

pen to be acquainted made complaints as to the places they were working in, justifiable complaints too. It would in my opinion be to the utmost advantage to broaden the scope of the law so as to get at every place not now covered by the Factory Act in the interest of those who were employed.

The COMMISSIONER.—And in the interest of the man who has a factory that does come under the Act.

Mr. O'DONOGHUE.—Yes. It would be to the material advantage of the general health of the community that the scope of the Act should be widened. Where young women are employed they are sensitive about making complaints, and it is only by personal acquaintance and from what other girls have told my own daughters, that I have learned of a condition of thing simply outrageous. But the Factory Act does not reach that condition of things, and I am perfectly satisfied that it would be a material advantage to have it extended because I believe that there are a large number of places where the number of the people employed do not come within the requirements. But in the aggregate these people (families and so on) are greater in number than those where the law does apply.

The COMMISSIONER.—There is no question about that.

Mr. O'DONOGHUE.—Then the aim of the law should be for the good of the greatest number.

The COMMISSIONER.—Are the provisions of the Factories Act satisfactorily enforced, and does the Act give general satisfaction?

Mr. JURY.—I don't think it is hardly fair for the Inspectors to unload themselves upon men who work in the factories. Mr. Barber has told us that he has no difficulty in getting from the wholesalers a list of places where their work is done. Now if he gets such a list from the wholesale men themselves, why cannot he, as one would think it his duty to do, go to these places of his own inclination and see that they conform to the Act. If that is not done, I don't think that it will ever give satisfaction. The mere fact of the Inspector going into Mr. Gurofsky's factory casts suspicion on him (Gurofsky) because he is known as a labour agitator.

Inspector BARBER.—It does not matter to me whether I get my information through a letter signed or anonymously.

Mr. JURY.—Mr. Barber said himself that he could get the names and addresses from the wholesalers of the people who do work for them.

Inspector BARBER.—I have not considered it my duty to do that every year.

The COMMISSIONER.—Probably there is room for more inspectors.

Inspector BARBER.—That is the trouble. I am under the impression that instead of criticising the inspectors, it would be better if some of these workmen would do their share towards letting the inspectors know of any grievances. No one knows so much about it as one who works in it. He should state his grievances, and if not to the inspectors then to the Trades and Labour Council.

Mr. O'DONOGHUE.—In justice to the inspectors, although I agree in the main with what Mr. Jury says, I will say that they have a great deal of ground to cover and difficult work to perform.

Inspector BARBER.—We have.

Mr. O'DONOGHUE.—Other people don't think so apparently, but what I do say in justice to them is that they will look into any case, even if it comes under their notice anonymously; but would prefer that the writers attach their names. If we have complaints to make let us make them.

Mr. TOMB.—A great many of these establishments when they are notified—according to the evidence we have heard to-night—that they are in an unsanitary condition, simply move off. It would give the inspectors enormous trouble following them up.

Mr. GURFOSKY.—I do not think there are enough inspectors. I made two complaints, in a short time, as secretary of my union. My signature was attached to the letters. If the inspector walks into any clothing shop in this city, I am the one who gets the blame. The shop I am in now is the only one I could get work in. The lady inspector visited that shop one time when I happened to be out. When I returned one of the girls told me of the visit. I asked what the inspector did, and she stated that