricity, is there not a possibility of combining the two plants to run the elevators. For instance use electricity in the summer and steam