

Q.—How many hours' labor were there then per day? A.—Well, putting it by the hour we were receiving twenty cents per hour. We have since then got as low as fifteen cents according to the amount of work, demand and supply regulating it. Last year we have not seen it go much below 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ for good mechanics—22 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 25.

By Mr. FREED :—

Q.—What difficulty would there be for a man who lives in Toronto in getting work? Could he keep pretty steadily employed? A.—Speaking for myself I must say that I do. Perhaps I am a little more fortunate than the majority; I have been very fortunate in that way through my life; but really for men who are good mechanics, sober industrious men, I think they will find pretty steady work taking it all through if the weather will admit of their working outside.

Q.—Do many carpenters come to Toronto from outside seeking work? A.—Yes, there is no mistake about that—a great many.

Q.—Do more come than can find employment? A.—Sometimes. Taking the summer time I have found here as a rule that men are well employed in the summer, and that is the time they rush in. If they come in the winter they cannot expect to find work if the weather will not allow of work being done. But in summer I don't think that as a rule you will find them going idle if they wish to work—at least not many of them.

Q.—From what part do the newcomers come? A.—From all parts; the great majority come from England and Scotland.

Q.—Immigrants? A.—Yes, immigrants; the great majority come from these two countries, but we have likewise some from other countries outside.

Q.—Do they offer to work for lower wages than the scale here? A.—Well, I am not aware that they do. All I come in contact with never fight for low wages but try all they can to get high wages. That seems to be the general rule along. But there is a wide difference in men when they come because, no matter how competent a man may be in England or Scotland, he may be a first class mechanic there and yet so different is our work here that for some time after they come they are not able to compete with us who have been here fifteen or twenty years. That was my own case when I left Scotland to go to London, England. I thought I was all right, that I was a good mechanic, but I found I was far behind in England; I had almost to learn my trade there, and when I came to Toronto it was something the same. So when these men come here if they get a little less at first it is not long before they are able to command as good wages as the rest of us.

Q.—Do they mostly join the Carpenters' Unions when they come? A.—Well, no, they don't.

Q.—Do they find a difficulty in getting work if they don't join the Union? A.—Sometimes and at some shops they might.

Q.—Do the carpenters who belong to the Union consent to work with those who do not? A.—Well, I can hardly say; I have heard reports that some do not, but I never found any difficulty.

By the CHAIRMAN :—

Q.—Speak of what you know yourself as much as you can? A.—Well, I have never seen any difficulty about that. They all seem very friendly and very brotherly; I do not think there is any objection in that way.

By Mr. FREED :—

Q.—The carpenter who refuses to join the Union is not placed under any ban or disability? A.—Not in our shop anyhow. But in fact I would not work in a shop in which that was done and so wherever I have been I have never seen it. I am myself always prepared to work with free men and do the best I can for myself and my fellow men; and I would not work with any employer who was partial to one more than another.

Q.—Can you give us any idea of what the cost of living is compared with fifteen