

extensively into technical education ? A.—I think the need of technical education is being felt more and more, and particularly so among our working people.

Q.—Have you received from other trades applications to open technical schools ? A.—I have spoken on the subject with different people, but we have received no formal application from other people ; probably we will do so.

By Mr. FREED :—

Q.—When pupils have passed through a course in any one of your classes, do you give them certificates or diplomas showing they have served with you ? A.—We have not done so yet, but we hope to do so at an early day. The reason we have not done so yet, is because we have had difficulty in getting efficient teachers. There is no institution in the country at present for the training of teachers in those lines ; consequently, our teachers are of unequal capacity, and there are some who are not able to conduct a class that others are, and accordingly the instruction is not on an equal footing in regard to the classes and we consider it better not to give certificates unless the certificates are of some real value.

By Mr. HEAKES :—

Q.—When a boy comes to you from the public school, do you find him fairly educated ?—A. The boys who come to us do not all come from the public schools ; in fact we have pupils who do not know how to read and write, not in the Montreal schools, in some of the other schools—we have had them present themselves.

Q.—Speaking of boys from the public schools, what have you to say in regard to them ? A.—Those are fairly educated.

By Mr. CLARKE :—

Q.—In how many trades do you give instruction ? A.—We instruct in the boot and shoe pattern cutting, plumbing, carpentering and stair building and in lithography.

By Mr. CORÉ :—

Q.—You teach drawing, mechanical and machinery ? A.—We work in plaster also, and in decorative painting—which is another trade ; also in modeling—you might also say that is a separate trade, too.

By Mr. HEAKES :—

Q.—In mechanical engineering ? A.—We give instruction in mechanical drawing.

By Mr. FREED :—

Q.—Do you instruct in the use of machinery ? A.—No ; not at present.

By Mr. ARMSTRONG :—

Q.—Do you give instruction in the various branches of the shoe trade ? A.—Not in the various branches, simply in pattern cutting.

Q.—Speaking about the apprentice system : do you think a compulsory indenture system would be beneficial to the boy as an employer would be compelled by law to teach him his trade thoroughly ? A.—I think we could hardly get that to day. Trades have become so divided up by the use of machinery that an employer cannot undertake to teach a boy thoroughly all the branches of a trade so as to make him a thorough workman. Very often a boy is set to work to attend a machine. He does it well and his employer keeps him at it because it pays him to do so.