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REPORT AND FINDINGS

OF THE

JOINT COMMITTEE

TO

INVESTIGATE THE "SWEAT SHOP" SYSTEM,

TOGETHER WITH A

TRANSCRIPT OF THE TESTIMONY TAKEN BY

THE COMMITTEE.

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JAMES A. ROSE.

Secretary of State and ex-officio State Librarian.

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REPORT AND FINDINGS

OF THE

JOINT COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE THE "SWEAT SHOP" SYSTEM.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives:

Pursuant to the joint resolution providing for the investigation of the "sweat shop" system by a joint committee, your committee respectfully submits the following report and findings, together with a transcript of the evidence of places visited, and witnesses heard by them, and which is made a part of this report:

On the 10th of February your committee met at the Sherman House, and for four days thereafter continued to visit the various tenement quarters of the city, and inspect the places where clothing was manufactured by persons in shops and in living rooms. The shops were located in basements, garrets, and in the rear of tenement houses, as well as in all kinds of tenement houses, and in most instances the living rooms were adjoining the shop.

The sanitary condition and arrangements of the shops were, in the majority of instances, very bad and unfit for human habitation. Where the shop itself was not injurious to the health of the men, women and children who occupied same, it was rendered so by over-crowding and the lack of ventilation—*vide* shop 145 Division street, 20x40½, sixty-seven people employed therein with machines, cloth, presser's stove, tables and other things.

It was characteristic of all the shops visited by the committee to have bad smells and noxious odors. No precaution was taken against the severity of the winter weather. Men were found working upon the bare ground in basements. Girls were found working in basements with their throats wrapped up. Little children were found working fifty feet from the only means of heating, which was a presser's stove, twelve by eighteen inches. Shop owners stated to the committee that no heating was necessary; that "there were so many people working there,

they would keep themselves warm." It was observed by the committee that in most of the basement shops machines were operated by lamp light during the entire day.

The committee further finds that in the manufacture of coats, vests, trousers, knee-pants, overalls, cloaks, shirts, purses, feathers, artificial flowers and cigars, it is the practice of the manufacturers to employ their own cutters, and have the work of cutting done under the supervision of a foreman employed by the firm, and some portion of the garments cut and manufactured in the so-called inside shop, which is owned by the wholesaler himself and conducted under the personal management of the firm or its employé. The remainder of the goods are given out to contractors who have shops, and also to persons who make the garments at their homes. The contractor in turn employs operators to run the sewing machines, shop finishers who finish the goods in the shop, pressers, children who sew on buttons and pull out basting threads, sew on tags, and do other work. The contractor further employs a very large number of women, who finish the garments in their homes and return them to him.

Your committee further finds from their visit to these shops that the sewing on these garments is done by men and women and young girls, who work from ten to fifteen hours a day, and in many instances seven days in the week. That the average compensation received by the men is from five to twelve dollars a week, and that for the women is from three to seven dollars a week, and for the girls is from seventy-five cents to two dollars and one-half a week. And the employés suffer a loss of time, by reason of the absence of work each week, and each season, which amounts to two or three months in the course of the year. The majority of the machine operators are paid by the piece, and the contractor or sweater compels them to work at the top of their speed, and the longest possible hours when the shop is full of work, and to sit idle at their own expense during those days in which the contractor is without work for them. A very large proportion of the machine operators were found to be women and girls, and this work is notoriously injurious to them, not only by reason of the ordinary injury wrought by running the machine by foot power, but because in the cloak and clothing trades they are obliged to use heavy cloth machines and to operate upon material which is often heavy, stiff and dyed with dyes, the dust of which is injurious.

The committee further finds that in nearly every shop they visited, employing from ten to one hundred and twenty people, the men, women and children were required to use the same water-closet, which was usually located in the yard, and in a most offensive condition.

Your committee observed that children who were employed in shops appeared to be only nine to twelve years of age, and in

some instances so stated; and later on after being coached by the owner of the shop stated that they were fourteen years of age.

Your committee further finds that from their visits it was observed that clothing and wearing apparel in process of manufacture were stored in the living room, and in some instances used as part of the bedding by the occupants living therein.

Your committee further finds from the sworn testimony of the witnesses who appeared before them that the wholesale clothing manufacturers of Chicago do an aggregate business of from twenty-one to thirty million of dollars per year; that about ninety per cent. is manufactured in Chicago, and the other ten per cent is manufactured in the east, and that a large portion of the eastern manufactured goods is made in penal and reformatory institutions of New York, New Jersey and elsewhere. That of the goods manufactured in Chicago about one-third is made directly by the manufacturer in his own factory and the other two-thirds are made by contractors who own workshops, and by persons who do the work in their homes. That in dealings between the manufacturer and the contractor some employé of the manufacturer is engaged to look after that portion of the work, and it is his duty to arbitrarily fix the price for which the contractor must make the goods. That there is great competition between the various contractors for the work of the manufacturers. That it is the practice for the manufacturer to have no knowledge of the sanitary condition of the work-shops of the contractor or of the sanitary condition of the tenement houses where the persons live who take the work home. It is the practice for the manufacturer to have no knowledge of the wages or the price paid by the contractor to his operators, finishers, pressers or other employés, or the hours of labor per day which they work, nor the prices the contractor may pay to the persons who may take the work out from his shop to be made at their homes and returned to him; nor of the sanitary condition of such homes.

Your committee further finds the reason that a large amount of the manufactured goods which have been made in the penal institutions in the East and purchased in this market is because the cost of them is a great deal less than they can be manufactured for here; that the average difference is from fifteen to twenty-five per cent., which is largely due to the difference in the cost of labor. That the manufacturers state that they can have their work done a great deal cheaper by the contractors and home-workers than they could by running a factory of their own; that the cost of rent largely enters into this. There are from eight hundred to one thousand workshops, and the number of people employed therein is estimated to be from twenty-five to thirty-five thousand people in the city

of Chicago. The testimony of the manufacturers is that the largest portion of the goods manufactured in Chicago are sold to country merchants.

Your committee is of the opinion that the long hours, low wages, overcrowding and lack of inspection on the part of the authorities upon these outside places are also greater causes of this cheapness.

Your committee further finds that the contractors, or proprietors, of the so-called sweat shops have no knowledge of the sanitary condition of the places where the goods are made or finished for them by persons living at home.

Your committee further finds from the testimony of practicing physicians that it is a very common occurrence for contagious diseases, also infectious ones, to exist in tenement houses wherein is carried on the manufacture of clothing, wearing apparel and other articles. That the germs, bacilli or microbes of any such contagious or infectious diseases may be spread, disseminated or carried in the garments so made or manufactured in these tenement houses to the purchaser buying them.

And your committee would state that in two instances were observed the presence of contagious and infectious diseases where clothing was being made at the time. That no precaution is taken by the emyloyé or by the contractor, or by the manufacturer, to prevent the existence of any contagious or infectious diseases being carried in the garments, so made or manufactured, other than to press them with a hot iron in order to make the garments smooth and more attractive. That the said physicians stated that such pressing by a hot iron would not destroy or kill any germs of the infectious or contagious diseases if they were in the garments at the time.

Your committee finds that the "sweat shop" system is productive of moral and physical wretchedness to thousands of men, women and children in the State of Illinois; that it spreads infectious and contagious diseases throughout the land and its existence is detrimental to the health and welfare of the public.

And your committee respectfully reports two bills for the partial remedy of the evil, of the following titles:

1. "A bill for an act to regulate the manufacture of clothing, wearing apparel and other articles in this state, and to provide for the appointment of state inspectors to enforce the same, and to make an appropriation therefor."

2. "A bill for an act to regulate the sale in this state of products of convict labor."

And further recommends to your honorable body that the bills of the titles aforesaid be read for the first time and ordered to the second reading without reference. And that the resolution providing for the printing of five hundred copies of this report and the transcript, by the state printer, be adopted. All of which is respectfully submitted.

EDWARD T. NOONAN, *Chairman*,
JOSEPH P. MAHONEY,
PLEASANT T. CHAPMAN,
JOSEPH A. O'DONNELL,
LUTHER M. DEARBORN,
CHARLES S. DENEEN,
STEPHEN D. MAY,
Committee.

February 27, 1893.

TESTIMONY.

Meeting of joint committee of Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Illinois to investigate the sweat shop system, held at the Sherman House, Chicago, on the 10th day of February, A. D. 1893, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The members of the committee present were—

Senators: E. T. Noonan, Chairman; Joseph P. Mahoney, P. T. Chapman, and

Representatives: Joseph A. O'Donnell, Charles S. Deneen, Stephen D. May, Luther M. Dearborn.

The meeting was called to order at 10 o'clock A. M. by the chairman, and the first business being the appointment of a clerk, Senator Mahoney moved that the chair be empowered to appoint a clerk who would also act as stenographer for the committee.

The motion was carried, and the chair appointed Michael Kavanagh to act as clerk and stenographer.

The clerk then read the resolution under which the committee was created and empowered to act.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Providing for the appointment of a committee to investigate the "sweat shop system."

WHEREAS, There exists in the county of Cook, and State of Illinois, what is known as the "sweat shop system," that is, the manufacture of clothing, wearing apparel and other articles is carried on in tenement houses by others than the immediate members of the families living therein; and,

WHEREAS, Such manufactures are conducted in houses having bad drainage and poor ventilation, and that infectious and contagious diseases exist among the employés and also in the goods manufactured therein, which are detrimental and injurious to public health; therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring herein, That a joint committee of seven members be appointed, three from the Senate, appointed by the President, and four from the House, appointed by the Speaker, with full power to investigate the so-called "sweating system," and they are hereby vested with full power and authority to send for persons and papers, and administer oaths, and report whatever legislation in the opinion of said committee may be necessary to preserve the public health and to regulate the manufacture and sale of clothing, wearing ap-

parel and other articles in the State, and that the necessary expenses of said committee shall be paid from the funds for contingent expenses of the General Assembly, upon the statement duly certified by the members thereof.

JOHN W. COPPINGER,
President of Senate.

CLAYTON E. CRAFTS,
Speaker of House.

Introduced and passed by the Senate January 12, 1893.

F. E. DOWNING,
Secretary of Senate.

Concurred in by the House January 12, 1893.

ROBERT W. ROSS,
Clerk of House.

The chairman: Upon the adoption of that resolution, gentlemen of the committee, I was waited on by a number of representatives of various organizations, and in some instances the committee has been requested to recognize and to receive the benefit of the co-operation of some of the organizations who have appointed delegates to assist the committee in investigating the Sweat Shop evil. I have a note here from the Central Labor Union of Chicago, which is as follows:

"CHICAGO, February 4, 1893.

Whom it may concern:

This is to certify that J. Trobotzky has been duly elected by the Central Labor Union as delegate to assist the Senatorial Sweating Investigating Committee, and any help that is required by the honorable committee.

Signed and seal attached.

L. ZAHLER, *Secretary.*

N. B. You will do us a favor by letting the delegate know if the investigation has commenced, as the Central Union did not meet sooner.

Delegate's address, 989 West 20th street."

The chairman then read the following communications:

"*Hon. E. T. Noonan, 70, 175 Dearborn street:*

DEAR SIR—At a meeting of Cigar Makers' Union No. 14, I and Mr. J. Bessa, of 523 North Ashland avenue, were appointed to appear before the committee who will investigate the Sweating evil in Cook county.

Hoping that you will be kind enough to notify us of time and place of meeting, I am

Yours respectfully,

ANDREW JANSEN."

Hon. Edward T. Noonan, Springfield, Ills.:

DEAR SIR—Your favor of December 27th, relating to appointment of a joint committee to investigate the "sweating evil" in the county of Cook, received. That is exactly in consonance with my views on that subject, and I shall only be too happy to afford your committee every opportunity for the purpose of a thorough understanding on the subject. The services

of this department are at your disposal, and anything that we may be able to do will be cheerfully complied with. Do not hesitate to draw on me for information or assistance at any time.

Respectfully,

JOHN D. WARE, M. D.,

Commissioner of Health."

A communication was also received from the general superintendent of police offering assistance.

The following communication was received from Mr. Thomas J. Morgan:

"6239 MADISON AVENUE,

Feb. 6, 1893.

Senator Edward T. Noonan:

DEAR SIR—Yesterday at the Trades Assembly, your favor dated January 20th, was placed in my hands. Mrs. Morgan also received a notice from you dated February 3d, both letters having reference to the visit of the special joint committee on sweat shops.

We are both much interested in the subject matter, and will be glad to avail ourselves of your kind invitation. Mrs. Morgan as a member of The Trades Assembly sweat shop committee made a very thorough investigation of the places where this particular mode of manufacture was carried on, and being informed that your committee intends to make a personal visit to these places, respectfully presents the following as worthy of your attention, all of which has been visited by her last May. Having continued her investigation for two years, she has learned that these "establishments" are not permanent fixtures, but move frequently, so it is possible that some changes may have been made by those places on her list since May.

Will you please notify us of the time and place of your committee meeting, and oblige,

Yours respectfully,

THOMAS J. MORGAN."

The Chairman: I have a letter here from a lady who desires to appear as a witness, but I think it would be a proper matter for the committee to consider at a later time. I also have a report of the investigating committee on the subject of the investigation of the sweating system in Boston, New York and Chicago. There is a gentleman here who has been before that committee as a witness, Mr. Bisno, and from my reading of his testimony I think he would be a very good witness. I solicited an interview with him, and he has, for the benefit of this committee, visited a large number of shops in this city, a list of which has been furnished me for the use of the committee. He has consented to take the committee around there and show those places. We have also with us a lady, Mrs. Florence Kelly, who is, I believe, Special Agent of the Department of Labor at Washington. She has devoted a great deal of time to the subject before this committee, and she is now present. Now, if there are any other persons who are interested in this matter I would be very pleased, with the consent of the committee, to give them the floor.

Mr. Timblin: I am one of a committee of three of the Trades Assembly, appointed on this matter of the sweating system. It is a question that the Trades Assembly took up a year and a half ago, and pushed to the extent of an investigation similar to the one that it is proposed to start out upon to-day. We are also making preparations here for a mass meeting on this question on Sunday week, the 19th of this month. The Trades Assembly and the trades unions of this city are prepared to coöperate and to do all in their power to mitigate this evil, and, I believe, from the expressions of opinion that I have heard on every hand among trades unionists and working people generally, the consensus is that the remedy for the sweating evil lies in the actual prohibition of making goods in tenement houses. I do not know what line you people may pursue in the drafting of a bill, but from what investigation I have given the subject I have arrived at the conclusion, and I believe, that the larger number of us look at the matter in that light.

The Chairman: Permit me to say that the matter of the committee working for a bill or for the prohibition of anything would be more appropriate for consideration at the end of this investigation than now. Have you any suggestions to make?

Mr. Timblin: I would suggest that this committee proceed at once to get the ocular proof of the evils that exist, and if they start out now they will get it.

The Chairman: Have you any places to suggest that we might visit?

Mr. Timblin: Not any more than what Mr. Bisno has stated. I have been in consultation with him for two weeks.

The Chairman: As chairman of your committee do you recommend the list that Mr. Bisno has selected?

Mr. Tiblin: Yes, sir.

Mrs. Morgan: I will state that altogether I have made visits to about 180 of those places. There are, in my belief, over 400 of them in the city.

The Chairman: Over 400 now in operation?

Mrs. Morgan: Yes, sir, and I have made vists to 180 of them. I found very little difference between any of those shops. It is just about the same thing all over. If you make a visit to about a dozen of those places, I think you can say that you will see all that is to be seen.

The Chairman: Yes, if we visit a dozen shops in one part of the city we can certainly locate the evil among a certain class of people. There are a great many lines of clothing manufactured under this system, and unless the committee extends its investigations to the various shops manufacturing those different articles, it would greatly limit the scope of the investigation.

Mrs. Morgan: If you take a few shops manufacturing one garment and a few manufacturing another garment, I am afraid it will take too much of your time to investigate this thing.

Mr. Mahoney: Well, we expect to make a full and thorough investigation of this matter, and so far as the legislature is concerned to bring about such relief as is in our power to bring about. No pains shall be spared.

The Chairman: Has Mrs. Kelly any suggestions to offer to the committee regarding the investigation of those shops—not as to the remedy for the evil, but merely in regard to the investigation.

Mrs. Kelly: Last August the department of health investigated those various shops and a list of them was published in the daily papers, and made a solid column of newspaper matter, and yesterday a representative of the *Herald* told me that that was only a partial list. I myself investigated last year between 900 and a 1,000 places. I made a house-to-house canvass, from 9 o'clock in the morning until 7 at night, and I have gone over the *Inter-Ocean's* list and my own, and also Mr. Bisno's list, and I am sure that the list that he submits to you is a list of typical sweat shops. They show what the different nationalities are and what different clothing is made, and I am quite sure if you will visit the shops contained in that list you will find some valuable information. This is a good day to start out, because in the Hebrew shops they are starting in to finish their work for to-morrow, which is their Sunday. Those shops are on the West Side.

Mr. George (of the health department): I came over to represent the health department, and we have detailed a man to go with you and assist you in this investigation. This is a list which has been prepared of some of the larger places. I will leave it with you. If there are any other facts that you wish from the department, Mr. McDonald will be detailed to supply them.

The Chairman: What is Mr. McDonald's first name?

Mr. George: David McDonald.

Mr. Dearborn: How would it be to adjourn this meeting until Mr. O'Donnell comes, and then start out at half past twelve or one o'clock. He is very anxious to go with the committee.

Mr. Bisno: I should say that the best idea would be to start immediately, because the Jews cease work at 4 o'clock to-day, and they have about an hour to prepare and clean up their shops for Sunday, that is to-morrow. I think the conditions require that we go immediately.

Mrs. Kelly: I should say, if it would suit your convenience, that you could arrange for Mr. O'Donnell to meet you at 335 South Halstead street.

Mr. Dearborn: I understand that the health department and the chief of police have offered any assistance that they may be able to give the committee in their investigations. I understood from Mr. George's statements that the gentleman from the health department is already here, and in order to take advantage of their offer of assistance I move that the chief be requested to detail a man to assist the committee, or to go with them, or to be at their disposal, and that the offer of the health department be accepted.

The Chairman: Considering the matter, I wish to state this: That it was deemed unnecessary to trouble the health department this forenoon, because it was suggested we might get along with the regular officer. However, the health inspector is an officer of the city, and as far as the entrée to houses is concerned we have his authority; that is, he has local authority to do that.

Mr. Mahoney: It seems to me that the officer from the health department will be sufficient, but we may later on need the assistance of the police department, and I take it that Mr. Dearborn had that in view when he made the motion. If we need the assistance of the police department we can ask that later on. I second the motion.

The motion was carried.

The chairman: I suggest that a motion might be in order that we notify Mr. O'Donnell to meet us at 335 South Halstead street.

Mr. Dearborn: I move that we proceed at one to the neighborhood of Polk and Halstead streets, and investigate the shops in that locality.

The motion was carried.

The committee then started out, accompanied by the representatives of the press, and the first place visited was the sweat shop of K. A. Garbulsky, in the rear of a frame tenement house at No. 257 West Polk street. The place consisted of three rooms, one of which was used for a work-shop, the other for a kitchen, which opened into the work-shop, and the third room as a sort of store-room for coal, which also opened into the work-shop. The work-shop and kitchen were small rooms, about 12x7, the ventilation was bad, and the smell from decayed matter and dirty clothing, which were strewn around the rooms, was almost unbearable. In the kitchen was a door which opened into a water-closet. which was in a most unsanitary condition, and was used by the family and employés in common. There were seven in the family, including four small children, one of whom was in a dying condition with the measles, and three others of whom were just recovering.

The proprietor, Garbulsky, was examined by Senator Noonan as follows:

Q. What is your business? A. Manufacturing knee pants.

Q. How many employés do you have here? A. That is a question of how much I have to do; sometimes two, three, and five.

Q. How old is this girl working on this machine? A. Fourteen years old.

Q. What is her name? A. Lizzie Champ.

Q. How many hours a day do you work your employés? A. About ten.

Lizzie Champ examined:

Q. How many hours a day do you work? A. I come here at 7 o'clock and go home at 6 o'clock.

Q. How much do you make a week when you work? A. Let him tell. (Referring to the proprietor).

Q. I want you to tell. A. Well, he gives me $1.50 a week.

Q. How long do you have for dinner? A. A half hour.

Q. Do you work Sundays? A. No.

Q. How old are you? A. Fourteen.

Garbulsky re-examined:

Q. How many children have you got? A. Seven in family altogether; I have four children.

Q. How many rooms do you occupy? A. Three.

Q. You say you don't work on Sunday? A. No.

Q. Do you mean to-morrow by that? A. No, I work Saturday.

Q. And Sunday, the following day, do you work? A. No, sir.

Q. What is your nationality? A. Russian Jew.

Q. Are those girls Italians? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, this child here is sick? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you had a doctor for it? A. No, sir, the child has the measles.

Q. Who do you work for? A. For Rothchild & Co.

Q. What is the size of this room? A. 12 by 7.

One of the other employés, a boy apparently about 12 years old who was working on a machine was questioned as to his age, and stated he was 15. He said he made $3.00 a week, and worked from seven o'clock in the morning until six at night.

By Senator Noonan:

Q. Do you ever do any work after supper in the busy times? A. No, I don't work more than ten hours.

The next place visited was the shop of Badenzini, which was upstairs in the rear of a frame tenement house at Nos. 211 and 213, Polk street. The place was entered through the back stairs, which were in such a dilapidated condition that it was deemed advisable for each member to complete the ascent before another

started. The place consisted of three rooms, one of which was used as a work shop, another as a kitchen, and the third as a sort of general storeroom and bedroom. It was an establishment where they made up men's garments, but the proprietor was not in, and nothing definite could be ascertained from his wife. The stench which issued from the place was almost unbearable.

She was examined by Senator Noonan as follows, with the aid of an interpreter:

Q. Who do you work for? A. I don't know the name.

Q. Does he come to your store and get the goods, or do you go after them? A. I don't know. I don't know the number, it is on Taylor and Canal streets.

Q. Right by the bridge? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How is it you don't know the name of the man if you work for him. A. I don't know.

Q. How many people are in here making those clothes? A. One other and me.

Q. Where is your husband? A. At work.

Q. Are any of the children sick? A. No, they are all right.

The committee next proceeded to No. 125 and 127 Ewing street, which was also in a tenement house in the rear of a frame building. The place was run by Joseph Lapiania, who said he employed nobody and did the work himself. From a sanitary standpoint the place was in as poor a condition as those already visited. It consisted of three small smoky rooms which were used as living rooms and work-shop, with piles of rubbish strewn around the floor.

The proprietor was examined by Senator Noonan as follows:

Q. How many are employed here? A. This is not where I work at all now; I have a shop here but I don't work here.

Q. How many do you employ when you are busily engaged? A. Oh, I do very poor work; this is a very poor job.

Q. You make coats here? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many people do you have here with you? A. I work myself that is all.

Q. When you are busy how many people have you got? A. Nobody at all.

Q. You don't employ anybody? A. No, sir.

Q. How many families live here? A. There are two families in eight rooms.

Q. How many are there upstairs? A. Three or four.

Q. How many families in the entire house? A. I don't know.

Q. How many on the first floor? A. I don't know; it is a double building.

By Mr. Bisno:

Q. This is custom work you are doing? A. Yes, sir.

Q. For whom are you making that coat? A. For this young man standing there; that is his coat; he is to wear it.

Q. What firm do you work for when you are busy? A. I used to make for a tailor at 123 and 125 West Madison street.

Q. What is the name of that firm? A. The Royal Tailors. It is about two months now that I haven't any work at all.

By Mr. Mahoney:

Q. When you are busy how many people do you employ? A. I work myself alone.

On leaving this place the committee encountered a little girl named Mary Palidino, who said she lived in the building, and volunteered to tell the committee how much she received for stitching and facing the arm-holes of ladies' jackets. She was examined as follows by Senator Noonan:

Q. How old are you? A. Sixteen years.

Q. Where do you live? A. 100 Ewing street.

Q. What is this you have in your hands? A. Jackets.

Q. What do you do on the jackets? A. I do the arm-holes; I sew them and face them.

Q. How long does it take you to do one of those? A. About a half hour if you don't have to get up, but if you have to get up and don't work steady it will take more.

Q. How much are you paid for that? A. Five cents apiece.

Q. How much do you make a week? A. I can't tell; sometimes you would make only 10 cents a day.

Q. Do you make as much as $3 a week? A. No; sometimes $1.50 or $2, and sometimes 50 cents.

Q. For whom do you work those? A. For Otto Brill.

Q. For whom does he work? A. I don't know.

Q. Is he a contractor that gets them from somebody else? A. Yes; but I don't know from whom.

Q. How many other girls are there doing that same work where you are? A. I think there are five now.

Q. And they get the same price that you get? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where does Otto Brill live? A. On Canal, near Mather street.

Q. Does he work for some store down town? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How much time do you work a day? A. Just what I want to; I work by the piece.

A visit was next made to the shop of S. Bumartel, which is on the second floor of 120 Taylor street. The entrance is from the rear. The work-shop consists of two rooms, 12x16 and 8x10. Eight hands were employed in the place, six men and

two girls. The kitchen opened into the work-shop. The work-rooms were hot and smoky, the windows and doors being kept shut.

The proprietor was examined by Senator Noonan as follows:

Q. What is your business? A. I keep a shop.

Q. You manufacture what—knee pants? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What else do you make? A. That is all.

Q. How many employés have you in this shop; how many people work for you? A. Eight.

Q. How many men do you have working for you A. Six men.

Q. How many little girls? A. Two.

Q. Doesn't this one work (referring to another girl)? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And doesn't this one work? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Well, those are two more? A. Yes, sir; six men and four girls.

Q. For whom do you work those knee pants? A. For Stein.

Q. What street is his place on? A. On Jackson and Market streets.

A little girl about ten years old, who was working in this place, stated, in answer to a question concerning her age, that she was fourteen years old.

Senator Noonan: Gentlemen of the committee, this little girl states that she is fourteen years of age, and I wish to state that in my opinion she is not ten years of age.

One of the employés stated that they got to work at seven o'clock in the morning and quit at five in the afternoon; that they did not work on Sundays.

Mary Surritski, one of the girls, stated that she worked on Sundays and got off Saturdays.

The proprietor, on being further examined, stated that they had six rooms.

Q. You have nine employés working in these two rooms, have you not? A. Well, there is three rooms.

Q. Well, but they are working in those two rooms? A. Yes, but there is another room here (referring to the kitchen).

Q. What is the size of this room? A. 12x16.

Q. And the other? A. 8x10.

Q. How much do those men earn per week? In anwer to this question one of the men in the small room stated: "Oh, I make from six to eight dollars a week."

On being further examined he stated as follows:

Q. What is your name? A. A. Feinholtz.

Q. How many hours a day do you work? A. From fourteen to sixteen hours a day.

Q. And how many days in the week do you work? A. Six days.

Q. And you earn from six to eight dollars a week? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Are you a good mechanic—a good man at your business? A. Yes, sir, I am.

Q. What do the other men here get? A. There are some men here who make five dollars a week working the same number of hours that I do.

Q. How old are you? A. Twenty-eight years of age.

Q. How old is this man here? A. He is about thirty-eight; he is my brother.

Q. Does he make the same wages as you? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How old is this man in the corner, in the other room? A. Twenty-five years old.

Q. Does he work the same number of hours as you do and make the same money? A. He works the same number of hours, but makes seven dollars a week.

PROPRIETOR RE-EXAMINED.

Q. Where is the water-closet? A. Out in the yard.

Q. The men and women use the same place? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You pile all these manufactured goods and cut goods in your living room, do you not? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You have no other place to put them? A. No, sir.

Q. How many in the family have you got? A. Five children.

Q. And nine employés? A. Yes, sir.

Q. All in these same rooms? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And they are working here from fourteen to sixteen hours a day? A. Yes, sir.

On leaving this place, Mrs. Kelly pointed out a shop on the corner of Taylor and Jefferson streets, which, when running at full blast in the summer time, employed one little girl and four women who worked for nothing in order to learn the trade of sewing on buttons. The proprietor represented to them that, when they had learned the trade, he would procure them employment. Mrs. Kelly stated that the place was in a bad sanitary condition. It was a crowded tenement house with no fire escape, and no water on the top floor.

The next place visited was that of John Sefoik, who was engaged in the manufacture of overcoats and frock coats, for

Hart, Schaffner & Marks. He employed fourteen hands, five men and nine girls, who all worked in one room 20x23 and 10 feet high. The ventilation here was also bad, and the room in a dirty condition. A living room adjoined the work-shop.

The proprietor was examined by Senator Noonan as follows:

Q. Are you the proprietor of this shop? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What business are you engaged in? A. The manufacture of overcoats and frock coats.

Q. How many employés have you in this shop? A. Fourteen.

Q. How many girls and how many men? A. I have five men and nine girls.

Q. What are the ages of the girls? A. This little girl will be fifteen pretty soon.

Tony Morva, a little boy working in this establishment, was next examined. He stated that he worked ten hours a day.

Q. Do you work on Sunday? A. No, sir.

Q. What wages do you receive? A. Three dollars and fifty cents.

Q. How much do the men receive a week? A. They all get fair prices.

Q. Do they work by the piece? A. No, they work by the week; they get from from $9 to $11 a week.

Q. For whom do you make those coats? A. For Hart, Schaffner & Marks.

The daughter of the proprietor was next examined and stated that all the employés worked in one room. She was asked how old one of the little girls was, who worked in the room, and replied that she was eighteen. The little girl referred to stated she was fifteen.

Jacob Lasky's shop was next visited. It was situated at No. 237 Maxwell street. It was, in most respects, a repetition of those already visited. He employed twenty-six people in a room 23x38 and 8½ feet high, making the finest grades of cloaks for Marshall Field & Co. The pressers also worked in this same room. The room was situated directly over a stable, the odor from which was most unpleasant, and there was no attempt at ventilation. Jacob Lasky, Joseph Lasky and A. Rosenfield were summoned to appear before the committee on February 17th. Lasky said that he was just about to move into better quarters.

JACOB LASKY EXAMINED.

Q. Where are you going to move to? A. To 223 West 14th street.

Q. Is there a barn or stable under this shop? A. Yes sir.

Q. What is your business here? A. Manufacturing cloaks.

Q. How many employés have you in this shop? A. About 25.

Q. They consist of how many men and how many women? A. About 18 men, balance women.

Q. Eighteen men, and seven women? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many boys have you here? A. There are no boys here, they are all men, I think.

Q. Is that a boy back there? (Referring to a boy apparently sixteen.) A. That little fellow there?

Q. Yes. A. Well, he pretends to be a man; he is 19 or 20 years old.

Q. What are the ages of the girls? A. They are about 18.

Q. What are the average wages the girls earn per week. A. The highest I pay is $10.00 a week.

Q. What is the lowest? A. $6.00.

Q. How many hours a day do they work? A. Ten hours a day, from 7 to 6.

Q. In August? A. All the time.

Q. For whom do you manufacture those cloaks? A. For Marshall Field & Co.

Q. Any other firm? A. No, that is all.

Q. How much do the men make? A. The men earn the whole year on an average $18.00 a week.

Q. What is the size of this room? A. 23x38, and 8½ feet high.

Q. The pressers are in this room too, are they? A. Yes, sir.

Q. In the summer time it would be very hot in this room, would'nt it? A. Of course it is.

Q. What is the temperature in the summer time; is it as much as 103 degrees? A. Oh, I don't think so; there is plenty of ventilation here.

Maurice Rochilski examined by Mr. Noonan:

Q. What is your age? A. Seventeen.

Q. How much do you make a week? A. I don't know how much I make.

Q. What did you get last week? A. Last week I got no work in.

Q. How much did you get last pay-day? A. I got $13.00 for two weeks,—more than two weeks.

Q. How much more than two weeks—three weeks? A. No; two weeks and a day.

Q. How many hours a day do you work? A. I work ten hours, nine or ten hours.

Q. What time do you begin in the morning? A. 7 or 8.

Q. What time do you quit? A. Six o'clock.

Nathan Shugerman was sworn and testified as follows:

By Mr. Mahoney:

Q. How old are you? A. 25.

Q. What is your business? A. Cloakmaking.

Q. For whom do you work? A. For Jacob Lasky, right here.

Q. How long have you been working here? A. A year and half.

Q. For what house during that time? A. For Marshall Field & Co.

Q. What class of work do you manufacture? A. A good class of work; I guess the best Marshall Field has got.

Q. Any particular branch?. A. I think so, yes.

Q. You manufacture cloaks, do you? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you manufacture anything else for Marshall Field & Co. A. Cloaks and ladies' jackets.

Q. How many persons are employed in this shop? A. About twelve men—yes, fourteen men.

Q. How many girls? A. About eight girls.

Q. Is your work piece work; or are you paid by the day? A. Piece work.

Q. Do you all work piece work? A. No, the girls work by the week.

Q. How much a week do the girls get? A. I don't know; I couldn't tell.

Q. How much a week do you get? A. My work is piece work.

Q. How much can you make a week? A. By this time I can make a $1.00 a day, or $1.50.

Q. You work 15 hours a day? A. No; about 12 or 13.

Q. And how much a week do you make? A. I make a dollar a day.

Q. How much do you receive for making one of those cloaks? A. 15 and 25 cents, but we receive more for these.

Q. What is the most you receive, the highest? A. The highest is 55 cents.

Q. For making one garment? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is the lowest you receive? A. The lowest is 45 cents; we don't make the cheap goods.

Q. Then the lowest is not 15 and 25 cents? A. No, that is for the cheap goods.

Q. What part of the work do you do on the cloak? A. All the same line; I make it all, the whole machine work.

Q. You do all the machine work on the cloak? A. Yes, sir; I can make one cloak in six or seven hours.

Q. You do all the sewing on the cloak in six or seven hours? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And the highest you receive is 55 cents? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you do any cheap work in this shop? A. No, sir.

Emma Marks was next sworn and testified as follows:

By Mr. Mahoney:

Q. What is your age? A. Twenty-two.

Q. You are employed in this tailor shop? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What class of work do you do? A. I do all kinds of work.

Q. Do you run a sewing machine? A. No, sir; I work by hand.

Q. Do you work on any other class of goods except cloaks and ladies' jackets? A. No, sir.

Q. How long have you been employed in this shop? A. I guess two and one-half years; since Mr. Lasky has the shop here.

Q. And during that time you worked on ladies' jackets and cloaks? A. Yes, sir.

Q. The class of work that you do is hand-sewing on jackets? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How are you paid—by the piece or by the week? A. By the week.

Q. How much are you paid a week? A. Well, I am getting seven dollars now.

Q. How long have you been in the tailoring business? A. I don't know; it is quite a while.

Q. About how long? A. About six years.

Q. Are there any of the girls that are getting more pay than you. A. Well, there are two getting more than I am.

Q. What class of work are they doing. A. Well, they are working at it longer and get better pay, but they are doing the same work.

Q. What do they get? A. One gets eight dollars and one gets ten dollars.

Q. You are paid by the week? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What time do you go to work in the morning? A. seven o'clock in the morning.

Q. And work till noon? A. Yes, sir; and from one until six.

Q. Do you work Saturdays? A. No sir.

Q. But you do work Sundays? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who owns this shop? A. My Father does.

Q. Who owns the building? A. I mean my father owns the building.

Q. And he rents the shop to Mr. Lasky, for whom you work? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Explain to us what kind of word you do on the cloaks and jackets. A. Well, I baste the lining in and sew the buttons and sew around the lining.

Q. When you first started in the tailoring business, when you first started to work, how much did they pay you for the first week? A. When I first started, I think I was getting two and a half a week.

Q. How long did you work for two and a half? A. I could not tell you that.

Q. How long have you been getting seven dollars per week? A. About a half a year or so.

Q. What did you get before that? I got six dollars.

Q. For how long did you get six? A. About a year.

Sam Max was next examined, but not under oath.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. How much do you get a week? A. I work by the piece.

Q. How many hours a day do you work? A. Ten hours a day.

Q. How much do you make? A. Well, if we have lots of work and are busy, I can make eighteen or twenty dollars a week; If we have no work I can't make it.

The committee here adjourned to meet Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.

FEBRUARY 10, 1891.

The committee met at 10 o'clock at the Sherman House, and accompanied, as on the previous day, by Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Morgan, Mr. Bisno and Mr. McDonald of the health department, proceeded to investigate the northwestern portion of the city.

The first place visited by the committee was the shop of E. Duberstein, at 490 N. Ashland avenue. The place was in the basement of a three story tenement, and in one dark room were employed five men and four women making up women's cloaks for Joseph Beifield & Co., corner of Market and Jackson streets. A couple of small living rooms, which were used as sleeping-room and kitchen, adjoined the work-shop.

The proprietor was examined as follows:

By Mr. Noonan·

Q. What is your business? A. Making up cloaks.

Q. How many employés have you in this shop? A. All that is here.

Q. Well, how many are there here? A. About nine.

Q. How many men and how many women? A. Five men and four women.

Q. How many more do you employ when you are busy? A. Well, that depends on the time.

Q. Well, in your busy time? A. About twenty.

Q. In this same shop? A. Well, I give some of the work outside.

Q. How many hours a day do they work here? A. Ten hours.

Q. How long have you been in this shop? A. I am only here two months.

Q. Do you pay your employés by the week or by the piece? A. By the piece.

Q. What are the average wages of the men? A. Well, that depends on what they do.

Q. How much does an ordinary man get? A. Well, a good man would get $2.50 to $3.50 a day this time of year.

Q. For ten hours? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What are the average wages of the girls employed by you? A. Well, four, five, six, seven and eight dollars a week.

Q. What is the size of this room? A. I couldn't tell you; I haven't measured it.

Q. Where are your water-closets? A. Outside under the sidewalk.

Q. Do the men and women use the same closet? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many people sleep here at night? A. One.

Q. For whom do you make those cloaks? A. For Joseph Beifield & Co.

Q. Where is his place of business? A. On Market and Jackson streets.

Q. How high is this ceiling? A. I couldn't tell you.

Senator Noonan proceeded to examine one of the girls in the shop, and, on asking her what her name was, she stated with evident displeasure: "I don't know what my name is myself."

Q. Are you a relation of his? A. No relation at all; what do you take me for?

Q. Do you ever have any small girls working here? A. We just started in a short time ago. We have no small girls.

Q. You just started into business? A. No; we had another place; we just started in here.

Mrs. Kelly stated that she had seen little girls working in this place a short time ago who were only nine years old.

A visit was next paid to the shop of I. Hirschberg in the basement of 520 North Ashland avenue. In this place, ten men and one girl were at work making women's jackets and cloaks. Hirschberg said that the men were making from ten to fifteen dollars a week, and the girls eight dollars. He said the goods were for Siegel Bros., No. 224 North Market street. The place was in a bad sanitary condition, and the pile of ashes and rubbish occupied a corner of the room.

I. Hirschberg was sworn, and testified as follows:

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. Your name is I. Hirschberg? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Your shop is 520 North Ashland avenue? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is your business? A. Cloakmaking.

Q. How many employés have you? A. I employ about ten men.

Q. At this season of the year, or at all times? A. At all times? I don't know; if it would pay I would keep more, but it doesn't pay to keep ten.

Q. How many hours a day do your employés work? A. Nine hours a day.

Q. Are they paid by the piece or by the week? A. Piece-work.

Q. What are the average wages earned by each of your employés? A. Well, I don't know; the wages are sometimes between $10 and $15 a week at present.

Q. What do you manufacture? A. Ladies cloaks.

Q. For whom? A. For F. Siegel & Bros.

Q. Where is their place of business? A. 224 N. Market street.

Q. You have no women in your employment? A. Just one.

Q. What does she do? A. She is sewing on buttons.

Q. What wages do you pay her? What does she earn per week. A. Eight dollars.

Q. How many hours per day does she work? A. Ten hours.

Q. Have you now, or at any time, had any children in your employ? A. Never; we can't use any children, because the work is machine work; it's heavy, and a child can't do the same work as a lady.

By Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. How long have you been here? A. This is the third month.

Q. For what purpose are these tables used? A. To put work on them; when the work is done we want to put it away sometimes, and we put it on those little tables.

Q. Where are your water-closets? A. They are right here.

Senator Noonan: I wish to state that I have examined them and found them to be in a very filthy and most unhealthy condition.

Q. Who keeps the books of your employés? A. I keep them.

Q. Will you produce the books for last week's wages that you paid to this man (referring to one of the employés).

The books were then produced, and the examination proceeded.

Q. Give us the names of a few men that earned $15 last week. A. Oh, not last week.

Q. Well, any week. A. There was two men working together that made $20 between them last week, and here is one that made $13.65.

Q. Who is he? A. This young man, Willie Lavine.

Willie Lavine was then sworn, and testified as follows:

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. You're employed in this shop? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What were the wages you received last week? A. Four odllars, I guess.

Q. Four dollars for the whole week's services? A. I didn't work all the week.

Q. Well, here is a statement here where you say you received thirteen dollars and sixty-five cents. Did you receive thirteen dollars and sixty-five cents for your last week's services? A. No; I made four dollars last week.

Q. When did you make this thirteen dollars and sixty-five cents? A. Two weeks ago.

Q. What did you do for that? A. Here it is in my book, thirteen dollars and sixty-five cents; and I made last week four dollars.

Q. What kind of work do you do? A. The same work.

Q. What do you mean by that? A. The same as everybody else.

Q. What do you make? A. Cloaks.

Q. How many cloaks did you make in that week? A. I made nine garments, that is for the four dollars.

Q. How often are you paid here? A. Every week.

Q. Have you a regular pay-day here? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you get paid regularly? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What work do you do on the cloak? A. Sewing on the machines.

Q. How much do you get for sewing one cloak? A. Forty or fifty cents; there is a difference in cloaks. We get from sixteen cents up.

Q. You get from sixteen cents up, according to the size of the cloak? A. Yes, sir; that is what we get this year, but we got a little more last year.

Q. Were you working in any other shop than this? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What shop did you work in before you came to the shop you are in now? A. I was working in the same shop last year for the same boss.

Q. And you received a great deal more per piece than you do now? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long does it take to make a cloak? A. What price cloak? There are different cloaks.

Q. Well, the cheapest cloaks? A. Well, they are made for forty cents. It takes me about two hours to make one.

Q. Well, the dearest cloak, the most valuable cloak, how long does it take you to make that? A. About seventy-five cents, and it will take about three hours.

Q. Are you an expert at your business.

Mrs. Kelly: I would suggest that this man doesn't half understand the questions.

Mr. Bisno then acted as interpreter, and the examination proceeded:

Q. Are you an expert at your business? A. Like everybody else.

Q. Do the other men in the shop receive the same wages as you do? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do they earn as much as you do? Not all of them.

Q. Why is it they all don't earn as much as you? Do you work faster than they? A. Well, I make a half a jacket more sometimes.

Q. Was that thirteen dollars and sixty-five cents all made in one week? A. In one week.

Q. How many hours a day? A. Nine hours.

Jacob Leipschuts was next sworn and testified as follows:

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. Do you know that this man works longer than nine hours a day? A. Yes, he works longer than nine hours; I know he works longer than nine hours.

Q. You heard the last witness testify that he earned thirteen dollars and sixty-five cents one week working nine hours a day? A. No, not nine hours.

Q. You heard him state that? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is that so or not? A. It is not so.

Q. You were here and know he worked longer than that? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many hours did he work? A. Sometimes eleven and twelve.

Another employé was asked the same question and he corroborated Leipschuts' statement that Lavine worked eleven and twelve hours a day. Leipschuts was asked how many hours a day they could work in the shop if they wanted to, and he said sometimes until nine or ten o'clock. He afterwards stated that they used to have the shop open day and night until a short time ago, when the employes went on a strike to close the shop at six o'clock, and in the last three days they have succeeded in compelling the proprietor to close the shop at six. He said before that they could work as long as they wanted to.

Senator Noonan: I wish to call the attention of the committee to the fact that this shop is in a basement and is lighted by kerosene.

The committee then visited the vest factory of Adolph Goldberger, on the second floor of 219 Division street. They worked for E. Rothschild & Bro., C. F. Kellogg, and Cohn Bros., on Market street, and A. L. Siegel. The factory is located in a large room on the second floor, about 65x25. The room was heated by one stove, 16 inches in diameter and two feet high, which in warm weather was used to heat irons. Four men and seventeen women and girls were at work in the room. The youngest girl was questioned concerning her age, and said she was not sure whether she was thirteen or fourteen years old. She was working by a window fifty-one feet away from the stove, sewing on buttons, and received two dollars and fifty cents a week. The proprietor refused to be sworn, and he was subpœnaed to appear before the committee on Friday, the 17th day of February.

Katie Bucher was examined as follows:

By Senator Noonan:

Q. You work here in this shop? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How old are you? A. Fourteen.

Q. Didn't you say you were thirteen a little while ago? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Don't you know which it is? A. No, sir.

Q. How much do you make a week here? A. I don't know; I didn't get paid yet.

Q. Didn't you work here last week? A. I did, but we don't get paid only every fourteen days.

Q. When do you get paid? A. Thursday.

Q. Haven't you ever been paid here at all? A. No.

Q. Don't you get paid for putting button holes in those vests? A. Yes, sir; but I haven't got it yet.

Q. How much do you get for these button holes in those vests? A. I don't know.

Q. Haven't you any idea of what you are going to get? A. No.

Q. Will you get $2 a week, or $3 a week? A. I don't know; he didn't tell me that.

Q. How much did he tell you he would give you for putting the button holes in those vests? A. He said I must work them first and then he would see, and he will pay me after that.

Julia Chubowa, a Polish Jew, was examined as follows, by Senator Noonan:

Q. How much do you make in a week? A. $2.50.

Q. How many hours a day do you work? A. From 7 in the morning until 6 at night.

Q. How long do you have for dinner? A. We have forty-five minutes.

Q. How old are you? A. I was twenty-two years; I will be twenty-three soon.

Morris Muskovitz was sworn, and testified as follows:

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. What is your business? A. I will show it to you on my card.

Q. Well, you are working in this shop? A. Well, I am here for the last two weeks, but haven't had much to do; I am a sewing machine operator.

Q. At whose shop do you work? A. At this man here, Mr. Goldberger.

Q. How many employès are there in this shop? A. I could not tell you.

Q. Well, about how many? A. Well, I am here the second week now, I couldn't tell you how many people are working here.

Q. Is this the only stove you have in the place (pointing to the stove already referred to)? This is a little stove about two feet high used for heating irons? A. No; that is to keep the shop warm.

Q. That is the only stove used for that purpose? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Are there thirty employes in here? Mr. Goldberger—Twenty-one.

Q. How many women and how many children? Mr. Goldberger—There are four men and seventeen women.

Q. What arè the average wages earned by the women? Mr. Goldberger—I couldn't tell you.

Q. What are the average wages earned by the men? A. According to the work.

Examination of Muskovitz resumed.

Q. What do you make a week? A. Well, if I have good work I make more, and, if I have bad work, I make less.

Q. Well, ordinarily? A. Ordinarily ten dollars a week.

Q. How much do the girls make? A. I couldn't tell you.

Q. What do you make here? A. Vests.

Q. Anything else? A. Nothing else.

Q. For whom do you make these vests? A. Different houses down town.

Q. Give us one of them? A. E. Rothschild & Bro.

Q. Any one else? A. C. P. Kellogg.

Q. Any of the houses on State street? Mr. Goldberger—Also Cohn Bros., on Market street, and L. A. Siegel.

By Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. Is it not cold here on a cold day? A. No; if you were here all day you would find out it wasn't.

Q. Do you wear your overcoat? A. No, sir; just as I am now.

Q. Where are the water-closets? A. They are over there (pointing to the corner of the room).

Q. Do the women, children and men use the same closets? A. I don't know; I very seldom use the same closets.

Hulda Laning was next sworn and testified as follows:

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. You are employed in this shop kept by a sweater by the name of Goldberger? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you been employed here? A. From last June.

Q. What do you do? A. I baste.

Q. Baste what? A. Baste vests.

Q. How many hours a day do you work? A. Ten hours.

Q. What are the average wages you earn a week? A. Four dollars and a half.

Q. How many other girls are there employed in this shop? how many have been employed? there are seventeen here now; have there been more? A. There is one more, but she is not here now.

Q. There have been eighteen girls that you know of? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How much do the young girls earn per week? A. I couldn't tell you.

By Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. How many vests do you baste in a day? A. I couldn't tell you.

Q. Is this the only stove that you have here; the only means of heating? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Isn't it cold here on cold days?. A. It is a little cold, but we can stand it.

Q. Did you ever work back there in that corner? (Referring to the further end of the room.) A. No.

Q. Isn't it cold in that corner? A. No.

Senator Noonan:—I wish to state that it is fifty-one feet from that corner where the thirteen-year-old girl works, to the stove; and the stove is a small one, about sixteen inches in diameter and is not more than two feet from the base.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. This same stove that is used to heat the house in the winter time is used to heat irons in the summer time, is it not? A. We use a charcoal stove in the summer.

Q. Do you use a charcoal stove to heat the irons? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Didn't you use that stove last summer? A. No, sir.

Q. You are paid every two weeks? A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. How long have you worked here? A. Since last June.

Q. Aren't there more girls employed here that are about twelve or thirteen years old? A. I don't know there is.

Q. Weren't there a great many girls employed here from June till now about her age and size? (This question was addressed to one of the employes, who said:) "No; they came here lately."

Q. Weren't there other little girls working here beside that one? A. There was one.

Q. How old was she? A. I don't know.

The shop of Mahrle & Hegrt, at No. 220 Division street, was the next place the committee visited. It was located in a store, and four men, eight women and a fourteen year old girl, named Rosie Elsner, were at work on pantaloons. Rosie Elsner said the place where she formerly worked in there were several girls about thirteen years old employed. She said she received $1.75 per week for pinning. The work consisted of pinning lining on the waists of the pantaloons.

Rosie Elsner was examined by Mr. Noonan as follows:

Q. What is your age? A. Fourteen.

Q. How much do you make? A. I get $1.75 a week.

Q. What do you do? A. I am pinning.

Q. How many hours do you work? A. I work from 7 o'clock in the morning until 6 in the afternoon.

Q. How long do you get for dinner? A. I have one hour for dinner.

Q. How long have you worked here? A. I have worked in this shop two weeks.

Q. Where did you work before? A. I worked before on Front street.

Q. What number on Front street? A. 93 Front street.

Q. Were there more girls like you working at that shop at 93 Front street? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many? A. Eight, I think.

Q. How old were they? About what were their ages? A. Fourteen and fifteen.

Q. Were there some of them 10, 11 and 12? A. No.

Q. Weren't some of them 13 years old? A. Yes, one was; one was 13 and another 14.

Q. Now, tell us what you pin; what work you do; just show us. A. I pin a piece of lining on the pants.

By Mr. May:

Q. Is your father alive? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where does he live? A. On Augusta street.

Q. Your mother too? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you any brothers and sisters? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Are you the oldest? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What does your father do? A. He is working there in the chair factory.

Q. What street is that factory on? A. On Green street.

Q. Is it the Johnson Chair Factory? A. I don't know.

Q. How much does he get a week? A. $7 and $8 and $9 a week.

Bertha Bohl was next examined.

By Senator Noonan:

Q. How long have you worked here? A. Two years.

Q. What are your average wages? A. $6.00 or $7.00 a week.

Q. How long have you been earning $6.00 or $7.00 a week. A. Since I commenced to work here.

Q. How many hours a day do you work? A. Ten hours.

Q. One hour for dinner? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What do the other girls get? A. I think they get nearly as much as that.

Q. Some of them don't though? A. Almost all of them except her (referring to a girl who worked at the same table).

Q. How much does she get? A. $5.00 a week.

After leaving this place, the committee proceeded to a large factory located at No. 120 Samuel street. This is a four-story brick building, about 30 by 70 feet, with a shop on each floor. On the first floor was located the steam engine which operates all

the plants, and in the same room 20 girls were at work. The committee ascertained that they made up vests for Simon Leopold & Solomon, and for Cohen Bros., and for Schoenbrun & Co.

On being examined, one of the employés stated that there were then at work on that floor fourteen or fifteen people.

Q. I suppose they work more at different seasons of the year than they do now? A. Well, this is the busiest season of the year now.

Q. Well, aren't there fifteen in here now? A. Well, they are all in here now except the boss.

On the second floor twenty-five girls and ten men were at work making vests. This floor is operated by J. Prevensen, the owner of the building.

Lizzie Jensen, one of the girls who worked in this room, was examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. How old are you? A. Fifteen.

Q. What do you earn? A. $2.00 a week.

Q. What do you do? A. Tacking button-holes.

Q. How many hours a day do you work? A. Ten hours and a half.

Q. You begin at 7? A. Yes, sir.

Ulga Matthis examined:

Q. How old are you? A. Thirteen; I will be fourteen in August.

Q. What do you make; how much do you earn? A. I can't tell.

Q. What do you do? A. Turning vests; sometimes cutting collars.

Q. Where do you live? A. 431 N. Wood street.

Q. How long have you worked here? A. Three weeks.

Q. Havn't you been paid yet? A. No, sir; they hold back one week.

Q. And pay every two weeks? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you worked in any shop? A. This is the third week in this shop.

Q. What shop did you work in before? A. At Franklin and Chicago avenue.

Q. How much did you get a week there? A. $2.44.

Q. How many hours a day did you work there? A. From 7 until half past 5.

Q. How many girls employed here? A. 31.

The third floor of the same building is occupied by C. Gunderson as a vest factory. He employs 19 girls and 4 men, two pressers and two trimmers.

On the fourth floor 15 girls and one man were at work on women's cloaks. There was only one entrance door to the place, and within about ten feet of the entrance door was a red hot stove which was used for heating large pressing irons. Within about six feet of the stove were stored a number of large cans of kerosene oil. The only stairway in the building is a narrow wooden affair, and the building is not equipped with a single fire escape.

When the committee entered this place, an old woman who was at work at one of the tables rushed up to a little girl about 13 years old, and whispered in her ear. A member of the committee immediately approached the little girl and asked her her age. She said she was 15. The same thing occurred in a large number of the places visited. The proprietor of this place said he manufactured for several of the large houses.

Mrs. Morgan stated that she interviewed two little girls in the rear of 258 Division street, a frame building; the proprietor's name is Haslop. There were 31 people working in the place, and the two little girls were only 13 years of age. They were employed basting pants, and worked ten hours a day, for which they received seventy-five cents a week.

A visit was then paid to the above number, and it was found to be a typical sweat shop. There were 20 girls and 4 men found at work in this room, which was 20 feet by 36. Several of the girls were apparently not 13 years old, but when asked their ages they replied they were much older. There were 20 sewing machines running in full blast, and at the end of the room was a gas engine which supplied power for the machines. Gas was escaping from this engine in large quantities, creating a most unwholesome stench in the room. In the rear of the work room, behind a rough board partition, are the living rooms of Haslop and his wife. They were in a filthy and disorderly condition. There was a water closet which was used by 31 people. This was also in a defective condition, and the health officer pronounced in this place three distinct violations of the ordinance. The belting by which the machines were run stretched along underneath the tables at which the girls were seated, and were in very close and rather dangerous proximity to their dresses.

One little girl stated to Mrs. Morgan that she was 13 years old, but after being talked to by one of the women, she afterwards stated, in answer to a question by Mr. O'Donnell, that she was over 14. She was working at a sewing machine.

Haslop, the proprietor, was examined by Mr. Noonan as follows:

Q. What business do you do here? A. We make pants.

Q. Whom do you make pants for? A. For Strauss, Eisendrath & Drom, on Market and Jackson streets.

On leaving this place the committee proceeded to 145 Division street, a shop run by Louis Rothman. In a room 40 feet long by 20 feet wide and 10 feet high fifty-five girls and ten men were found working on vests. About thirty foot-power sewing machines were in the room, and were operated with surprising rapidity by the girls, the majority of whom were pale and sickly. Many of them were no more than 14 years old, and they received from $2.00 to $7.00 a week. Only one received $9.00. The ventilation of the room was poor and the air was foul. In the rear of the room was the only washstand the place contained, in a filthy condition. It was a sort of zinc affair, such as might be used in a small kitchen. There were two water-closets in the place.

Louis Rothman, examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. How many girls have you in this shop? A. I have 55.

Q. What do you make here? A. Children's coats and vests.

Q. For whom do you make them; what firms? A. Cohen, Schoenbrun & Co., Strauss, Yondorf & Co. and Abraham & Stein.

Q. How do you pay those girls—by the piece or by the week? A. By the week.

Q. How much a week? A. From $9.00 down to $4.00.

Rothman was then sworn, and his examination was proceeded with as follows:

Q. How much do you pay that little girl there—how much do you pay her a week? A. I pay her $2.25 a week.

Q. How much do you pay this girl a week (referring to another). A. $2.50.

Q. And how much does this girl get? A. $3.00.

Q. You stated to me you paid from $4.00 to $9.00 a week, and out of the three I have asked you about, you have only one that gets $3.00 a week. I want you to produce the books and show the wages you pay. A. Yes, sir; I will produce the books.

The books were then produced.

Q. Show me in those books where you pay the wages to the small boy running that machine. What is the name of that boy? A. Henry Schiffzick.

Q. How much did you pay him last week? A. I paid him for ten days $5.80.

Henry Schiffzick, examined by Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. How much do you get a week? A. $3.50.

Q. How long have you worked here? A. About a month and a week.

Q. What time do you go to work in the morning? A. At 7 o'clock.

Q. How long do you work? A. Until 6 at night.

Q. How long do you have for dinner? A. Three-quarters of an hour.

Q. Where did you work before? A. At Mally's.

Q. Where is his place? A. On Noble street.

Q. Has he got many boys there working? A. No, sir.

Q. Has he got small girls there? A. Yes, sir; he has some small girls.

Q. How old are you? A. I am going to be fourteen next May.

Mary Wesloek was next examined:

Q. What wages do you get? A. $2.50 a week.

Another girl whose name is Emily, said she received $4.60 for two weeks, lacking one day. The proprietor, Rothman, was called up, and the following questions propounded to him in regard to this girl:

Q. What is this girl's name? A. Her name is Emily.

Q. You have her marked down $4 for two weeks; that is what you paid her? A. She stopped away one day and I didn't put it down.

Q. You paid her $4 for eleven days' work? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What does she do? A. She is sewing marking tickets on vests.

Q. How old is she? A. She says to me she is 14.

Q. How many girls are altogether employed here? A. We have, altogether, men and girls, sixty-five to sixty-seven.

Q. How many girls? A. Ten men and fifty-five girls.

Q. What is the size of this room? A. I can't tell you.

The health officer stated that in his opinion the room was 20x40x10; 8,000 cubic feet.

Emma Altwasser examined:

Q. What are you paid? A. $11 for two weeks, without any loss of time.

Q. Are you a machine girl? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Are those the average wages. A. About.

A middle-aged woman who worked at a machine was called up and asked her name, but she stated that she would decline to give it when working in a tailor shop.

The committee went from here to the shop of Leo Baran, in a basement in the rear of 67 Fourth avenue. This place consisted of two small dark rooms, in which were living a family

of five children besides the parents. Decayed vegetables lay about the floor, and the place was reeking with filth. There were two machines running in the place. The proprietor stated that they were only just beginning, and next week they would have more hands.

The next place visited was that of Paul Lewandoski at 715 Holt avenue in the basement.

In this place there were seven hands employed including Lewandoski and his wife, who were also at work. They were making pants for Meyer, Engel & Co., and Levy, and for Kuhn Bros., and also for Simon, Leopold & Solomon. The infant child of the family lay sick in a filthy room adjoining the shop, from the effects of sewer gas. It was pronounced by the doctor to be sewer gas poisoning. There were three living rooms, and Health Officer McDonald discovered the break through which the gas escaped and made a test with a match. The rush of foul air out of the broken pipe was so strong that it extinguished the light.

Paul Lewandoski examined:

Q. How many employés have you got here? A. That is all I have now; you can count them.

Q. How many girls are there? A. About five I guess altogether—seven altogether we have.

Q. Seven girls? A. No, I said seven with me and my wife.

Q. What do you make here? A. I am a pants maker.

Q. You make pants for whom? A. For Levy, and Kuhn Bros., and Simon, Leopold & Solomon, and Meyer, Engel & Co.

Q. Do the living rooms adjoin the shop? A. Yes, sir.

Q. I see you have goods stored in the sick room here. A. We have to.

Q. Who owns the building? A. The saloon-keeper upstairs.

Q. What do the girls make here? A. From $3.00 to $5.00 a week.

The next shop visited was that of Joel Losinski in the basement of 718 Ashland avenue. The place was a fair specimen of what has already been seen. It was a medium sized rather dark room with a low ceiling in which ten girls were employed making pants. They wore large handkerchiefs around their necks, apparently to keep from catching cold, but when asked as to the cause of it they said they did so because it was customary. The place was several feet below the level of the street, and was damp and badly ventilated.

Joel Losinski examined:

Q. How many employés have you got here in the shop now? A. Ten girls.

Q. How many men? A. Two.

Q. What do you make, pants? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What firms do you work for? A. Simon, Leopold & Soloman, Strauss, Ullman, Lindauer & Co., and Cohen Bros.

Q. What wages do you pay the girls a week. A. I pay them by the piece.

Q. What do they earn a week? A. From $2 to $5 a week.

Q. How many hours a day do they work. A. Ten hours.

Q. How long do they have for lunch? A. An hour.

Q. What do you pay the men—$5, $6 or $7? A. They go higher than that; they get from $9 to $12, the pressers and finishers.

Annie Stein, a girl apparently about thirteen years old, was then examined, and testified as follows:

Q. How old are you? A. Fifteen.

Q. How much do you get a week. A. $1.50.

Q. How much does this other little girl get here? A. $1.75.

The proprietor was asked why the girls wore handkerchiefs around their necks, and he said it was because they didn't want to catch any sickness. He was asked if that would prevent it, but said he didn't know. The water closet in this case was also examined, and found to be in a bad condition, there being almost an entire absence of ventilation.

Joseph Grigal's place was next visited. It is in the basement of 707 Ashland avenue. It is a room 20 by 30 feet, and there were five girls and four men at work. The air in this place was unfit to breathe.

Joseph Grigal was examined as follows:

Q. How many people have you got working here? A. Nine people.

Q. Who do you work for? A. I work for Daube, Cohn & Co.

Q. How much do the girls get a week? A. Well, some of them get $7, one $8, and one $5 and one $4.

Q. Where is Daube, Cohn & Co.'s place? A. 240 Jackson street.

A visit was next made to 720 Ashland avenue, in the basement, the sweat-shop of M. Aaron. The committee slid down an icy pair of stairs and entered the cellar, and the three men and seven girls who were at work were pictures of poverty and misery. The ceiling of the work-shop was about 6½ feet high.

Mary Chipanski, who worked here, stated that she was thirteen years old, and received $2.50 a week basting. She started to work at seven in the morning, and quit at twenty minutes to six in the afternoon.

M. Aaron examined:

Q. You manufacture men's coats here? A. Yes, sir.

Q. For whom? A. For Kahn, Schoenbrun & Co.

Q. Have you any more girls of this little girl's age? A. She is the only young girl I have.

Q. What wages do the men get? A. According to what they can do.

Q. Well, do they work on piece work? A. Yes, sir.

One of the men in the shop said that the girls received from $2.50 to $7 a week, and the men $6, $7 and $8.

The committee here adjourned to meet the following day, Sunday, February 12, at the Sherman House.

CHICAGO, Sunday, February 12, 1893.

The committee started out from the Sherman House Sunday afternoon at about three o'clock, accompanied by the usual force, and proceeded first to the sweat shop of I. Feldstein, a 15-hour shop in an old wooden structure in the rear of 136 Forquer street. They run here on Sunday in full blast. The only way to get into this shop is by a narrow 40-foot passageway under the old wooden tenement in the front. In the shop was found six consumptive men sewing on knickerbockers at $1.20 a dozen, or ten cents for putting up a complete set of boys' pants. They earned $6 a week when they worked ten hours a day, and $10 a week when they worked fifteen hours a day, and the neighbors say it is not unusual to hear the machines buzzing as late as midnight or even into the early morning hours. One of the neighbors complained that their rest was much disturbed at night by the pressers, who were usually at work until four o'clock in the morning. This shop was so badly lighted that lamps were used in the daytime. The proprietor himself runs this place, and another is run in the tenement house in front by his wife.

Himon Feldstein examined as follows:

Q. How many men have you employed here to-day? A. Two, and I am the third.

Q. You manufacture knee pants? A. Yes, sir.

Q. For what firm? A. Maz Glazer.

Q. Where is his place? A. 234 Franklin street, and also for Meyer, Engel & Co., 200 Monroe street.

Q. How many hours a day do you work Sunday? A. 10 hours.

Q. Do you work every day in the year? A. No, we don't work Saturday.

Q. What do you get for completing a pair of pants? A. From the house which sends it to us we get for finishing and putting the button holes on, $1.20 a dozen.

Q. That is making a dozen pair of knee pants complete? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many girls do you have working here from time to time? A. They are not here; they are working up stairs.

Abe Muller examined:

Q. Do you work Saturdays? A. No.

Q. You do all the sewing on the knee pants? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How much do you get? A. Fifty cents a dozen.

Mrs. Feldstein's place was next visited in the tenement house in front. The shop consisted of three small, dingy, smoky rooms. One of the rooms is used for cooking, and, in this room, three girls were at work on knee pants; another room is used for the family to sleep in and to store knee pants and waists in, and the third, which is the smallest room, is used for other purposes. The whole three rooms, taken together, are about 20x30 feet. The filthy condition of the entire three rooms was nauseating. Mrs. Feldstein has two children, one eleven months old, one three years, and their condition in regard to cleanliness was in keeping with the place.

Sarah Fridus was examined and stated in answer to Senator Noonan's questions:

Q. You are making knee pants? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How much do you get paid by the dozen? A. Three cents a dozen.

Q. What do you do on the knee pants? A. I put on the buttons.

Q. How many buttons do you put on each pair of pants? A. Six buttons.

Q. Don't I see eight buttons on each pair of pants here; do you put on all of those buttons? A. No; not those.

Q. Don't you put those on? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you put on eight buttons? A. No; I put on six buttons.

Q. And you get for that how much you say? A. Well, for putting on six buttons I will get three cents a dozen.

Q. How much do you make a week? A. Three dollars.

Q. How many hours do you work? A. Ten hours.

Q. How many days a week do you work? A. Six days.

Q. You work Sundays, but not Saturdays? A. Yes sir.

Q. Do you work evenings; that is, nights? A. No.

Q. Do you live here? A. No.

Q. Where do you live? A. On Newberry avenue.

Ettie Martinkofsky was next examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. Where do you live? A. I live on Forquer street.

Q. Not in this house? A. No.

Q. You come here to finish those knee pants? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you work all week? A. I work Saturday and Sunday and go to school the rest of the week.

Q. How much do you get for putting on those three buttons? A. Three cents a dozen.

Q. How much do you make Saturday and Sunday? A. Six dozen if I work fast.

Q. That is eighteen cents a day? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How old are you? A. Twelve years, going on thirteen.

Q. What number do you live at? A. 135.

Q. What is the number of this? A. 136.

Q. How many little girls work here from time to time? A. One little girl like I am.

Q. Where does she live? A. On Forquer street.

Q. You all work here in this little room, about 9x12. A. Yes, sir.

Mrs Feldstein examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. You are the wife of the man who is working in the shop in the rear? A. Yes, sir.

Q. These knee pants are stored here in the bedroom, aren't they? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You have sometimes three girls employed here finishing knee pants? A. No, never.

Q. Well, aren t there two here now? A. Yes, but she is only here sometimes (referring to Ettie Martinkofsky).

Q. Well, that is what I say, she is here to-day? A. Well, sometimes she goes to school.

Q. How many children have you? A. Two children.

Q. How old are they? A. This is eleven months and this is three years.

The shop of Max Rosenthal was next visited. It is situated in the rear of 158 Bunker street, and employed seventeen persons making knee pants for Strauss, Eisendrath & Drom. The work-room, which was small for the number employed, was found to be in the usual filthy condition. There were piles of rubbish heaped up in the corners of the room, creating a most unwholesome smell. As the committee entered. they noticed a boy about eleven years old at work on one of the machines, but he immediately quit, and denied that he had been working.

Max Rosenthal examined as follows by Senator Noonan:

Q. How many employés have you in the shop? A. Well, this is all, seventeen.

Q. This boy works, does he not? A. Which boy?

Q. This boy? A. No, sir.

Q. Wasn't he working when we came in? A. No; he was only fooling with the machine.

Q. How many hours do you work Sunday? A. Ten hours.

Q. You don't work Saturday? A. No.

Q. What do you work at? A. I make knee pants.

Q. For whom? A. For big houses.

Q. Who are they? A. Strauss, Eisendrath & Drom.

Q. Where are they? A. 244 and 246 Jackson street.

Q. What other firm do you work for? A. No other.

Q. What wages do your men make a day? A. Well, they don't all make the same; two dollars and two and a half.

Q. How much a week do they make? A. From nine dollars to twelve dollars.

Q. How much do the girls make? A. Well, three or four dollars a week.

Q. Have you got your books here that you pay those people with? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Can you let me see them? A. Yes, sir.

The books were then produced.

Q. Now, what do you pay this man? A. Well, forty cents a dozen we pay this man for making a dozen knee pants, and here is five days' work and he makes five dozen a day and gets forty cents a dozen, and here is another style of work that we pay them sixty cents a dozen for, but they make only about three and a half dozen of them.

Q. Nobody works here Saturday? A. No, sir, nobody.

One of the girls employed here said she made two and a half to three dollars a week. Ida Harris was employed sewing on buttons on knee pants. She sewed on six buttons and got four cents a dozen; and Annie Rosenblum, a girl about thirteen years old, but who said she was fourteen, got about the same.

Down stairs at this place, and a little in front of the shop was a frame shanty which looked like a barn. It had one window and one door which were both shut. The members of the committee endeavored to enter, but the stench from the place was so absolutely unbearable that not one of them cared to endure it even for a moment. A smoky stove stood in the center of the room, which was used for heating irons; the room was hot, thick with smoke, the window was so dirty that hardly

a ray of light entered the room, which was principally lighted by two lamps, and in this room there were two men at work pressing men's pants.

Max Ruben's shop in the rear of 434 South Halsted street was next visited. He made coats for Simon, Leopold & Solomon and employed two men and one girl, but he was only in the place about two days and nothing of importance was elicited.

A visit was then paid to a shop run by Rafael Munheit in the basement of No. 22 O'Brien street. It is a dark and badly ventilated room with a low ceiling and is lighted by lamps. These lamps have no globes and consequently fill the room with smoke and gas. The room was about 18 feet long by 8 feet wide.

Rafael Munheit examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. Do you work Saturday? A. No.

Q. How long have you worked in this shop? A. Nine months.

Q. How old are you? A. Thirty-nine years.

Q. How many hours do you work? A. We work from 7 in the morning until 10 at night, and I make $6 a week.

Q. That is working 15 hours a day, and you make $6 a week? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What do you make; what kind of work? A. We make knee pants.

Q. How much a dozen are you paid for those? A. 20 cents a dozen.

Q. For whom do you make knee pants? A. The boss makes them for himself; he is the proprietor himself.

Q. Do you usually work 15 hours a day? A. If I don't work regular hours I can t make a living.

Q. This young man on the other side of the room says that he works nine hours a day, and makes from $12 to $15? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How is it that this young man over here makes from $12 to $15 a week working 9 hours a day? A. Well, I think he does.

Q. How is it that he does that? A. Because he is only 19 years old.

Q. Is it because you have worked here so long that you can't work any faster; is your constitution impaired? A. Every year I become slower, because my feet won't work fast.

Q. Isn't that true of all the workers at the machine? A. Yes, the machine takes away the life from anybody that works long at it.

Q. How long does it take on an average for a man to wear himself out at it? A. I don't exactly know, but there are such constitutions that can stand it for eight years. A constitution has to be very good to stand it that long.

Q. How long have you been at it? A. Two and one-half to three years.

The proprietor was met at the door as the committee were going out, and stated that they made the goods for H. Wolf & Co., at 152 Madison street.

Another shop run by Munheit, in the rear of 98 Judd street, was next visited. In this place, which was a little better lighted and contained more space than the other, was found Ed. Gerber, a son of Jacque Gerber. He stated he was 13 years old, but in reality did not appear to be more than 10 or 11.

There were eleven machines run in the establishment.

Ed. Gerber examined:

Q. How old are you? A. 14 years.

Q. When were you 12? A. I don't know.

Q. Where do you live? A. On 14th street, 259 14th street.

Q. How long have you worked here? A. Only two weeks.

Q. How old are you? A. 13 years.

Q. How much do you get a week? A. $4.

Q. How many hours do you work a day? A. 9 hours.

Q. Do you work every day in the week? A. Sundays I stop. I go to night school.

Q. Why are you working to-day then? A. To-day I didn't want to stop.

Q. Are you paid a salary or by the week? A. By the week.

Q. And you are sure you get $4 a week? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You are working on a machine? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What kind of work is this you are doing. A. Stitching waistbands for pants.

Q. Are your father and mother alive? A. Yes, sir. My father works at 22 O'Brien street.

The windows in this shop were all closed, and one of the girls stated that owing to the bad smells in the alley they could not keep them open. There were eleven machines in this shop, but they were not all running. The room was 15x15.

No. 42 Blue Island avenue was next visited. It is a small shop run by A. J. Roseman, where three girls and one man were at work making button holes for Moses & Siegel, Biefield Bros., and several others. One of the girls said she was 15 years old and got $3 a week. This place was a fair sample of the poorer shops visited.

The committee next visited No. 82 Wilson street, which is a five-story tenement house with a sweat shop on each floor. The different shops were run by different people, but the committee made no detailed inspection until they reached the fifth floor, which is run by Abraham Levison, who employed twenty-five people, fifteen men and ten girls, making coats for Kahn, Wumpold & Co., and Simon Leopold & Solomon. The one water-closet in this room was out of repair and unfit for use, and the smoke from the open flues on the floors below comes up through this closet rendering the atmosphere of the room almost suffocating. The whole building, shops, and tenement appartments is sickening from neglect of every kind, and the committee found it convenient to stop only long enough to examine rapidly and select some witnesses. The atmosphere of the rooms was made nauseating by the fumes of defective plumbing in the sanitary arrangements. There were 13-year old girls in this shop who received only 2½ cents an hour.

Minnie Harris stated that she was thirteen years old and gets $1.50 a week working from 7 o'clock in the morning until 6 at night. She worked six days a week. Some of the other girls stated that they received $3.00 and $3.50 a week and some $2.50.

Abe Hirschberg was subpœnaed to appear before the committee at the Sherman House on Friday, the 17th inst. He stated that the nearest water-closet to their work shop was down stairs on the first floor.

The shop of Levy & Tucker is on the same floor across the hall and employs about thirty people. They manufacture coats for Kuh, Nathan & Co., and also for Morris & Goldsmith. Neither of these two shops were provided with fire escapes, and the room contained one water closet in a defective condition.

William Ashar was examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. How old are you? A. Fourteen going on fifteen.

Q. How much a week do you get? A. Three dollars.

Q. What do you do on the machine? A. I sew collars.

Q. You start to work at seven o'clock in the morning? A Yes, sir.

Q. And work until six at night? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many days in the week do you work? A. Every day in the week.

Q. What time did you go to work yesterday? A. We don't work on Saturday.

Q. Are there any more boys about your age working here? A. No, sir.

Q. Are there any young girls working here? A. No, sir.

One of the workmen was next examined and stated:

Q. How many people working here? A. From twenty-five to thirty.

Q. Have you any fire escape here? A. No, sir.

Q. If a fire was to start at the entrance door over there, what would you do? A. We would have to stand here and look at it.

Abraham Usherman's place was next examined. It was a small shop in the basement of 78 Wilson street, about six feet below the level of the street, and the place is so dark that kerosene lamps are kept burning constantly, and as in some of the other places the lamps are not provided with globes. There are only two windows in the place, and they look like boiler plates. The men work in one end, and extending from the other is a damp, musty tunnel-like room without any connection with the outside air. In here are piled stacks of children's clothing. The proprietor says he does not work for a contractor, but peddles out his wares to the wholesalers. In this place they work ten hours a day, and men receive six dollars a week. On one of the tables was a lot of pants with the tag of the Ft. Dearborn H. Co. Usherman afterwards admitted that he made some of the goods for John Yorke on Halsted near Eighteenth street.

From this place the committee proceeded to the sweat shop of M. Borenstein, in a frame shanty in the rear of 21 Cramer street. The room was 30x23, and contained ten men and fourteen girls, who worked ten hours a day on garments for Kohn Bros. The room is a very dingy one with a ceiling about seven feet high. The workers sit with elbows touching, and the air, foul from animal heat, was blue from the smoke from cigarettes and pipes. The proprietor admitted that things were in a desperately bad shape, and, in addition to the bad sanitary condition of the shop, the stench arising from the neighborhood is positively sickening. It looked as if no garbage had been collected in the vicinity for four months. There were two water-closets in the yard, which were supposed to be in use, but, on being examined, it was found that they were broken, entirely out of order, and in the filthiest condition imaginable.

M. Borenstein examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. What do you manufacture? A. I manufacture coats.

Q. For what firm? A. For Cohen Bros.

Q. How many employés have you here? A. Well, about thirty; sometimes more and sometimes less.

Q. How many girls and how many men? A. About ten men and fourteen girls, but they don't work always steady; there are ten men in here now.

Q. What are the average hours a day? A. Ten hours a day.

Q. You don't work Saturday? A. No, sir.

Q. You work six days in the week? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What wages do the girls earn in a week? A. Well, according to the work.

Q. You pay by the piece? A. No; weekly.

Q. How much do you pay those girls? A. They make from four to seven dollars a week.

Q. How much do the men make? A. Fifteen to ten dollars a week.

Q. Does that boy over there make ten dollars? A. No; he makes six.

Q. Let us see your books? A. We never pay according to the books, because we don't pay by the piece; we pay by the week.

Q. What wages do you pay the youngest girl over there? A. Three dollars a week.

Q. Can they work here over-time if they want to on piece-work? A. No; they don't work over-time.

Q. Where is the water-closet? A. It is in the yard; it is bad now on account of being frozen, but I am going to fix it to-morrow.

Q. The girls and men use the same place? A. There are two water-closets; one for men and one for women.

Q. This one heating stove is the only stove for this room? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is the size of this room? A. 30x23.

Q. What is the height of the ceiling? A. Seven feet.

The committee here adjourned to meet at the Sherman House, Monday morning, February 13th, at 10 o'clock.

MONDAY, February 13th, 1893.

The committee met at the Sherman House, but was late in starting out. The special industry to be inquired into was the manufacture of cigars, and for want of definite information in advance, the committee necessarily wasted much of its time. By way of a start, and for lack of proper information, the first place visited was the large tobacco factory of Spaulding & Merrick, on Rush and Michigan streets, where 350 girls are employed, most of them at salaries ranging from $3.50 to $4. Sixty men are also employed in the building. It is exclusively a tobacco factory, and no cigars are manufactured there. The girls work from 7 o'clock to 5:30, with half an hour for dinner, and when they work overtime they are paid by the hour. A representative of the firm said that in the busy season the girls can work as long as they want to, but that none of the girls had worked overtime in a year.

Annie Vielghus, a little girl working in this store, said she was thirteen years old, and lived on Judd street. She worked in a tailor shop before working here. The greatest hardship in

this store was that the girls had to stand at their work from 7 o'clock in the morning until 5:30 in the evening with only a half hour for dinner; and it was noticed that most of them were barefooted. One of them stated that the reason why they worked barefooted was that the shoes hurt their feet. Many of the girls were round-shouldered, having become so from the nature of their work.

The committee then started out to visit the tenement-house cigar factories on the West Side, and the first shop visited was that of William Pospishil, at 140 DeKoven street. It was a narrow room in the third story of a tenement house. Three men and a boy were at work there, and the proprietor claimed it was a union shop, and that they worked but eight hours a day. He sold his cigars to customers of his own. The living-rooms adjoined the cigar store, but, beyond the fact that there was a lack of ventilation, nothing more of importance was observed here.

No. 162 DeKoven street was next visited. It was run by John Baehm. The proprietor said they only worked seven or eight hours a day, as it was a union shop. The room was 10 by 12 feet and the ceiling 8 feet high, with the living-rooms adjoining. There were two workmen employed here. The ventilation was very poor.

Caspar Pokorney's shop was next visited, at 116 Bunker street. It was a small room, 10x12, with an 8-ft. ceiling. The cigar factory was in the rear of and adjoining the living rooms. There were four men at work here, and, like the other place, it was poorly ventilated.

No. 172 Bunker street was next visited. It is a typical sweat shop, run by Henry Finkelstein and Simon Reznikov. The factory is in a room 10x12 feet, which also contains a cook stove and other family utensils. Scattered over the dirty floor was tobacco to be used for cigars, and the odor of the place was so strong with the combination of stenches that the smell of the tobacco was lost. In the room was the wife of the proprietor, a baby five months old, and a wash bowl full of slops. Connected with the factory were two small bedrooms, the smell of the factory predominating in each. Reznikov refused to give the names of the parties for whom they manufactured cigars in the absence of his partner, but afterwards, when his partner arrived, he said they manufactured for Scott & Scott, on Dearborn street Three men and one girl were at work in the room. The door and window in this room were kept shut.

Berman & Simons' factory, at 371 West Twelfth street, was next visited. Two men and a woman were at work. Simons says he runs a union factory, but the woman says she works ten hours a day and got but $3 a week. The kitchen in this place adjoined the work-shop, and an unpleasant odor was created by the combination of cigars and cooked vegetables.

The factory of M. Strauss, on the second floor of 248 Blue Island avenue, was next visited. It was a typical tenement factory, and was situated directly over a butcher shop. Mr. Strauss, his wife and eight children, the youngest a babe in the cradle, occupied a couple of adjoining small rooms. The place lacked cleanliness and ventilation. Only two boys were at work when the visit was made. An old lady in the shop stated that Strauss employed four men. One of the boys, Sam Golding, said he was over 17, although he did not appear to be more than 12. He said he was not employed in the place, but was only helping the other boy. The room was 17x10, and was dark, foul and smoky, with the kitchen adjoining, from which issued a combination of unpleasant odors. There were eight children in the family, besides the father and mother; the oldest 16, and the youngest a baby.

At No. 210 Blue Island avenue, a place kept by Paul Manuth, a sign on the front door of a confectionery told that there was a cigar factory somewhere inside. The committee went into the confectionery store, but its way to the rear of the building was blocked by the woman who attended the candy store. She said her name was Mary Manuth, a sister of Paul's. She positively refused to allow the party to enter, saying that her brother was out, and the cigar factory was closed. She was subpœnaed to appear before the committee at the Sherman House on Friday, February 17.

The committee then closed its investigations, and adjourned to meet on Friday, February 17, at 10 o'clock A. M., 1893, for the taking of testimony.

Investigation by Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Representatives for the Investigation of the Sweat Shop System, at reading room of Sherman House, Chicago, Illinois, on February 17, A. D. 1893.

The committee, consisting of Senators E. T. Noonan, Chairman, Joseph P. Mahoney and P. T. Chapman, and Representatives Joseph O'Donnell, Charles S. Deneen, Stephen D. May and Luther M. Dearborn, met at 10 o'clock A. M., and was called to order by the chairman of same.

Charles Bonus, being sworn, testifies as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. What is your name? A. Charles Bonus.

Q. What is your occupation and place of residence? A. My occupation at the present time is letter carrier, and I reside at No. 85 Wallace street.

Q. How long have you been engaged in that business? A. As a carrier?

Q. Yes? A. For the last six days.

Q. What was your employment before that time? A. I was a cloak operator.

Q. In whose employ? A. The last one I worked for was named H. Slapek.

Q. Where was his place of business? A. 182 Brown street.

Q. How long were you employed by him? A. Two weeks.

Q. How long have you been engaged in the business—how long have you been working as cloak operator? A. Three years, and four years as presser.

Q. State to the committee the various firms you have been working for in that time. A. I worked for M. Rozenzweig; I also worked for Weil & Siegel, and I worked for Zimberroff & Levi, and the least one I worked for was the one I stated, Slapek.

Q. Where are those firms conducting shops in Chicago? A. Zimberroff & Levi are conducting a shop at 433 South Halsted street, on the top floor; Weil is conducting a shop at 48 Krammer street; and Rozenzweig is conducting a shop at 202 West Fourteenth street.

Q. What is a cloak operator? A. A man that makes a garment by machine, makes it up before finishing, that is, makes a garment thoroughly besides a little hand work.

Q. When you were employed in those shops you have last given us, were you working by the piece or by the week? A. By the piece.

Q. You may state to the committee the prices paid from time to time for piece work in these shops. A. In 1890 I received per jacket that took a man about an hour to make, I received about from 35 to 45 cents a piece; in 1891 the same garment has paid 30 cents; in 1892 the price was about the same; but in 1892 or 1893 the work became so complicated that they are paying for a garment now—

Q. What kind of a garment? A. Well, in 1890 or 1891, if I am not mistaken,—I want to say that in 1891 we used to make garments, jackets with two pockets, that were similar to vest pockets; the seams were plainly closed, that is they only had to be sown together once, and the average man could make one in an hour.

Q. How much did you get paid for that hour's labor? A. Well, we had 35 cents a piece, that was two or three years ago. At the present time, and last year also, we are making jackets, but we are making coat pockets or shape jackets, as they are called; they are made something similar to a gent's cloak, and the work is very complicated; instead of having to sew the seams together once, they have to sew them three times, that is, sew them together once and raise them twice on the top. The average man couldn't make a garment in less than a half a day; many a day I haven't made more than a jacket and a

half, and for the garment we get an average of from 40 to 50 cents a piece; that is, if the garment is lined we get 50 cents, and, if it is not lined we get 40 cents, so that the average man could make about 60 to 75 cents a day, and a first c ass man could probably make a dollar a day; that is a lot of difference from the work as it used to be.

Q. Those shops which you have just given us, were they located in what are known as tenement houses? A. Yes; in fact every one of them except Siegel & Weil's; they are located on Franklin street, which is a regular manufacturing block.

Q. How many rooms were in these various shops? A. There was only one room which was supposed to be a shop, and there was also at Rozenzweig's, where I worked, three rooms in the rear where he lived with his family.

Q. How many other people lived in that shop; how many people lived there, and how many were there working there other than those that lived there, the members of the family? A. If I am not mistaken, three families lived up stairs over the shop, and in the shop for Rozenzweig there worked eighteen operators, and there was about fourteen finishers, three pressers and one button-hole maker.

Q. How many males and how many females were employed there? A. There were eighteen operators and fourteen finishers—there were twenty-two males and fourteen females, besides his own family.

Q. Did they work in one room? A. Yes, sir,

Q. How many members were in his family? A. Himself and wife and three children.

Q. What was the size of the room in which they were doing the work? A. The size of the store was about 22x45.

Q. What was the height of the ceiling? A. I haven't any idea; it was not very high.

Q. Was any of the clothing on which the employés were engaged and which they had finished deposited or kept in any of the living rooms adjoining the work-room? A. Yes; generally when the work was finished up ready to be shipped he didn't have any room to keep the work in the shop and he kept it in his own bed-room, or in the clothes-closet; that is where he kept the work ready to be shipped.

Q. What did you mean by the clothes-closet? A. The closet which is kept for his own use; where he hangs up his own clothes in the private room.

Q. What were the sanitary arrangements of this tenement of which you have spoken? A. Well, there is only one thing of to tell you, and that is, that the shop used to be swept once a week, that was Saturday; they didn't work Saturdays, but they worked Sundays, and the shop was swept once a week, and the shop stood on the bare ground, and, when the weather was

damp outside, it used to blow right in through the floor and through the front door, and it was very cold, and the majority of the men and girls that work there, they haven't worked more than four days in the week; two days in the week they lay off; some of them had rheumatism, some of them had cold, and others didn't feel well in general.

Q. Did you know of any one of them having contagious diseases, either the families or the employés, at any time during your employment in a sweat shop? A. Oh, yes, the majority of them are generally affected with stomach disease and also rheumatism, and they have that as a continuous disease right along; almost every operator is affected with that, from the condition of the shop and also from the hard work with the machine and by working long hours.

Q. Do you of your own knowledge know of any case of measles, scarlet fever or typhoid fever, or a disease that is recognized by the medical profession as being contagious, having existed in any of these shops, and, if so, state when and where? A. I did't know exactly at the time I worked that any such disease was in the shop, but the work was given out to outside finishers; women used to come around and take it to do the hand sewing, and I personally know a family that was afflicted with diptheria and the lady used to come to the shop; she was a very poor woman and had to do something for a living; she took out those garments to finish, and, while she had them at home she didn't have enough blankets to cover the children with, and she used those garments to cover the children with; other times she used them as pillows. In fact, when they have them at their own houses, they keep them on the beds, under the beds and in the closets and all over, and sometimes when the children haven't anything to put on, they don't mind putting on some of those garments on those children. I was a witness to it myself, and I told the lady she shouldn't do so, and she said she didn't have any money to buy blankets with, and she had to use them instead of blankets.

Q. Do you know for whom those shops were making those garments or those cloaks? A. Yes, sir, M. Rozenzweig worked for J. V. Farwell & Co., A. Slapek and Siegel & Weil, and Zimborroff & Levi are working for Seigel Bros.

Q. How many days work a year do you lose for want of work in the shop? A. For want of work?

Q. Yes? A. Well, if we lost anything, we lost 250 days out of the 365, that is if we figure at an average how many months we worked.

Q. Do you go to the shop each morning and remain there until work comes? A. Yes, sir, we go to the shop each morning and the work comes in, probably there are fourteen or fifteen operators and we have fifty or sixty garments to make, and it makes for each of them about three garments. We make

those, and then we have to wait for the next lot to come in, and that is the way it keeps on till the month of October. From the month of October until the 15th of November, we are working steady; and, furthermore, as to the time the work comes in, it comes in sometimes at two o'clock in the afternoon. Now, the boss wants to have the work done at once; he does not care whether we work in the forenoon or not; he compels men to work until nine and ten o'clock at night to finish the work up, and he tells them plainly in fact if they dont want to finish the work up, they might as well quit altogether.

Q. What were the hours of labor per day? A. When there was work there was no limited time to the hours; a man could work just as long as he pleased himself, but the hours set by the contractors are not less than twelve hours; but, if any man wants to work longer than that, and make a little, sometimes they work fourteen hours and other times fifteen hours a day, but if any one worked less than that, he calls him a "doctor;" he says, "it don't pay me to give you a machine; I want a man that will work longer."

Q. Are the rules the same with all the hands in the shop? A. Certainly, the rules are the same.

Q. At all seasons of the year? A. Certainly, in the busy season you are compelled to work fourteen or fifteen hours.

Q. In the shops you were employed in, about how many people did they employ, and what is the work of the people so employed? A. Well, they generally use little girls from ten years up for sewing buttons on, as it wouldn't pay them to have a girl that has to pay her board; they would have to give her three or four dollars a week and that wouldn't pay them, so they get those little girls and pay them from 75 cents to $1.50 a week.

Q. How long do they work? A. Ten full hours.

Q. In the shops in which you were employed what were the arrangements as to water closets? A. Well, there was only one water closet for the whole shop; in fact, for the whole house.

Q. How many were in the house? A. There was in the shop twenty-two males and fourteen females, and the contractor himself with his wife and three children, that is thirty-six and five make forty-one; forty-one persons; there were three families up stairs, and I don't know how many were in the three families, but in that district the families are generally pretty well filled up with children.

Q. Was this water-closet in any way heated at all in the winter time? A. Not at all, it was one of those back yard sewer closets.

Q. Out in the yard? A. Out in the yard.

Q. What is the process in detail relative to the making, the sewing and pressing of the cloth from the time it is received till it is returned by the contractor? A. Well, some of those manufacturers take the garment out without asking the price of it, because he doesn't care for the price, because if a man can't work enough in ten hours, he will make them work fifteen hours in order to make them earn $1.50 a day; they make on an average from 20 cents to 50 cents each garment. If he gets 50 cents, he figures out that the garment should not cost him any more, including all expenses, than 25 or 30 cents, and the balance is left to himself. Now, of course, if he gets 75 cents, he can pay so much more to the operator, but, as a rule, these men want to be very kind to the manufacturers and to get favors from them, and therefore they try to compete with one another. They take the garment out of the house without inquiring about the price; they don't care for that at all, and, when it comes to the shop, the garment is given first to a man that is called in that profession a binder, to bind the seams. He pays that binder 3 cents to bind the seams. It takes that man a half an hour to bind a jacket, and he can make about 6 cents an hour, and when it is bound, it is given to the operator to sew it up, and when the garment is run through the machine it is given to a finisher, an inside finisher who has to baste the sleeves to make it ready for the outside finisher to do the felling, the hand sewing. The felling is done outside. They wouldn't have it done in the house, for they can get it done cheaper outside. When the outside finisher gets through, he brings it back and it goes to the button-hole maker, and the button-hole maker, when she gets through, hands it over to the presser, and when the presser is through it comes back to the contractor who examines it and brushes it up, and puts it back in his own room for a time until he gets ready to ship it back to the house.

Q. Now, what is done to clean the garments if they should become soiled in any way? A. They don't clean them at all, they simply hang them up. His duty is to examine them to see if they are made right. If they are soiled, that is none of his business. He takes one of those whisk brooms and brushes them up and throws them in the closet. Some days he has got to examine four or five hundred garments; therefore, he has not very much time to look around the garment to see whether it is soiled or not.

Q. At what age do the men fall out of the trade by reason of failing strength and speed? A. Well, they generally stop that trade—— I for one stopped that trade at twenty seven; I got sick of it; I have been afflicted with stomach disease right along and also I had rheumatism.

Q. What was the cause of the stomach disease and rheumatism? A. The stomach disease was from turning that heavy Singer machine from twelve to fourteen hours in succession, and

the cloth is as hard as a rock sometimes; sometimes it is an impossibility to pull it through the machine; we have to pull it along; the machine won't pull it; and also in winter the shops are always cold. When you come in the morning, it is impossible to work until nine or ten o'clock, so you have to suffer that way and work the best you can or you may as well go home; and of course from the cold and damp room a man gets rheumatism.

Q. Do the females in this shop appear to suffer any more than the men? A. They do suffer occasionally more, because our work is more physical and we have a chance to warm ourselves up, while the females haven't got a chance, and, as a rule, about fourteen or fifteen girls sit around the stove shivering. Of course, we stop till it gets warm in the shop, but the girls when they come to work in the morning they are compelled to work whether with freezing fingers or not.

Q. You refer to the girls that work on a salary by the week? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you any suggestion to offer to this committee to remedy the so-called sweat-shop evil? A. Well, yes; I think the only suggestion that I could offer is to abolish the sweating system altogether. I don't see why this work shouldn't go on the same system as all the rest of the works—the iron works, or any other line of works, where the work is run direct in the manufacturer's place, and, furthermore, the workingman is to get a second-hand profit; he has to get a profit from the contractor. Instead of that, the workingman should get a direct profit. If it was given to the workingman direct, he could probably try to leave out half of same, now the contractor takes for himself twenty-five or thirty cents, and then there is absolutely nothing left for the workingman, and the only suggestion that I could offer is that those contractors or sweaters should be abolished altogether. The men should work in a shop direct in the manufacturer's place.

Jacob Lasky, being sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. What is your name, occupation and place of business? A. Jacob Lasky, cloak manufacturer, 223 West Fourteenth street; I work for Marshall Field & Co.

Q. Aren't you still at that place on Maxwell street? A. No, I am not there any more; I moved Monday, as I said.

Q. How long have you been so employed? A. How long have I been so employed? Over eight years now.

Q. During that time have you been working for the same firm? A. I am working for the same one six years now.

Q. And who did you work for before? A. Siegel Bros.

Q. How long have you been at your present location? A. A few days now; since last Monday.

Q. Where were you before that time? A. On Maxwell street; 237 Maxwell street.

Q. How long had you been down there? A. I had been there two and a half years.

Q. That is located in the rear in a frame building? A. In a brick building.

Q. The basement is used for a barn? A. The owner of the building keeps his horse and buggy there, underneath the shop.

Q. What was the reason for your moving? A. Because I put up my own building, and I have a little more convenience now than I had before; I have a larger place, more light and more ventilation.

Q. And the sanitary arrangements are better, are they not, in the new place? A. Oh, sure, they are better.

Q. Did you not state to the members of this committee at the time that they visited your place on Maxwell street that you were about to move because the place was too tough for you to stay there? A. Of course, I was always anxious to get a better place than that; that is what I meant.

Q. Did you so state to the committee at that time? A. That the place was good enough for me?

Q. No; that the place was too tough, or too filthy?. A. I don't remember what I have stated, but, of course, a man always prefers to get a better place than to be in such a place as that. Certainly you folks noticed that, and you didn't like it yourselves, and, naturally, I don't have to like that place if you don't like it.

Q. How many employés did you have engaged in your Maxwell street house? A. About twenty-five.

Q. How may males and how many females? A. There were seven girls and the balance men.

Q. How many did you pay by the week and how many by the piece? A. The girls always got paid by the week.

Q. And the men by the piece? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What were the wages paid to the girls and the prices paid to the men? A. The prices to the men—wouldn't it be better for you to ask my men what they got, because I have stated once what I paid them, and they turned around and told you that they worked for me fifteen hours a day and made six dollars a week, so that settles me to tell you any more, because I have said it once.

Q. Well, we might take it for what it is worth? A. Well, I have said it in my shop and I have seen these people turn around and say they work fifteen hours a day and make six dollars a week. Since I am in the business, there wasn't a man worked fifteen hours a day for me yet; certainly it is right to find out the truth about it. A man comes up here and stated

to you something that is not the truth. It isn't right. There is no use to go to work and make a blow and tell lies. That wouldn't do either.

By Mr. Mahoney:

Q. Now, the statements you made in your shop were voluntary and not under oath. You are now stating under oath and you are amenable to the law. We want you now to testify to those facts in answer to the questions of the chairman. We expect an answer. You are under oath now and we want your testimony. A. Well, there was a man working for me last year that made as high as $30 a week by working ten hours a day, from seven till six.

Q. What character of work did those do who made $30 a week working ten hours a day? A. Working on the sewing machine all day.

Q. What class of garments did they work at? A. About as good a class as there is.

Q. What kind? A. Cloaks.

Q. Ladies' cloaks? A. Yes, sir.

By Senator Noonan:

Q. How much per cloak did they get? A. There is all different kinds of styles.

Q. Well, those men that got $30 a week? A. I have cloaks that I pay 50 cents to $1.25 for.

Q. This was piece work? A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. Mahoney:

Q. How many cloaks a day could a man finish on the machine? A. Well, that is a very hard question to answer; sometimes they could make four or five, and sometimes a little more, and so on.

Q. What is the average number of cloaks a day that a man could make? A. This business of cloaks is not a regular business, as clothing is.

Q. We are on cloaks now. A. We are on cloaks; you asked me what a man can make.

Q. How many cloaks, on an average, can a man make a day? How many can he finish? A. There are different kinds of cloaks.

Q. How many of the character of cloaks that you just described, that one of your men made $30 a week at; how many of those cloaks can he make a day? A. Well, there are so many different kinds.

Q. How many of this particular kind? A. I can't answer that.

Q. The man that made $30 a week, how many can he make? A. There are dozens of different kinds of cloaks, and I can't measure them and tell you how many he makes a day.

Q. Did he work on the cloaks for which you paid 55 cents, or the ones you paid $1.35 for? A. In one week he might make four or five different styles. If he worked on the 55 cent cloaks, he naturally made ten a day.

Q. How many would he make on the 55 cent cloaks? A. Well, he would make ten a day.

Q. Were the men who make $30 a week compelled to pay any portion of that $30 to anybody else? A. What do you mean by that?

Q. Any other employé? A. No, sir.

Q. Was the $30 entirely his own, or did he have to pay for help? A. No, sir. he hasn't anything to do with any other employé.

Q. For his portion of the work on the cloaks he made $30 a week? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many men in your employ made $30 a week? A. I had only four.

Q. When did you employ those four? During what year? A. Last year, 1892.

Q. In 1892 you employed four men who made $30? A. $30 a week.

Q. What were the names of those four men? A. I can look up my books now and tell you.

Q. Where is your book? A. I haven't it here.

Q. Where is it? A. It is at my place of business.

Q. On Fourteenth street? A. Certainly.

Q. Do you recollect the name of either of the four men? A. Well, I guess I can.

Q. Well, give the stenographer the name of one of them. A. One is Benjamin Slovitze.

Q. How long did Benjamin work for you? A. He is working for me a year.

Q. He worked for you during the year 1892? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now give the name of one of the others? A. I don't remember their names; one fellow's name is Schwartz.

Q. Now then, you don't remember the names of either of the other men who worked for you in 1892 who earned $30 a week? A. I don't remember.

Q. Do you know Nathan Shugarman? A. Yes, I do.

Q. Does he work for you now? A. Yes.

Q. How long has he worked for you? A. This is the second year.

Q. Then he worked for you during the time that Benjamin worked for you? A. Certainly.

Q. How many weeks of 1892 did Benjamin earn $30 in? A. I don't remember.

Q. Well, your books show? A. I don't think so.

Q. Is Shugarman engaged in the same character of work that Benjamin is engaged in; is he doing the same kind of work as Benjamin; does he operate a sewing machine? A. The same thing.

Q. Does he work on the same class of work? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he in 1892 work on the same class of work? A. The same thing.

Q. How many hours a day would Benjamin work during the week when he would earn $50? A. Ten hours a day.

Q. And work six days in the week? A. Certainly.

Q. Would he work on Saturday or Sunday? A. He worked on Sunday; all of them do; I have Saturday closed.

Q. Do you know Morris Rochelsky? A. Yes, sir; he is working for me.

Q. How long is he working for you? A. This will be the second year; he started in 1892.

Q. What does he do—operate a sewing machine? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Does he work on the same class of goods as Benjamin? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And he also works by the piece? A. No, he started last year to learn a trade; he is working for another man and the other fellow is paying him.

Q. Now the sewing machine operator pays this man for assisting him? A. Yes, he assists him; he helps him along.

Q. He pays him out of his own wages? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Has Benjamin had any helper since he worked for you? A. He never had any helper since he worked for me.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. Is the shop at 237 Maxwell street now used as a shop since you have left it? A. I couldn't tell you the way it is now.

Q. Didn't you state to the committee that some other tailor shop would be there after you left? A. That is what I understood, but, of course, I never looked after that. I have got more to attend to than that.

Q. Have you any children in your employ? A. That is the boy there; that is what we call the child (referring to Rochelsky).

Q. Will you state, for the information of this committee, what constitutes a contractor, such a position as you hold? How do you obtain your work and through what methods the some is done? A. In what method the same is done?

Q. Yes, you say you are working for Marshall Field & Co. Now, how do you get your work from Marshall Field? With whom do you contract or do business for Marshall Field? A. Well, they generally have a manager in the department.

Q. What department? A. In the cloak department.

Q. You get the stuff from him; the cloth and materials are furnished to you? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you return it to them entirely finished and completed? A. Entirely finished and completed.

Q. What prices do you receive for the manufacture of those cloaks from the firm? A. That question I can't answer; that's my own private business. Of course it is pretty hard for me to say what prices I receive for them. I can only tell you what I pay for them, but what I receive, this is a matter of private business.

Q. Between you and Mr. Field? A. Between me and Mr. Field.

Q. Is there an understanding between you and him that it should be considered private? A. There is no understanding; he has nothing to say about it; I can go to work and tell anybody what I get for my garment, for making it, but I don't have to tell anybody my business.

By Mr. Mahoney:

Q. What is the customary price that a shop-keeper gets for a lady's cloak that the operator is paid 50 cents for making? A. State that again.

Q. I want to know the average price that wholesale houses pay contractors, such as you, for a cloak that the contractor pays 50 cents to the operator for making? A. What they pay me?

Q. What do the contractors usually get for the cloak that they pay 50 cents to the employé for? A. I couldn't tell you that.

Q. How long have you been in the business? A. Six years.

Q. Have you any acquaintance with other contractors such as you are and that do work for Marshall Field? A. Oh, yes; I know several others.

Q. Have you ever talked with them about the prices for cloaks? A. No; I never did; I always attend to my own business.

Q. You don't know what any other contractor is getting from Marshall Field? A. I couldn't tell you that; all I know is what I am getting for my work, and the line that I am making the other men don't make.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. What is the name of the manager with whom you do business? A. Mr. Selfridge.

Q. Are any of those cloaks sent out of your shop to be finished by private houses? A. Yes, sir; I send them out to be finished.

Q. How many different finishers have you on you pay-rolls? A. There is only two kinds of finishers.

Q. How many of each kind; how many persons have you engaged? A. I have about ten women that work for me outside and some girls inside; seven or eight girls.

Q. They take it home and finish it and bring it back to your shop? A. Yes. sir.

Q. And you take it to the wholesale house? A. No; I have to have it pressed yet.

Q. Now, after they bring it back to your shop you have it pressed? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What do you mean by pressing it; explain that process? A. Well, the garment has to be pressed, of course.

Q. What do you mean by pressing? A. Well, you know you have to get pressed up once in a while, too.

Q. What do you mean by pressing—you take the clothing and sponge it over and then iron it? A. Yes, sir.

Q. State what constitutes the process of pressing; what constitutes pressing? A. You want me to explain about how the garment is pressed?.

Q. That is it exactly. A. Well, a man will take a hot iron, and he will sponge the garment with a sponge and water, and then press it.

Q. With the iron? A. Yes, that is the way to press a garment.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. Is it the outside or the inside of the garment that is pressed? A. There has to be both sides pressed, the outside and the inside.

Q. But there is a cloth covering on the outside, is there not when it is pressed? A. What cloth?

Q. You don't run the red hot iron on the outside of the garment without anything between? A. No, he has got to have a piece of linen or muslin or something over it.

Q. Well, why didn't you say so? A. Well, if I ask any mechanic how he does his work I have to wait awhile until he explains it to me; I can't find out a thing in a minute.

Q. I want to know how you press the garment? A. Well, that is what I am explaining to you, how to press the garment.

Q. There are no chemicals used; the only thing used in connection with this pressing is water? A. That is all.

Q. There are no chemicals used? A. This garment is pressed the same as a tailor makes a coat, the same as clothing is manufactured and pressed: you know, if you go into a store and pay $100.00 for a suit of clothes to order, it is pressed the same way.

Q. Do you know whether any contagious diseases exist in the houses of those finishers. A. I couldn't tell you; I havn't seen any diseases or anything like that at all.

Q. Mr. Lasky, you stated to the committee that the highest amount made by any of your operators a week was $30.00. A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you tell us the lowest amount? A. The lowest amount is $15.00.

By Mr. Mahoney:

Q. Jackets and cloaks is your particular line of work. A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is the lowest you get for making a jacket or cloak? A. I couldn't tell you that; I couldn't answer that question.

Q. What is the lowest you pay your operator? A. Fifty cents.

Q. What is the highest you pay? A. The highest was $1.25.

Q. Now, what does that garment bring at wholesale. A. I couldn't tell what the man sells it for.

Q. What did you say the name of the superintendent for Marshall Field was? A. Mr. Selfridge.

Q. When did you see him last? A. Sometime this week; Tuesday I saw him.

Q. Did you have any conversation with him relative to this hearing before this committee? A. No, I haven't said a word to him yet.

Q. Have you spoken to him about the visit of the committee to your shop? A. I never spoke to him about it; he knew it; he read it in the papers.

Q. Did he speak to you about it? A. He never asked me a question.

Q. How do you know that he read it in the papers? A. That is what the boys told me in the house.

Q. The boys in Marshall Field's house told you that ke knew it? A. Certainly.

Q. What boy told you it? A. They were all sitting there.

Q. What boy was it told you; I don't know, because wasn't there? What boy told you? A. That he knew it?

Q. Yes. A. I don't know his name.

Q. Is he in the same department? A. Yes, in the same department; they are changing around their help every month pretty near and getting new men in there, so I don't know their names.

Q. You had no talk with Marshall Field's superintendent about this visit at all? A. No.

Q. Have you ever had any talk with any body representing that firm about a secret understanding as to prices? A. I never had; no, sir.

Q. For the cloak or jacket that you paid fifty cents to the operator for making, how much do you receive from Marshall Field or any other house that you are doing work for? A. I couldn't tell you.

Q. Why couldn't you tell me? A. Because this is my private business.

Q. You refuse to answer the question? A. I refuse to answer the question. I refuse to tell anybody my private business, and I have a right to, I believe.

Q. You have been employed in the last eight years running a sweat shop? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What were you doing before that time? A. I went to school before that time.

Q. Where do your folks live? A. They are living with me.

Q. Here? A. Yes, sir.

Q. That is, your father lives with you. A. Yes, my father and mother.

Q. What is your father's business? A. He is a cutter on fur.

Q. Are your wife's relations living with you? A. I am not married just now.

Q. You are now located at 223 West Fourteenth street? A. Yes, that is my place of business; I don't live there though.

Q. What is the size of that place there? A. 25x20 and a 12-foot ceiling, and seventeen windows and a skylight.

Q. Is that in the rear of the place? A. That is in the rear; the front is a store, and that is in the rear.

Q. You say you own this place? A. I own it; yes, sir.

Q. How do you mean; do you own the building? A. I own the building; yes, sir.

Q. Have you a lease on the land? A. I own the property.

Q. How much did the building cost? A. It cost $10,000; I have got to pay $8,000 yet for it.

Q. Do you mean by that that you have a mortgage of $8,000 on it. A. Yes, I have a mortgage of $8,000 on it.

Q. To whom did you give the mortgage; who holds the mortgage? A. Some banker here.

Q. How long have you owned the lot there? A. I owned the lot two years now.

Q. What did you pay for the lot? A. $2,000.

Q. And the house that was on there formerly? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then you have $4,000 invested in there? A. No; $3,000 altogether.

Q. You say you paid $2,000 for the lot, and put a $10,000 building on it, and you owe $8,000 for the building. How do you make out that you have only $3,000 invested in it? A. Because my father has an interest in it.

Q. How much interest has he in it? A. $1,000.

Q. Who pays you at Marshall Field's for your work when you bring it over there? A. I get it at the wholesale house.

Q. Who pays you? A. The cashier.

Q. What is his name? A. I don't know.

Q. The head cashier? A. The city cashier; there is a country cashier and a city cashier.

Q. He pays you for the work you bring over? A. Yes, sir; at Adams street and Fifth avenue.

Adolph Goldberger, having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

A. Bisno was sworn to interpret the testimony of this witness.

Examination by Mr. Mahoney.

Q. What is your name? A. Adolph Goldberger.

Q. What is your business? A. I keep a vest shop.

Q. Where is your shop located? A. 219 West Division street.

Q. In the city of Chicago and State of Illinois? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you been engaged in business there? A. Since the 11th of February, 1892.

Q. How many people do you employ? A. Now twenty-one. Before there were less.

Q. How many of that number are females and how many are males? A. Five men and seventeen girls.

Q. What are the ages of the girls—ranging from what ages? A. I can't tell; I don't know.

Q. How old is the youngest? A. They are all grown up girls; two are small ones.

Q. How old are those two? A. One told me she was fifteen and the other told me she was fourteen.

Q. How many rooms do you occupy? A. I have kept two rooms; one in the shop and one in the shed near the shop.

Q. What do you occupy the shed for? A. I keep my goods there that come from the warehouse.

Q. Do you live in the other room? A. I live on Bowman street.

Q. Does any one live in those rooms? A. No.

Q. How long is that room—your shop-room? A. I didn't measure it; the members of the committee were there, and they know how big it is. I didn't measure it.

Q. Who opens the shop in the morning? A. Myself.

Q. And who closes it at night? A. The same.

Q. What hour do you get there in the morning? A. I come at five o'clock.

Q. What time do you close the shop at night? A. I leave myself at seven, usually.

Q. How are your employés paid—by piece work or so much a week, or so much a day? A. Some piece work, and some week work.

Q. How many are engaged in piece work, and how many are engaged in week work? A. Two pressers and one operator are piece workers.

Q. What wages are paid the girls who work by the week? A. Do you mean the hand sewers or the machine sewers?

Q. First, the hand sewers? A. I pay my best from four to five dollars.

Q. What do you pay the poorest? A. I made a mistake; I say I pay my pressers from four to five dollars.

Q. Are they the best paid of the girls? A. That is the best paid people of the hand sewers in my shop.

Q. Now, how much do the other girls receive? A. Three dollars.

Q. How much are the two little girls paid? A. One get two dollars and one three dollars.

Q. Now, does Julia Chebowa work for you? A. Yes; she is a finisher.

Q. How long has she worked for you? A. She worked for me quite a time.

Q. What kind of work is she on—on piece work? A. Week work.

Q. How much a week do you pay her? A. Three dollars.

Q. How long have you been paying her three dollars? A. Since she worked for me.

Q. How long has she been working for you? A. About three months.

Q. How old is this girl? A. I think she is married already; I don't know.

Q. For what wholesale house do you do your work? A. I work for four firms.

Q. What are they? A. E. Rothschild Bros., of Monroe street; Charles P. Kellogg, A. L. Singer, and Kohn Bros.

Q. How do you obtain work from those houses? A. I get it from the expressman.

Q. But do you go and solicit work from those houses? A. When there is not much work I come and ask for it; now they are looking for me, because there is plenty of work.

Q. Those who work by the piece, how much do they get per vest in your shop? A. From five to eight cents per piece.

Q. Is that for all the work on the vest? A. The machine sewing I am speaking of.

Q. What other work is there on the vest besides machine sewing? A. There is basting, finishing, pressing, and button-hole making.

Q. How much does the baster get? A. They are all paid by the week.

Q. How much does the button-hole maker get? A. Two cents a vest.

Q. How much does the presser get? A. Two and two and a half cents.

Q. How much does the cleaner get? A. I do the cleaning myself.

Q. What do you mean by cleaning? A. After the vest is done, I have to brush it off and examine it, so that it is fit to bring it down town.

Q. Is that before or after the pressing? A. After the pressing.

Q. Who pays you for your work? A. They pay me in the warehouse—the cashier.

Q. What do you pay per piece to the cheapest outside finisher when you give a vest out to them? A. One cent to the outsider, and she has got to finish it and put the buckle on it, and there is no difference between good and bad vests, because one vest pays for all.

Q. What is the difference between the prices paid for a fine vest and a common vest? A. I get from eighteen to thirty cents per vest.

Q. From the wholesale houses? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Make a guess at the size of the room as near as you can. A. It is about fifty or sixty feet long, I don't know exactly; there are twelve windows through the length of the shop; the length is between fifty and sixty feet; I don't know exactly how much.

Q. What price does the wholesale house get for a vest that it pays you 30 cents for? A. I can't tell; I don't know.

Q. Do you know the price the retail dealer gets? A. I can't tell.

Q. What is your net profit on a vest that you get 30 cents for? A. From four to five cents.

Q. How much on an 18 cent vest? A. In the neighborhood of two cents; not always two cents.

Jacob Lasky, being recalled, testified further as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. Please state what are the average wages earned by your men? A. There is only a few words to state about it, as I explained to you first; that man made $30 a week, but now, to average the year, he wouldn't make more than $12 a week; that would be the average wages during the year; the man that makes $30 a week during the busy season, he averages $12 a week; they haven't steady work.

Q. And you know that a number of shops are kept in a very unhealthy and unsanitary condition? A. They are kept in an unhealthy condition?

Q. Yes? A. That I couldn't tell you. Now, Mr. Bisno knows more about those than I do.

Q. Don't you know of some other sweater shops? A. I know of many of the shops, but I don't know how they are kept.

Q. Well, aren't they kept in a worse condition than yours? A. I couldn't tell you; I know there are many shops that are kept in a worse condition than mine is.

By Mr. Mahoney:

Q. The fact is, you left the shop you were just at because the sanitary condition was very bad? A. I have left the shop for the simple reason that I have my new place ready to work in, and I didn't like the place myself.

Q. Well, the fact is, it was not fit for people to be in? A. No; it was not.

Benjamin Spanier, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. Mahoney:

Q. What is your business? A. Cloak contractor, or sweater, as you may call it.

Q. How long have you been a cloak contractor in this city? A. A little over a year.

Q. Have you been engaged in that business in any other city? A. Yes, sir.

Q. In what city? A. New York.

Q. How long there? A. Between six and seven years.

Q. Where do you reside in the city of Chicago? A. The shop is at 308 West Division street.

Q. How many people do you employ? A. At present about fifteen or sixteen; some weeks fifteen, some weeks sixteen; in the

busy season in the neighborhood of forty or forty-five; this includes outside finishers.

Q. What proportion of that number are women and girls? A. Well, in the shop I employ about nine to ten women for about five or six months, and about fifteen women that take finishing home; there is about 25 to 30 women.

Q. You have heard the testimony of Mr. Lasky as you sat here, who testified before you? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you differ from Mr. Lasky from any of the statements he made? A. Mostly in every respect, sure.

Q. State the difference? A. In the first place Mr. Lasky stated here that he had men working for him at $30 a week; that they earned that. I deny it. There is not one operator in this city that can come up and prove the fact that he made net, ten hours a day, working six days in the week, $30. That is liable to happen one week; if the contractor gets in a good lot of work, that is, that pays him pretty well, and, if he has one first-class man in the shop, he is liable to make $30. That will happen once a year, or once in three years, but not as Mr. Lasky stated. Of course, I was going to say, I am not a bit surprised that Mr. Lasky talks like that in regard to his business, but what surprises me is that Mr. Lasky stated here that he is a single man, and, as a matter of fact, I happen to know his wife, and his father-in-law, and his mother-in-law. He said also that the lowest he paid was $15. Now, there were some parties working for me last season. They left me, and I met them afterwards on the street, and I asked them where they worked and they said they worked for Mr. Lasky. They were skilled men in the trade; good average men.

Q. What do you call them in the shop? A. Operators.

Q. What did they do? A. They showed me books of the pay that they received.

Q. When they were working for Lasky? A. I don't know whether they were working for him at the present time, but they did last summer.

Q. What were they earning at that time? A. Well, $2 a day, $2.25 and $2.75 a day. It all depends on the hours. But it is a fact that there is not a sweater in this city, if he tells the truth, who is not working in the busy season from fourteen to fifteen hours—that is, if they tell the truth.

Q. When is the busy season? A. Well, I should say it starts in about July, when the rush commences for the winter goods.

Q. How long does it continue? A. From three to four months.

Q. Is there a rush in any other season? A. Yes, the spring season; it is starting in now.

Q. About the first of February? A. Yes, about the first of February; of course some contractors are working previous to that, but the work doesn't amount to anything; the men will make 40, 30 and 50 cents a day.

Q. How long does that continue? A. In the neighborhood of three months.

Q. What hours do the people work during those terms? A. Well, on an average, 14 hours.

Q. That includes men and women? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Everybody employed in the shop? A. Yes, sir; a man of course is not compelled to work fourteen hours, because he is his own boss in one sense of the word, because he is working by the piece; but when the rush commences in the wholesale house, and they want orders shipped, he will tell the contractor, "Here is a lot of work that I want done in a certain time;" and just at that time the contractor wants to comply with the wishes of the wholesale house or the wants of the wholesale house and he will try to turn his work out in time. He will come home and say, "Here, boys, I have to keep you to-night till 10 or 11 o'clock," and sometimes till 4 o'clock in the morning; some of them will stay all night; I know they did in my shop, but they were not compelled to. In one sense they are compelled to, because the busy season is so short, and they are compelled to in order to make enough to get necessaries to live during the balance of the year.

Q. Do those people who work by the week work the same number of hours during that season? A. Yes; in most of the shops.

Q. Are their salaries increased during that time? A. The girl that gets $4 or $5 now, in the busy season she gets $8 and some of them $9.

Q. What are the lowest wages paid to the girls who work by the week? A. Well, in the majority of the shops $3 and upwards.

Q. Up to how high? A. To $10; I had some of the most experienced girls in the city on cloaks and I paid some of them $10.

Q. How many hours a day did they work? A. Ten hours is a day's work; they receive pay according to the salary.

Q. What stores do you do work for? A. F. Seigel & Bros.

Q. Where are they? A. On Market and Monroe streets. I did work for Beifield last year on Market and Jackson.

Q. Any other stores? A. Yes, sir; I am working for Griswold, Palmer & Co. at the present time, and this is about the only house in the city to work for; I must tell you the truth, it is about the only house to give a tailor a show to live in this world. Anything I say here I am willing to prove it.

By Mr. Mahoney:

Q. You are familiar with the tailor shops throughout the city? A. I know most of them.

Q. What is their condition with reference to sanitary arrangements? A. Oh, they are very poor; some of them are not fit for a convict.

Q. Are the most of them located in tenement houses? A. Most of them in filthy basements and tenement houses and alleys and so on. There is plenty of filthy stuff, ashes and everything to bring on sickness.

Q. And as a rule are the workshops also the living rooms of the families? A. Well, that depends on how much money the sweater makes. If things go smooth with him, and he can afford to live any way decent he does so. In fact most of the sweaters are so after the dollar that they dont care to live any way decent even if they can afford it. I say that to my sorrow.

Q. And they compel their employés to work in that miserable condition? A. Yes, sir; there is no choice.

Q. In most of the shops is there any distinction made in the use of the water closets between the men and women? A. Very little. In most parts of the city I don't think there is half a dozen shops where they have a closet in the place, and they all use the same closet.

Q How extensive is the practice of sending work out from those shops to private houses; how much of that is going on? A. You mean the quantity of goods that goes to the sweaters, that the wholesalers send out?

Q. No; but what the contractors send out to be finished? A. Every garment that is worn by the Chicago people is finished outside.

Q. Is that finishing done in tenement houses as a rule? A. Tenement houses would be all right; but I don't know what I would call those houses; they are shanties, and worse than barns some of them around in the Italian neighborhood where there is a good deal of finishing done by the Italian women on Maxwell street and Halsted street, where the shops are located.

Q. What is the condition of those shops? A. Very poor; they can't be any poorer.

Q. Is disease prevalent there? A. To some extent it is, and to some not; I used to have an Italian woman who took out a good deal of work; she used to work with two daughters home, and one day she worked longer than usual, and I had to go to the house for the work, and when I came into the house I saw a man lying on the floor on a mattress there; I was never there before; and I says to the girl, I says "Mary, who is that man?" And she said: "Oh, that is my father; he is lying down sick with the typhoid fever."

Q. When and where was that? A. About seven or eight months ago; it was on a little strip there that runs from Jefferson—it starts on Jefferson and runs—I don't know exactly now; I don't know the name of it, but it is the worst strip around there.

Q. Between what streets is it? A. It is located between Fourteenth street and Henry street. Yes, it is Barber street.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. Were there any of the clothes, any of the manufactured goods, in the house at that time? A. Why, sure, the goods I made for Seigel.

By Mr. Mahoney:

Q. How soon after are the goods taken to the wholesale house? A. Sometimes the same day, and sometimes the second day; it all depends. For instance, if I get in a lot of work today, and two or three days after the work has to be delivered to the wholesale house. Now, the first thing is, we operate the work, bind it, and operate it and send it out to the finisher; the finisher comes in in the morning and takes out some work; if I have enough to give him, I give him enough for the whole day. He does ten or fifteen jackets a day, and at night he comes around and brings in the ten or fifteen jackets; he sits late at night and comes in the morning and brings them in.

Q. All those clothes that are finished in houses of this character are returned to the wholesale house within two or three days at the furthest? A. Yes, sir; oh, well, sometimes a week, sometimes two weeks; it all depends upon how big a lot of work it is; sometimes five or six days.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. Do contractors, as a rule, use any means to prevent the germs of contagious diseases from being in the manufactured goods? A. The wholesalers or the sweaters?

Q. Sweaters? A. Not to my knowledge, because they have enough of their own to do, and then this is only a little thing to them; that don't bother them, diseases like that.

Q. In this case of which you have just spoken being located in a tenement house where the man was ill with typhoid fever, when those goods were returned to you, what did you do with them? A. Well, I sent for those goods; there was in the neighborhood of twenty or twenty-five jackets belonging to F. Siegel & Co.; that is the only house I worked for at that time.

Q. Did you exercise any more care with those goods than you did with any other? A. I should say I did; I sent them to a steaming house and paid $4 for having them steamed.

Q. Is that the practice with contractors; do they pay any attention or try to learn whether any disease exists in the places where they send those goods? A. No, sir; that doesn't bother them at all in the least.

Q. Did you pay $4 out of your own pocket? A. Out of my own pocket.

Q. And the wholesale house made no allowance to you for that? Why, no, sir.

Q. Do those wholesale houses know that those goods they send out to the contractors are in turn sent by the contractors to be finished in private houses? A. Oh, they know, because those very identical people finishing for the contractors, they do a great deal of finishing for the wholesale houses, because the wholesale houses keep people inside working. Now, F. Siegel has a man by the name of Rozenzweig right in their store; he has one part of the loft there; I don't know whether he pays any rent or not, but he runs a pretty large shop, and all the work that is finished, Italian women from Polk street and Barber street do it; the very women that do work for me do work also for this wholesale house.

Q. When the goods are pressed after finishing, is any care taken so as to destroy the germs of any diseases that might be in the garment; will the pressing destroy those germs? A. Well, to my knowledge the pressing would not destroy any germs of disease that might be in the garment.

Q. It wouldn't kill the germs? A. No.

Q. Is it done carefully? A. Oh, yes, the presser irons the clothes with a thirty-five pound iron and he is kept busy, because a man that is working by the piece wants to make the best he can. It doesn't bother him if the clothes are on the floor or not. The shop is scrubbed about once a month.

Q. He is paid so much a piece for each piece that he presses? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is the usual pay? A. Four cents and four and a half cents. Now, I know, from contractors working for F. Seigel & Brother, where the presser receives four and a quarter cents and five cents up to eight or ten cents, which is the best price paid for work of that kind.

Q. How many sweat shops are in the city of Chicago? A. Making cloaks?

Q. Vests and pants? A. I couldn't give any idea, but I can tell you what cloak shops; there are between a hundred and a hundred and twenty.

Q. In cloaks? Yes, sir.

Q. What is the average number of employés in each? A. Well, the average is in the neighborhood of twenty.

Q. On cloaks? A. Yes, sir.

Q. There are many other lines of trade engaged in by the sweat shops? A. Oh, vests, cloaks, pants, and so on.

Q. Is it the practice for machine hands to employ assistants? A. They generally do. It is this way: If a contractor has an

operator that is a pretty fast worker and a pretty good worker, sometimes he is liable to make a kick because he doesn't make enough pay, and the contractor will generally say, "Now, I like you to work for me; I will give you another machine and you look for a helper, and you are liable to make a great deal more money."

Q. Is the helper paid by the contractor? A. No; by the operator. The contractor has nothing to do with the matter.

Q. And you would credit the machine operator with the work that he has done, that he completes himself? A. If he works with helpers?

Q. Yes; do you pay him for the work he does, or how? A. The contractor hasn't anything to do with the helpers. I had some operators that employed two helpers, and I credited the wages to the operator, and if the operator wanted to make a pretty good display of his books—probably he had a sweetheart and he would like to show her that he made $50 this week, but probably he had to pay $25 of it to a helper.

Q. What were the different prices you paid for making the different cloaks? A. Now, I was going to say about the last lot of work I delivered to F. Seigel & Bros. It was blue cheviot jackets with a velvet collar, similar to my coat, similar to this, and the same shape, what we call a coat-shaped jacket, and the seams are sewed seven times, and three slits in the back and two slits in the side, and one in the center of the jacket, a 30-inch long lady's jacket made up very nice; I received 85 cents for making this garment, and I paid 50 cents for the operating. On the first day that the operator starts in, most of them it takes them a half day to make a jacket, but, after they work themselves in and get to do good work and they know how to handle the goods, they make four to five dollars a day, but they put in ten hours and sometimes eleven to do it. The garment that I paid 85 cents for cost me 92 cents for making, outside of my rent, coal, car fare and everything else and my own time.

Q. How much do they get for a piece of work of that kind? A. The wholesaler?

Q. Yes. A. I think as soon as the sun shines up Siegel & Cooper will have a good deal of that in their window, and I think they will not retail it less than $10 a jacket.

Q. That for which you get 85 cents for making? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Complete and ready for wear? A. Entirely. I used to do manufacturing out in Colorado myself.

Q. Who furnished the material? A. The wholesale houses.

Q. They furnish the materials? A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. Mahoney:

Q. Are the wages of the operators increasing or decreasing? A. They are decreasing every year; I will tell you why. Six or seven years ago, or ten year ago, when I worked on cloaks, we used to make plain jackets, the seams were sewed twice or three times, including the binding and all. That work was such that a man five or six years ago could make five or six garments in a day, and he can't make one garment in the same time to-day, because those garments now take much more labor, because the work is made finer; we use finer work in the stores of Chicago now than we used ten years ago. A man that is not a tailor can judge that.

Q. The work is cut for you? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What do they pay for cutting it? A. Well, they pay from $3 a day up to $3.50. I guess it stands them in the neighborhood of 5 to 7 cents on the average.

Q. Take the cloak that they paid you 85 cents for making, how much would it cost to cut that; how much does the wholesale house pay for cutting that? A. Cutting, trimming, and so on?

Q. Yes? A. That is, outside of his margin, what has he to pay out?

Q. Yes? A. Well, trimming, cutting, and so on, I should say it will cost them in the neighborhood of eight to ten cents.

Q. Now, what is the material in that garment worth? A. A yard of those goods, such as what a wholesaler would buy those goods for, would be about in the neighborhood of 75 to 90 cents a yard, and it takes a yard and a half to make up a jacket of that kind, and the trimming and buttons and velvet collar and so on, it will stand him in the neighborhood of 25 to 30 cents.

Q. What would be the whole cost of a garment that you got 85 cents for as paid by the wholesale dealer? A. I would say it will stand the wholesaler in the neighborhood of $2.75 to $3 at the most.

Q. And for such a garment they get at retail about $10? A. About $10.

Abraham Hirschberg, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. What is your name? A. Abraham Hirschberg.

Q. Where do you live? A. 222 Maxwell street.

Q. What is your business? A. I am an operator.

Q. On cloaks or what? A. An operator and trimmer of coats; anyway you want it.

Q. Where are you now employed? A. By A. Levinson at 82 Wilson street.

Q. How long were you employed there? A. 25.

Q. How many men and how many girls? A. About 15 men and 10 girls.

Q. How large is the room? A. Well, the room is pretty fair; it gives a lot of room for everybody.

Q. Is it a tenement house? A. It is a tenement house, but it is all shops from the ground floor up to the fifth.

Q. On what floor are you employed? A. On the fifth.

Q. There is a shop located in front of your shop? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many are employed there? A. About 45.

Q. Both men and women? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is there any water closet located up there on the fifth floor? A. There is a water closet almost in every shop, but it can't be used because there is no water for it.

Q. If it was in use it would have to be used by both men and women? A. Yes, but we haven't any closets there to use. There is one closet which I should say all shops are using, but it is not fit to use. If anyone goes in there he has to take something with him, and after he comes out sit down a half an hour and wipe his shoes.

Q. Is there a fire escape? A. There is not; that is what I stated to the committee when they were in there, that it was nothing but right that we should have a fire escape on the fifth floor, there being so many shops on one side, and every floor occupied by a family, and there is only a straight stairs go ng down, a narrow stairs.

Q. It is a narrow, wooden stairway from the fifth floor to the bottom by which you have access to your shop? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What floor does the water rise to in the summer time? A. Up to the third.

Q. Have you any suggestions to offer for the remedy of this system? A. Well, I worked before on cloaks, too; there is two shops I worked in; one of them is Remmer, who keeps a shop on Shober street, that is West Division street; the next man I worked for is a man named Hertzog; he is an uncle of Beifield's, a man that manufactures cloaks, and I will say for Hertzog that he keeps quite a decent shop, that he doesn't keep a sweating place; the shop is a very large shop, and gives all the convenience to the workingman. but the work is given out just the same to be finished, and it is finished in the same places that the Italian women and Polish people work. Well, there was a good many times that they brought in garments that were nasty and unfit to take in the hands, from the children. The children would tramp over it and dirty it and play on it, and there was a good many times that I heard the boss himself say to the women: "If you will bring any work here again with all that nasty work from the children on it, I will never accept it." And in regard to the diseases, if the ironing and pressing of the

garment can kill the bacilli of the disease in the garment, I will state that it does not, for I will say that every garment now is made mostly with fur, and the fur collar is put on by the operator that operates the coat, and after that is done the fur collar can never be pressed. They have to be very careful that the fur will not touch the iron, because if it does the collar will be spoiled, and then the presser gets very little for the coat; that heat is not enough to kill the bacilli of any disease. Now, some shops will press the work and some shops will not press it; they will send it in to the store without being pressed, and in the warehouse they have a man inside that presses the coats.

Q. The firms that manufacture them? A. Yes, sir, and certainly those coats might be pressed a little better.

Q. But they don't press the fur-trimmed garments at all? A. They do, but not the fur.

Q. And those fur-trimmed garments are sent out to tenement houses too? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know of any garments having been manufactured or work being done on them in houses where they have any contagious diseases? A. That I can't state, because I haven't been up to the places where they are finished, but in the places where they are finished they work on it day and night, and they make 45 or 50 cents a day working 18 hours. It is easily understood that they don't have any extra style; it is easily understood that if they had a better place to occupy they wouldn't take that work at those prices; that shows that they are very poor; and in those poor places they are so used to live in that way that they think it is all right any way. Now, I will say a few words more. The chairman asked me if I couldn't make any suggestions. Certainly, I am not a very smart man, but I think where all this trouble comes from, why we work in such nasty places, why we have to work 16 hours a day and sometimes more that—I was a cloak operator myself, and now I am working by the week, and I am getting $15 a week working by the week, and you can ask every man in here that is a working man, that if a man gets $15 a week he is a full mechanic at this trade. Now, I get $15 by the week; and when I work by the piece I never was lazy to work and I was the best operator in the shop. Where the other operators used to get 50 cents I used to get 80 cents and $1.25, and as high as $2, and I never made less than $14 a week.

Q. How many hours did you work? I went to work at 8 or 8:30, and worked from that until 7 at night.

Q. That would be 14 hours? Well, from 12 to 12½ hours, and then I made say from $14 to $15, and when I did make $15 a week I would have about another day's work on it to finish it. We don't finish it right away; we do certain work on it, and then it comes back to the machine again. When I heard one contractor state that he had a man that he paid $30 a week to, I must say that that must be for two weeks. I may

state that there is not a man in Chicago can make $30 a week at this trade unless they get another man that is learning the trade to help them, and after those helpers get used to that, they give them the poorer work to do; the easier work he gives to the operator who helps him out, and after he gets used to that work the helper will make it faster than the operator himself; so the helper does just as much as he does. After the coat is done the helper has done on the coat just as much as he has done. All the trouble comes from this: lately there is a great many contractors that have run away with the poor workingman's wages—well, I wouldn't say how many, but I know there were several that ran away and had a good many of the poor workingmen's wages in their pocket, after their working two weeks for nothing. They will put on a white stiff collar and go into a store or warehouse with a gold watch and chain—I don't know if it is with his own money he got it or not; I wouldn't state that; but those fellows are bad enough and so situated that they will run away with the workingman's wages, they are not certainly able to buy a watch and chain—they will go into a warehouse and take out work. Now, the first thing, the foreman will show them a lot of work and say, "For this I can't pay more than eight shillings;" that is a dollar. Well, this fellow says "I am a new beginner; I will take it and see what you can do for me." He will go to work and start on it. He will take any place he can get for a shop, and any hands he can get, and he will go to work. In a week or two the man who has kept a shop for years, and has been working for years for the same warehouse, will come around and say, "What is the matter, that you don't send me any work any more." And this wholesale man will say, "Look here; I will show you the books that I can get this done for a dollar. Why should I give it to you at a much larger price?" Then the contractor says, "Well, if there is some one that does that for a dollar, that is not enough to live on, but I will take this work and work for a little less." And so finally they are working for almost nothing. Then they will get the work for about two weeks, till they get together about two or three weeks' wages, and that is the last of them. So my suggestion would be that every warehouse man shall be responsible for the wages of the men in every shop that is working for them. That would keep away those men that would work for almost no price at all, and run away with the wages, because they wouldn't be able to take the work; and that would give a show to the contractor that is working five or six years for the house. He would get his full price and be able to pay also to the workingman. I know from plain figures. I am a trimmer in the shop I am working in now; I trim the work; I am an operator and a trimmer. The trimmer takes the bundle to trim; the ticket will state what price is paid for the work, and you can tell every lot of work, what anybody gets paid for it. I can tell pretty near—maybe I can't guess within $5 or $10 of a lot of goods, but I can tell pretty near

what they pay for it. I am not in favor of the contractors, but I know there are a good many of them that will start a shop to-day and will give up after a month or six weeks—drop out—because they can't make it pay; because there is a good many that come here from Boston or Philadelphia or New York; they come here and after a couple of weeks they run away again.

Q. You have stated that you have been a cloakmaker for ten years. Did you ever make ten cloaks in a day? A. I never did. There was once we had some kind of a strike in the shop; that was at Hertzog's. A strike for wages. It was in the busy season, and he told us he would pay us 65 cents apiece. Well, he didn't say anything till he got in a lot of the work sometimes afterward, and then he said, "Boys, I made a mistake the last time; I can't pay any more than 45 cents." The contractor first wants to know how long it takes to make such a cloak. Then he figures out that he must get so much out of it.

Q. How many cloaks did you ever make in a day? A. Eight.

Q. How many hours did you work when you made those eight cloaks? A. I worked the same thing, from eight in the morning until half past eight in the evening.

Q. Twelve and a half hours? A. Yes, sir.

Morris Rochelsky, having been sworn and interpreted by A. Bisno, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. What is your name? A. Morris Rochelsky.

Q. How old are you? A. 17 years.

Q. Where do you work? A. With Lasky.

Q. Where is his place of business? A. On Fourteenth street.

Q. The same Lasky that testified here a short time ago? A. Yes, sir; Jacob Lasky.

Q. How long have you worked there? A. One year.

Q. What do you do there? I am working on a machine; I work with an operator, and get 45 cents from the dollar I earn in common.

Q. You get 45 cents and he gets 55 cents? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You heard Mr. Lasky testify that during the last year there were some of his employés who earned $30 a week? A. Yes; that is a lie. The story about $30 to my recollection is this way: They were extremely busy in one week, and they worked for more than a week or two till 11 o'clock at night, and several of the operators made that week $30, and that was a surprising case to them, so that they all have it in mind.

Q. How much did you earn that week? Twenty-four dollars; I worked nine days and worked until 12 o'clock every night from 6 in the morning, and I earned $24 in the nine days. The next week I couldn't work at all, so hard did I work the previous week.

Q. What did those men ordinarily get who made $30 in that time? A. $1.50 and $1.75 and sometimes $2, and so on a day; something like $2 a day.

Q. Are you afraid of losing your position at his place if Mr. Lasky knew that you would testify the truth? A. I think that if Lasky will find out that I repudiated his statements he will discharge me, but I am not very anxious for Lasky's place now, because I think it is a very bad place.

Q. Do you work over time now? Q. Nine and ten hours a day; we can't work longer, because there is no gas in the new building yet to work evenings.

Q. Do you work over time in the summer time? A. During that period that I mentioned, of nine days, when I made $24, I worked till 11 and 12 o'clock. Before that and after that was in the busy season, too, I always worked till 11 and 12 at night.

Q. Do the men and women use the same water closet at the Maxwell street place? A. Certainly; and it is a very bad room; so that one would be ashamed to go in there, and in this new shop we have no water closet at all.

Q. Did you ever know of anybody being sick where those clothes were made at the finishers? A. Yes; I have some in mind, but I can't think of the names. I don't know anything about that. I work in the shop, and that is a question that pertains to outside labor.

A. Feinholtz, having been sworn, testified as follows: (Interpreted by A. Bisno.)

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. What is your name? A. A. Feinholtz; I am an operator working at 12th and Taylor streets.

Q. Is that a tenement house? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who is the proprietor of the shop? A. Bumgarten.

Q. How many are employed there? A. Twelve.

Q. How many members of his family live there? A. Seven.

Q. How many rooms have they? A. Six.

Q. Do they keep the manufactured goods in the living rooms? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many hours a day do you work on an average? A. From fourteen to sixteen hours.

Q. What wages do you receive a week? A. Eight dollars a week; I work by the dozen.

Q. Do the men and women use the same closet? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know of any cases of sickness where the goods are left? A. In this house there is no sickness.

Q. Do they send the goods out to finishers? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know of any cases of sickness among the finishers? A. No.

Q. Have you a brother employed in this same shop? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is his name? A. E. Feinholtz.

Q. What is his first name? A. Isaac Feinholtz.

Q. How old is he? A. 38 years.

Q. How much does he make a week? A. $7 and $8 a week.

Q. He works the same time that you do? Yes, sir.

Q. He works the same number of hours that you do? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What are the average wages earned by the girls in that shop? A. $4 or $5.

Q. How many hours a day do they work? A. The same time that I work.

Q. Same number of hours? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How old are you? A. 28.

Q. How long have you worked at the trade? A. I have worked four years at it.

Q. Is the work healthy work? A. Oh, no, I feel very sore in my feet.

Q. How long has your brother been employed in this business? A. The same time.

Q. Four years? A. Yes, sir.

Q. The constant running of the machine has a tendency to incapacitate you, or to lessen your ability to increase your speed? A. Yes, the constant running of the machine has a tendency to make me incapable of running with good speed.

Q. Have you anything more to say? A. Well, I think the air is foul and bad in the shop. The busiuess is no good you know, because I feel very bad. The wages are very bad, and I work too much in a day, and it isn't good for me.

Q. You feel very unhealthy? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You think it is caused by overwork; by long hours of work in the shop? A. Yes, sure; I have a family and a wife and three children and I must work.

Q. And you make $8 a week? A. Yes; and I must pay rent and eat something, and that is all I have.

Q. Have you any other means of support for your family? A. No, sir.

Q. How much rent do you pay? A. I pay $9.

Q. How many rooms do you get for that? A. Three rooms.

Q. Are they in the back or the rear? A. In the rear.

Q. Do you think you earn $8 a week all the year through? A. Some weeks I don't make anything.

Q. How many weeks of the year are you employed? A. Oh, I guess there is pretty near about two or three months that I don't get work.

Q. What do you do in that time? A. Nothing; I'd like to do something, as I have nothing to do. I try to do something, but I have no means to do it with.

A. Rosenfield having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan.

Q. What is your name, occupation and residence? A. A. Rosenfield, cloak-maker, 30 O'Brien street.

Q. Where are you employed? A. By Jacob Laskey.

Q. He was the witness who testified here a short time ago? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you been employed there? A. This year I am employed there about five weeks, but I used to work for him two years ago; then I worked for him a whole season, about seven or eight months.

Q. What were the average wages earned by the employés in the shop when you were there? A. The average wages through the year—in the busy time I make about $19 or $20.

Q. Per week? A. Yes; and in this time about $12, and I have steady work through the whole week.

Q. How many hours a day did you work in the busy season when you made this $19 a week? A. 12 or 13.

Q. Did all the employés in this shop work 12 or 13 hours a day during this season? A. No; most of them are working more.

Q. Did you hear Mr. Laskey state that some of his employés earned $30 a week during the busy season? A. Yes, sir, I have, but I don't think it is true. I am working now in partnership with the same particular man that he said made the $30, and we make $4 a day, both together; $2 apiece.

Q. Two dollars apiece now? A. Yes, sir.

The committee here adjourned until Saturday, Feb. 18, at 10 o'clock A. M.

SATURDAY, February 18, 1893.

Pursuant to adjournment, the committee met at 10 o'clock A. M., in the reading room of the Sherman House, and proceeded with the taking of testimony. Hon. E. T. Noonan in the chair.

Dr. John J. Alderson, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. Noonan:

Q. State your name, business, and place of residence. A. My name is John J. Alderson; I live at 289 West Twelfth street, corner of Halstead.

Q. You are a practicing physician? A. I am.

Q. How long have you been a practicing physician? A. Almost eight years.

Q. How long have you practiced in this State? A. Eight years.

Q. In the course of your practice, doctor, have you ever observed the presence of clothing or wearing apparel which was in the course of manufacture, or being made, in tenement houses where you were attending patients? A. Yes, I have.

Q. Will you state to the committee the times and places that you have observed that? A. Well, as far as giving the names of the people, and the numbers of the houses, and the dates, I couldn't give a single instance in that way—not positively—but then I have seen those things. I never made a note of it, but I couldn't give an answer giving the name, the date, and the street.

Q. How long is it since you have noticed this? A. Well, I have been going amongst those people who are making clothing for nearly seven years.

Q. In what portion of the city? A. In the neighborhood of Polk and Jefferson, more particularly.

Q. Were there any contagious diseases present at any of those times? A. I have seen clothing made in houses where they had diphtheria, scarlatina and measles. I have seen clothing made in houses where such sickness prevailed.

Q. What were the conditions surrounding those instances? Was the clothing kept apart or isolated? A. There seemed to be no effort at isolation in any way. The clothing was in the most convenient place for the people to handle. It was put in the most convenient place to be found.

Q. What is your opinion as to the sanitary effect upon the clothing under those conditions? A. I look upon it as a great means of spreading those diseases.

Q. Describe, doctor, in your own language, a couple of instances of this kind, stating the number of people in the family and the kind of clothing that was being made. A. Well, the cases I have in mind are in ordinary families, where there is a father and mother, and say from two to six children in the room, making usually boys' pants and waists and cloaks. I have seen different kinds of clothing.

Q. Do you know what is termed a sweat shop, Doctor? A. Well, I have an idea that I do.

Q. What is your idea? A. I understand a sweat shop to be a room where some men will hire and put in sewing machines, and send out and employ people to come there and work. If that is the right idea, I kon't know.

Q. Well, your answer would apply to a a factory down town. A. Yes; but they have those on a very small scale; a small room.

Q. Have you observed the presence of those shops for manufacturing or finishing wearing apparel in connection with living rooms, in tenement quarters in the city, usually located in the rear of a lot, or in a frame building mostly used as a barn, or on the top floor. A. I think I have seen them that way.

Q. With a large number of people engaged in the making of clothing? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You have personally visited places of that kind? A. I have been in hot rooms of that kind.

Q. Have you observed the system by which they manufacture this clothing? I refer to the basters and sewers and finishers and the different employments until the garment is completed or made. A. No; I have not; all I have done is to go through those rooms to visit the patient in another part of the house, and I have seen those people at work at those machines, but what they were doing, I don't know.

Q. Have you ever treated any females who were employed as machine operators? A. I think I have in that way; not for diseases brought on by that.

Q. I don't mean that. A. I have treated them for general ailments, but not for anything that might be brought on by this.

Q. Do you know the effect of the continuous operating of machines, say for ten or fifteen hours a day for six days a week; what would be the comparative effect on the male and female? A. All I know about that is, that the health breaks down generally; but as to treating any part of the body for any disease brought on that way, I haven't done so; but I know that people break down in health very much who work in those rooms.

Q. In your opinion, was this sickness owing to the continual operation of the machinery and the unfavorable conditions of the ventilation and the air and surroundings, or to some other cause? A. I think it was due to the poorly ventilated buildings and the long hours and the hard work.

Q. Have you seen those infectious diseases more particularly in sweat shops or in the families that work on those goods finishing them? A. I have seen more sickness in the private houses where a family works on those clothes; I have seen more infectious diseases.

Q. You mean in the tenement houses in the locality of which you spoke? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What constitutes the number of living rooms in a family in that quarter? A. Well, from one to four I should say; one, two, three and four rooms.

Q. And the sanitary arrangements are poor? A. They are poor.

Q. Do you remember stopping Mrs. Florence Kelley on the street and telling her that there was a case of measles in a house near by where people were sewing clothing in the room with the patient? A. I do.

Q. Was that a fact? A. Yes, I told Mrs. Kelley at that time that I was just returning from the case, and I gave her the number of the house and the street, but now I have forgotten them; I have forgotten the number of the house and the date, but I have seen many of those cases, and know them to be a fact; but I don't remember a single instance that I could give the street, the name and the date. I know many cases such as this I have just spoken of. I remember stopping Mrs. Kelley that day and giving her the number of the street and the disease. The disease in that case was measles, and the clothing was being made right in the room where the patient was sick.

Q. Now, what would be required to render that clothing incapable of containing or spreading the germs of this disease? A. Well, we could positively kill the germs that infect this clothing by boiling in an antiseptic solution for a sufficient length of time.

Q. How long? A. I couldn't say how long?

Q. Well, give us an idea. Do you mean to immerse it in a boiling temperature for a time? A. I understand that this bacteria or bacilli will stand boiling for about two hours. You might ask an expert on that subject; I can't state.

Q. What you mean to state is that a boiling process must be gone through with to kill the germ? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And in your opinion it is reasonable to suppose that the germs would be in the garments so manufactured? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You don't of your own knowledge know that any caution was exercised by the people living in those rooms where those cases of sickness have been? A. If there have been any precautions used, I haven't known a single instance.

Q. Have you any suggestions to offer to the committee?

A. All I could say would be to prevent this clothing being sent to private house.

Q. Particularly of the character you have named? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where the surroundings are uncleanly and the sanitary arrangements are poor? A. Yes, sir.

By Mr. May:

Q. Can't you remember, doctor, two or three typical cases, the number and locations of the houses, and the number of children sick? A. I can't now; I could very easily if I expected to appear before the committee, because I keep a record of those things, and I could have taken it from my books. I have seen those cases all the time.

Q. Do you remember a case of diphtheria at 211 Polk street? A. I remember that case, and the child died, but whether they were making clothing there or not, I don't know. I don't remember that they were making clothing at that house. I know there was a rag shop down stairs.

Q. Did they not continue to work in the presence of the corpse? A. I don't remember that, and I don't remember that they were making clothing in that room; they probably were, but I don't know. I remember the child dying at that number and I can look in my book and tell you the exact date that I was there. I am sorry that I havn't this, but I havn't, and I can't tell anything that I don't know.

Dr. Chris. Schleyer having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. What is your name, occupation and place of residence? A. Doctor Chris. Schleyer, southwest corner of 14th and Halstead streets.

Q. You are a practicing physician? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you been a practicing physician? A. In Chicago?

Q. Yes? A. Nearly 25 years.

Q. Have you attended any patients, doctor, in the course of your practice, where clothing was being made in the same tenement? A. Yes, in the same house.

Q. How often have you met with instances of that kind? A. Well, I don't know; I can't tell.

Q. Was it very frequently or otherwise? A. Well, I think half a dozen times I have seen such cases.

Q. What was the nature of the diseases of the patients? A. Mostly dyptheria and scarlet fever.

Q. What kind of clothing was being made there, do you remember? A. Yes, in some places gentlemen's and in others ladies' coats or cloaks.

Q. Were they engaged at the time you were there attending to the patient of whom you had spoken; were the people living there engaged in the making of clothing at that time? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you remember in any one instance how many people were working? A. That is different; different numbers.

Q. Well, give me the different instances? A. Well, there was a dozen; sometimes more, sometimes less.

Q. And where was the patient who was suffering from the contagious disease of which you have spoken? Was it in the same room? A. Well, they had a front room where they were working, and behind the front room generally comes the kitchen, and next to that the sleeping room.

Q. And the patient was in the sleeping room? A. Yes.

Q. And where was the clothing? A. In the front room; in the second room, they sometimes pressed the clothing with an iron.

Q. Where was the last case you saw? A. Well, the last case was on Canal street?

Q. How long ago? A. Four months, I think; I can't remember exactly.

Q. What were the sanitary conditions of those places you refer to; were they unhealthful? A. Yes, they were very dirty; all those quarters where I am living from Canal street up to Blue Island avenue; and there is one great thing what was worse than the sweating boxes and that is the pest boxes we have in our stables. They are a thou-and times worse than in Europe. They stay six weeks before they are emptied, and when Harrison was mayor we never had those pest boxes like that; he took them out, and since that we had last year 3,000 cases that died of diphtheria. That is a bad thing, and there should be something done for it. You don't find that in the whole world.

Q. They remove the ashes and garbage between the hours of three and six o'clock in Paris and London? A. In Europe every morning they put a little vessel out, and at a certain time comes the wagon and a bell, and they empty it.

Q. Have you found cases of infectious diseases in families where the clothing was being finished? A. Not the people who were working, you mean?

Q. No, at the house where a man and his wife and two or three children were working, finishing some clothing of some kind; not working altogether in a shop? A. You mean a tailor who works at home?

Q. Yes, who goes to the shop and gets the clothing and takes it home to finish it. Now, any of those tailors who work at home, have you attended them when they had cases of infectious diseases? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What diseases did they have? A. Diphtheria and scarlatina.

Q. Do you know whether any attempt was made to kill the germs that might get into this clothing? A. Well, as long as I am there I order disinfection by chloral or by carbolic acid, to sprinkle the rooms with it, and keep them as clean as possible.

Q. Do you know whether it is the practice for them to provide disinfectants for all cases of this kind where sickness or contagious diseases might occur, where they are making clothing? A. No, they don't do it at all; there are a great many doctors who don't order it like they ought to do.

Q. In the course of making this clothing doctor, this tailor takes it back to the shop and it is there supposed to be ironed in order to make it look smooth and salable? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will the heated iron be sufficient to kill the germs if there be any in the clothing? A. No, that is not possible. If they are in it they stand an awful heat before they are killed, and you can put them in ice and keep them there the same way before they are killed. They are very hard to kill. There are very few remedies by which we can kill them.

Q. What, if any remedy, have you to suggest for this trouble? A. For what trouble?

Q. That of making clothing where there are infectious diseases? A. To stop this thing, or to make it better than it is, you mean? Q. Yes. A. We have an old word in latin "tali causum;" that is "take away the reason of it or the cause of it." Now, when you take away the reason, you take the concurrence also; that is, the men that cause that work; you stop that and you also stop the concurrence. Those poor people have no alternative; they are bound to do it to keep alive. Now, when you take the reason away you take the concurrence away. They are bound to work that way to make money, because it is for that they have the business, and the other people can't help it; they are so poor that they are worse off than the slave in the south.

Q. That is the people that work in the shops? A. The people that work in those shops, sir.

Q. They are worse off than the slave in the south? A. Yes, sir. You see, I was all my life a republican, and was for freedom and equality, and I am proud to be a republican here in this republic. I used to live 20 years in Texas. When I was there five years my father wrote me a letter. I don't want to rob you of your time if it wasn't some testimony to you. My father wrote me a letter saying, "My dear Christian: I can't understand how it is possible that you can stay in a slave state so long; a man of your opinion and ideas, and to see the treatment of them poor black people." And I wrote him a letter saying, "My dear papa: You know how dear you are to me and how I love you, but what would you think about me if I wrote you now that I wish you would have it as good as many of the slaves here in Texas. A good many of them will be taken

up in the family and they are treated like children." I have seen that a thousand times. I said to him, "they have no sorrow like you have with your children, and to spend on me the last dollar to give me that education that I have. Many of the negroes have their own houses, and they have a little garden behind and flower beds in front, and they are treated better than the poor laborers are treated in the sweat boxes now. There is no prison in the United States where there is worse treatment than there is in those, because it is a punishment like it would be for a prisoner in a room by himself alone. It is worse than the slave-holder. In those shops, if one speaks to another the boss says like the slave-holder "stop that." It is a shame that in the greatest republic on this earth we have such things going on. On one hand the greatest riches and on the other hand the greatest poverty. The man who could settle that, he would be like an angel from heaven. There can be done something for it sure, but it is hard. If you go and buy a hat or a gold watch or anything, they say, "how much is it worth" and you have to pay for it. But you don't ask how much is that hand worth that works fifteen hours a day. That man that works with that hand for fifteen hours, or ten hours, or eight hours, he ought to get the value of it.

Q. What other languages do you speak? A. Well, I speak seven languages.

Q. What are they? A. Spanish, Italian, French, German and a little broken English, and so on.

Q. You have no further suggestions to offer to the committee? A. Well, something that could easily be done for the benefit of Chicago, for the benefit of us all, rich or poor; the city should be cleaned a little better, and the pest boxes should be put where they belong to, and cleaned properly. The West Side has more population than the South Side; they pay more taxes than the South Side, but on the South Side the alleys are cleaner than our streets on the West Side, and the dirt should be taken out of the city every day. It should be done; it must be done. We had never so much dipththeria and typhoid fever since Harrison put out those pest boxes in the street.

Maggie Toomey, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. May.

Q. State your name and residence? A. Maggie Toomey; 253 Union street.

Q. Where are you working now? A. At the Nonpareil, 218 Van Buren street.

Q. What kind of a shop is that? A. An inside shop, a factory, a regular cloak factory.

Q. How many people engaged in that shop? A. About fifty girls; there are about fifty girls and probably about forty men.

Q. How many rooms are they working in? A. We have three rooms, but the work-shop is principally one; it is on the sixth floor.

Q. How many are engaged at work in that one room. A. About seventy people.

Q. All engaged in making cloaks? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Describe the dimensions of that room as nearly as you can; the length, breadth and height of the ceiling. Is it as long as this room? A. No, sir; it is as long in length as this and about half as wide and not quite so high.

Q. About 45 feet by 15, then? A. I guess, about that.

Q. What do those girls operate there—machines? A. Yes.

Q. What is the power employed? A. Steam power.

Q. Steam power is employed to run the machines. A. Yes, sir.

Q. Are the sanitary conditions of this place, the Nonpareil, are they good? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you been working there? A. One year.

Q. What is your present rate of wages? A. My present rate of wages is $7 a week.

Q. Has that been the rate of wages since you have been engaged there. A. Yes, sir.

Q. What wages did you commence on? A. Well, I commenced at even better wages than that because I went to work at a good season of the year, but we were constantly visited by cuts in wages, and we had to do a good deal of fighting in order to get our prices. Those cuts are cause by those outside tailors and sweaters, and whenever we ask a raise of wages the wages go down. When we ask for a raise in wages they tell us where they can get this done for 20 per cent. less outside.

Q. Do they say where they can get it done? A. No, but we know where they can get it done.

Q. Have you had a strike there lately? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was the cause of that? A. A cut in wages.

Q. What was the cut; how much? A. 25 per cent. in each garment that we made.

Q. What was the heaviest cut in any one garment? A. The heaviest cut I think would be 30 cents.

Q. What was that garment? A. You mean what style of garment was it?

Q. Yes? A. It was what I call a first-class garment; a first-class cloak.

Q. What would it be worth to make it? A. It would be worth $3 for making it. You take a garment that was worth $1.75 for making it, they would cut it 30 cents.

Q. Did they explain to the employés the reason for this cut? A. No, sir, they never do; they simply cut you down and when you get your pay you find out that you are reduced in your wages; that is all you know about it; you don't know that they are going to cut you down.

Q. About how often do strikes occur there? A. Twice a year; at the beginning of each season.

Q. Are they encouraged by the girls, or are they the result of cuts? A. They are the result of cuts.

Q. Prior to this, had the girls associated themselves into any trades union? A. Not before this last strike.

Q. And have they since that time associated themselves as a Union? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You don't know anything of you own personal knowledge of any of those sweat shops, do you, outside of seeing people come in and take away clothing to be trimmed? A. No, sir, I have never been in only one sweat shop and that was quite a respectable place where they take clothing out. The proprietor was a sort of respectable fellow and was trying to live like ourselves, and kept a better shop than the ordinary sweat shop.

Q. You say you have been only employed in one place where they take out clothing? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you been employed at that work? A. I have been employed in my trade nine years.

Q. Are you able to state the various deductions that have been made in that time in one garment? A. I remember one garment about seven years ago that I got $3 for. For making the same garment now, they would want me to make it for 80 cents.

Q. What excuse is given for those deductions by the parties making them? A. The only excuse I can give for it is that there is so much competition on the outside.

Q. Too much competition from the sweat shops? A. Yes, sir; they always tell us "we can get it made cheaper than you make it inside," and that is the only reason in the world. Now, when I told you a while ago about my wages being $7 a week. When a girl gets that, or whatever you do get, you have to pay your hand-sewer out of that, and they get from $3 to $5 a week.

Q. What are your net wages a week? A. Well, my net wages a week under cut prices?

Q. What has been the average of your net wages for the last year? A. Well, it would be a hard matter for me to give the average of my wages.

Q. What were your net wages during the last two or three weeks? A. $3 or $4.

Q. That is, you received $7 a week? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And what did you pay the hand-sewer? A. $2 or $3. But if I was working steadily I would make $7 a week, and I would

pay my hand-sewer $2 out of that, and as the season advances would be able to pay my hand-sewer a little more, because the work would be better.

Q. Where does the hand-sewer work? A. Right there in the store.

Q. You employ her yourself? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And she gets from $3 to $4 a week? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What does that consist of? A. The finishing of the garment, the button holes, etc.

Q. What has been the average state of your health for the last few years? A. It is not very good, because any girl that is working at cloak making now has to work so hard that she uses up her strength, and she isn't any good for anything else.

Q. What is the average health of the employés generally? A. They are not good.

Q. What are your hours? A. From 8 till 5:30.

Q. How much time at noon? A. Three-quarters of an hour in this last place where I am employed. Where I was employed about four weeks ago, I made a garment for 70 cents, and at the time of our strike those very garments were made for 40 cents.

Q. There has been an increase in wages since you associated yourself in a Trades Union? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You have maintained the wages that were given before the cut? A. Yes, sir; and the tendency is always to cut down the wages. You have to keep fighting continuously in order to get a living at all.

Q. Do those cloaks come to you cut? A. Yes, sir; and you finish it up entirely, do all the machine operating on it.

Q. And it goes from you to the hand of the sewer? A. Yes, sir; and then it goes to the presser, and then buttons are put on it.

Q. Well, that is a very small part of the work, I suppose? A. The presser would get four or five cents for pressing a garment.

Q. How many cloaks do you and your hand sewer make in one day? A. We can make two garments a day.

Q. Is that of the average quality of garments, or first-class garments? A. That would be a first-class garment.

Q. That would be 14 a week on an average? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Twelve a week, rather? A. Yes, sir; and you have to be very expert and quick to make twelve garments a week.

Q. Now, state whether you know whether the number of hands are increasing in those inside shops—the better class, such as you work in? A. They are not increasing.

Q. To your knowledge are they decreasing to any extent? A. Well, I think they are; I am sure they are.

Q. There are not nearly so many hands employed in the inside shops now as there were four or five years ago? A. No, sir.

Q. To what do you attribute that? A. They can't earn the wages. The girls don't care to go in there and give skilled labor and make first-class garments for nothing.

Q. What is the age of the youngest girl employed in your shop? A. In this shop that I am employed in now? In the other shop where I was employed there were girls 10, 12 and 16 years old.

Q. Well, the shop that you work in now, from your observation and experience is one of the first-class shops? A. Yes, sir.

Q. The sanitary conditions are good? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is it heated in the winter time? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How is it heated? A. By steam.

Q. How long do those girls generally continue in the trade? A. Well, I wouldn't be able to answer that question. I have been working at the trade myself nine years.

Q. Did the whole number of girls employed associate themselves in this union? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Were the men formerly members of the union? A. Some of them were, and those who were not also joined.

Q. What is the union called which you joined? A. The Women's Cloak Makers' Union.

Q. It is an old organization, is it not? A. No, sir; it is only about a year old.

Q. Well, I mean the general union; not your branch of it? A. No, sir; it is only about a year old.

Q. Have you any suggestions to make as to the remedy that should be applied to do away with those sweat shops? A. Well, I should think if every person who worked at clothes was obliged to put in steam power and have good sanitary conditions like we have in the inside shops, that that would do away with a deal of it. I think that being obliged to have steam power would go a great way towards it.

Q. You think a proper regulation of the sanitary conditions, and having steam power rather than foot power would do away with many of the evils? A. I think it would go a good way.

Dr. Frank A. Stahl having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. What is your name? A. Frank A. Stahl.

Q. What is your business? A. I am a practicing physician in the city of Chicago.

Q. How long have you been practicing? A. Six years.

Q. In the course of your profession have you come in contact with any people employed in what are called sweat shops? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you had as patients people working in those sweat shops? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And have you had as patients people living in rooms where garments have been made? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, Doctor, can you state three on four of the typical cases that you have come in contact with in the course of your experience, where garments are made in living rooms where people have been sick, giving the situation of the building, the number of people sick, the number of people in the family, the disease and the amount of clothing around there? A. Well, I couldn't state the amount of clothing that they have there; all I know is that there was a great deal of clothing being made, and a great many people engaged in the manufacture of clothing, and I can only state as regards diseases, I can state that as a general practitioner I found almost every disease there.

Q. Are you referring to living-rooms where clothing is made? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was the nature of those diseases? A. Diptheria, typhoid fever, scarlet fever and tuberculosis.

Q. State if in your opinion there is any danger, and if there is how much danger, of carrying infectious germs by clothing made in apartments where there are sick people? A. Well, those diseases being of an infectious character, the danger is more or less increased of those germs being taken out by this clothing and carried wherever their destination takes them to.

Q. Doctor, what was the greatest number of people sick at any one time in the rooms where garments were made? A. Well, I think that in one family there were three at one time sick; that is all I can remember at present.

Q. And were the garments scattered about the room—that is, the clothing to be made up? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How near the parties that were sick were those garments placed? A. In some cases they were in the same room; in some cases they were in adjoining rooms.

Q. With the doors open between? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you remember how many people were in the rooms, or adjoining the rooms, in this place where those parties were sick? A. No, sir; I have seen quite a large number of cases, but not being interested in anything of that kind, I wouldn't stop to count them.

Q. What in your opinion is necessary to kill any disease germs that might be carried away in the clothing? A. Well, fumigation would probably kill them.

Q. Fumigation to what extent? A. It is possible to wholly neutralize the pernicious effect of the microbe or bacteria by fumigation, but it would all depend on how thoroughly the fumigation was carried out.

Q. Have you any suggestions to make for doing away with this condition of things? A. I would suggest that the sanitary and hygienic conditions be improved, if it would be possible, especially as regards the water closets and as regards the wash rooms, and as regards the living rooms in their relation to the work shop.

Q. In your judgment then a system of inspection looking to the sanitary condition of many of those places would be an advisable remedy? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Can you state any specific case where you found any infectious disease in a family where garments were made?

A. I can only say that in two cases I found it necessary to perform trachaeotomy on account of diphtheria, but as it would be a breach of confidence to give the names, I don't believe I would state the names.

Q. Is that in places where they were then making clothing? A. Yes, sir.

Q. For outside parties? A. Yes, sir.

Q. In your opinion the evil would be, in a measure, remedied if clothing were not made in living rooms? A. It would in a measure, but not wholly. Of course the danger of the infection to clothing is enhanced as it is brought in contact with the disease itself in proportion to the distance between the position of the disease and the position of the garment, and to wholly eradicate it you would have to introduce a system of inspection debarring everybody from contact with the clothing, but as far as precautions are concerned you could protect the clothing by ostracising people from coming in contact with the sickness, and especially where the living rooms are adjoining the shop.

Q. The ironing or the pressing of the garment would not kill the germs if there be any in the garment, would it? A. Oh, no, but it is quite possible that the temperature of the iron could be raised to a point where the bacteria would be killed or destroyed, but that would be only at the point of actual contact with the bacteria itself; that would not include the periphery at all.

Q. And in the case of fur-trimmed garments, where the fur is not pressed at all, where the iron does not come in contact with the fur at all, because if it did it would destroy the fur, then the germs will propagate? A. They will still remain there and propagate.

Louis Rothman, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. What is your name? A. Louis Rothman.

Q. Where are you located? A. 145 West Division street.

Q. You are the proprietor of a sweat shop that the committee investigated last Saturday? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you state to the committee what you have done in regard to your shop since the visit of the committee? A. I sent away eight small girls and one small boy, and I will move in a short time, maybe in three or four days, with half of my people into another shop, or, if I can't do that I will discharge them. I am living in the shop only four weeks.

Q. You were not subpœnaed to appear before this committee at this time? A. I was not, but friends of mine told me that they read it in the papers, and that I had to come here, and I came yesterday afternoon here, and this gentleman told me I should come to-day, so I came.

Q. You manufacture clothing for what firms? A. For several firms; Kohn, Wampold & Co., Oppenheim & Co., Silverman and Opper.

Q. For the first named firm there, Kohn, Wampold & Co., with whom do you transact your business? A. With the foreman, but I can state that it is one of the worst firms in the city of Chicago for the tailors. No one tailor can be satisfied in this house. They try to cut down the price all the time, and where they can get it cheaper by two or three or four or five cents all the time they do it. They don't look if it is a new tailor or an old tailor; they give the work to everybody that comes there, if he runs a big shop or a small shop or anything; they don't care.

Q. What is the name of this foreman? A. His name is Dreier.

Q. Do you make a contract with this foreman, Mr. Dreier, to make those goods for a given price per garment? A. Yes. For instance, I come there to ask for work; I am a tailor, and if I think I am short of work I go there and say, "Have you some work for me?" and he says, "Yes, I have something," and he shows me the work and I say, "How much will you pay for it?" and he says so and so. If I am satisfied I take it; if I am not I leave it there.

Q. When you say that he will pay so and so, you mean so much per piece? A. Yes, per piece.

Q. How long have you conducted a sweat shop in Chicago? A. I never have conducted a sweat shop. My shop is always nice. I am only four weeks in this shop.

Q. Well, how long have you conducted a nice tailor shop? A. For sixteen months, that I was running a shop.

Q. Do you send garments out to be finished to private families? A. Yes, sir I do.

Q. How many finishers have you on your pay-roll? A. I have four.

Q. And you have 65 other employés, or you did have when the committee visited your place? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you ever know of any infectious or contagious disease having existed in one of the houses of those finishers? A. If I was there at any time?

Q. No, but was any one in the family of any of those finishers sick? A. I dont' know, but they are not in the nicest condition, that is their living rooms.

Q. And whether they were sick or not you don't know? A. No, I don't know if they were sick or not, but they don't get enough air in the rooms, and they are not clean enough, some of them; that is all.

Q. When the clothes come back from their shops do you try to clean them in any way? A. I don't try to clean them, but the general rule is before the garment is sent to the presser it is always brushed off, because there is basting threads in it and there may be dirt from the floor and so on, because if the presser would press it he would press in all this dirt and you would have trouble with it.

Q. So that is all the means you take to render the garment clean? A. Yes, that is all I do.

Q. Is it a practice for the various contractors or owners of shops to go from one firm to another firm seeking work and to compete with each other as to prices? A. Yes, that is a regular practice.

Q. And the lowest bidder will get the work from the wholesale house? A. As a general thing they do always.

Q. And the wholesale house doesn't care under what conditions the work is made? A. Oh, no, they want the work nice, clean and cheap.

Q. They don't care under what conditions the work is made as long as it comes back to them pressed nicely, and is cheap? A. You see I can't tell very much about that. Maybe we got in Chicago a few houses that they don't care if they get the work in good shape or not. That is all I can tell about that.

Q. What is the practice with the majority of the shops; do they care under what conditions the work is made at the tailor shop, whether it is a good shop or a bad shop? A. The wholesale houses?

Q. Yes? A. Oh, I would think that they would want the tailor to have a very nice shop, clean and cheap; so would I do if I was a wholesaler.

Q. Yes, but what is the practice of the wholesalers to-day; do they inquire into the conditions of the shop where the clothes are made? A. They come sometimes to the shop and look at the shop, but they don't ask me anything; because every fore-

man and every boss, they go sometimes and look at the shop. In case they are needing work they come and see me, and if I need work I go and see them.

Q. Do they ever go into the houses where the goods are finished? A. No, I guess not; they never go to the finisher only in this case, for example: if I would have a hundred vests at the finishers and I would owe them money and they wouldn't give back the goods, then the wholesaler goes there and takes his goods and pays them what I owe them.

Q. That is the only case where they would visit a finisher's shop? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do they ever inquire in that business whether or not there is any sickness in the family of the finisher? A. No, they do not.

Q. When the committee visited your shop you had in your employ a boy by the name of Henry? A. Yes, sir.

Q. He was subpœnaed by the doorkeeper to appear before this committee? A. Yes, he was.

Q. Why was he not here? A. I can't tell you. All I know about it is, he came to me Saturday night to my residence where I am living and said, "Mr. Rotham, excuse me; I won't come any more because my mother sent me to school, and she don't like if you will have trouble or my mother will have trouble." And he didn't come any more. I can't tell you why he is not here.

Q. What suggestions have you to offer this committee to remedy this sweat shop evil? A. I don't understand you.

Q. How can we make those bad shops good? How would you make the bad shops good? A. If I would be you, or if I would be the State of Illinois, I would build up in our neighborhood a few good shops, and I think it would pay very good. I would like to pay $5 or $6 or $8 a month more if I could have a nice, large, comfortable shop, because I could make more money; nobody would be sick; I would have room for my work and I wouldn't need to be in a small shop. We would pay the rent if we had the place.

Q. Do you know what proportion of the clothing that is sold by the wholesale houses is made in sweat shops? How much of the clothing the wholesalers sell; how much of this clothing do they make in tenement house localities? A. I think near all of it.

Q. Do you know whether or not any of the clothing is sent from the east? Whether the wholesalers get their manufactured goods from the east? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where do they get them from the east? A. From New York; I guess they can get it made cheaper than here. The boss goes there to buy goods and gets them cut, trimmed and finished and send them here cheaper than he can get them made here.

Q. And that is one of the reasons in your opinion why the contractors have to work so cheaply? A. That is my idea, because I think the houses, if they could get the work cheaper in Chicago, they would get it made here; if they can have it made cheaper in the east, or south, or west, they get it done there.

Q. Then the contractors in the cheap shops in Chicago are competing with the better shops? A. Yes sir.

Q. And all of them are competing with other cities? A. The very cheap work is made in the east, and the very fine work, too, but only the medium class of work is made here.

Q. Have you any idea as to what proportion of that work is made here; you say the very cheapest and the very best is made in the east? A. For the city of Chicago—this clothing that is sold in Chicago comes to nearly two-thirds of the entire manufacture. All this clothing that we are making goes to the west; a very small part of that is sold in Chicago.

Q. So in your opinion it is sent all around to the retailers in the western portion of the country? A. Yes, sir.

Q. By those wholesale houses? A. Yes, sir. Our work is nearly all sent out—what we are making here. A very small part is sold in Chicago. I think nearly everybody knows that. If you go into any clothing house on State street and look at the label you will find that they come all from the east—from New York, Boston, Baltimore and Philadelphia. There are very few clothing houses where you will find a label of the Chicago houses.

Q. What do you manufacture? A. Vests.

Q. What are the various prices you have paid for making the various kinds of vests? A. What I am paid?

Q. Yes. A. I make a class of work for 28 to 40 cents.

Q. You get it from those firms? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How much do you figure on paying your help, then, for each vest? A. I pay my hands by the week.

Q. Well, you determine their weekly wages, do you not, by the number of vests they make in a week? A. Yes, sir.

Q. About how many vests would an ordinary employé make in a week? A. An ordinary employé should make in a week from 90 to 100 vests.

Q. How much do you pay your employés a week on an average? A. The cheapest I have in the shop—

Q. At the time the committee was there, what was the cheapest you paid? A. $2.

Q. From $2 up to what? A. Up to $9.

Q. What do you pay your outside finishers apiece? A. One cent for the finisher.

Q. How many pieces ought they finish in a day? A. Oh, they make every two weeks about $7 or $8.

Q. About $3.50 to $4 a week? A. Yes. Oh, they don't work always on the vests.

Q. 28 to 40 cents you get for the vests, and you pay $2 to $9 a week to your help? Now, how many vests would a $2 a week employé make? A. Oh, he does nothing; he is paid for nothing. Everybody knows that for $2, if she knew much, she wouldn't work for that.

Q. She gets paid for nothing? A. Yes, sir.

Q. This is the first instance we have met in the course of our investigation where a contractor or sweater paid any of his help for doing nothing. A. That is right; if she knew anything she wouldn't work for that; she is only a time-killer, to kill time in the shop.

Q. Now, what I want to get at is this. The amount that you are required to pay for making a vest for which you receive 28 to 40 cents from the manufacturer. What is your net profit on that? A. I can't tell you. If I should make on every vest five cents I would be well off. There were many locations in Chicago on the North side where I gave my vests out by the piece, and I paid so much for the operating, finishing and pressing, and then I know I make so much on it; but in this manner that I am making it now it is very hard to tell how much I make on a vest. Sometimes I lose and sometimes I make.

Q. For what does the wholesaler sell his vest for which you receive 28 to 40 cents to make? A. My vest always belongs to the suit.

Q. I want to know what the wholesaler gets for that vest? A. I can't tell you; I don't know.

Q. What part of the price of the suit does the vest constitute? If the suit is worth $10, what is the vest supposed to be worth? A. I think a fifth part.

Q. What does a suit sell for of which you make the vests? A. The vest I make I see at the retailers; I see my vests there and they were figured out, a whole suit, for $9.50.

Q. Was that the vest for which you received 28 cents or the vest for which you received 40 cents? A. It was the vest that I got about 32 cents for.

Q. Thirty-two cents? A. Thirty-two or thirty-three cents.

Q. How much do you think the wholesaler got for that suit? How much did he sell it to the retailer for? A. It is very hard to tell. It is different.

Q. Haven't you an opinion as to the general practice? A. Generally they make 20 per cent.

Q. The retailer? A. No, the wholesaler makes 20 per cent. profit; that is my opinion, 15 to 20 per cent.

Q. Well, on a $9.50 suit which the retailers ordinarily sell at that price, what is the usual wholesale price of that suit? A.

I think the retailer will make 25 per cent., that is my opinion, on a cheap suit, a medium class of suit.

Q. Well, what would be a fourth part of $9.50; $2.62½, that would be his profit? A. Yes, that is my opinion.

Q. That would be $7.12 it cost him? A. Yes, or nearly.

Q. It cost the retailer about $7.12, that is your opinion? A. That is my opinion.

Q. What would the vest sell for by the wholesaler? One-fifth of $7.12. The wholesaler got $7.12 for the suit. How much does he get for the vest? A. He gets a fifth part of it.

Q. A fifth of $7.12? A. Yes, $1.42.

Q. And you get 32 cents for making it? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How much was the cloth worth in that vest; the cloth and thread and lining and buttons; how much was all the material of that vest worth? A. If you figure the cutting and all the expenses you have on the suit and everything, I think it would be $1.15.

Q. I asked you how much the material cost? A. Eighty cents, it cost, altogether.

Q. For which you received 32 cents to make it, and it sold at $1.42? A. Yes, sir.

P. E. Jensen, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. What is your name? A. P. E. Jensen.

Q. What is your occupation and place of residence? A. 394 Homer street.

Q. Where do you work? A. I am not engaged in the trade direct as a practical tailor just now; I am engaged by the Tailors' Union as business agent.

Q. How long have you been so engaged? A. For over a year.

Q. What were you doing before that time? A. I was pants-maker.

Q. Where? A. For the principal houses in the city.

Q. As a contractor or owner of a shop, or as an employé in a shop? A. As an employé in a shop, and as an employé who took pants out and finished them in my own shop, or my own home as the case may be.

Q. How many other employés were engaged where you worked? A. Well, I have been working all alone home, and I have been working in a shop that was rented by individuals like myself up to as many as fifty.

Q. Fifty employes? A. Yes, sir; and smaller shops, where they had 10 and 15, and so forth.

Q. For whom were they making goods? A. Principally for the best houses in Chicago; what we considered the finest houses.

Q. What did you consider the best houses? A. The houses that paid the best prices.

Q. Name them? A. Schaub Bros.

Q. Is he a custom tailor? A. Yes, and George W. Matthews, and, Edward Ely & Co., and Dunlop, and Walshe. We ahd men and women working in that shop.

Q. Did you say men, women and children? A. I don't think I said children.

Q. How many of those employés were men and how many women in the shops? A. The majority are men.

Q. Were those shops located in tenement houses? A. Occasionally they were.

Q. What was the condition of the tenement houses in which those shops were located? A. They are in a bad state; I couldn't express anything particular about them. Some of those shops are in very fine residences, and others are in such dirty tenement houses that I wouldn't dare to sit down in a chair there. They are in all stages.

Q. Were those shops in those dirty tenement houses manufacturing goods for the firms whose names you just gave? A. Yes, sir; I know of a house here in Chicago that employs one of them especially.

Q. As contractor? A. No; as an individual employé, who takes the work home and finishes the garment in his own home.

Q. Is that the practice of the custom tailors, who give out work which has to be made in the homes of the tailors? A. That is the practice with a very few exceptions.

Q. And in these exceptions what is the practice? A. There are exceptions where the custom tailor will give work out to his employés in the shop furnished by himself, but they are very rare; very few instances where that is the case; the general rule is to give the work out to the individual employé, and he takes it to his home or else to his work shop.

Q. Do you know of any case of infectious or contagious disease existing in the house of a tailor, or the home of a tailor, where goods were being made? A. Yes; I know and still I don't know; it is an every day occurrence, but, as some of those parties are members of our union, I wouldn't give the names.

Q. I am not asking you to give their names at all. I want you to state under oath of your own knowledge whether you have within your observation known of an infectious or contagious disease to be in a house where the custom tailoring has has been in the course of manufacturing or making? A. Yes, sir.

Q. About how many times can you recall the same condition to exist; you say it is of daily occurrence? You want that answer to apply? A. Well, I can call to my knowledge three distinct cases.

Q. What were the diseases in those cases? A. Scarlet fever and diphtheria.

Q. How many were in the family at time? A. I couldn't say; I don't know.

Q. Were you on the premises yourself? A. I was on the premises.

Q. Did you see the clothing there? A. No; I did not.

Q. In any case did you see the clothing where there was a disease existing? A. I didn't see the clothing for the reason that I was not permitted in one instance to see the clothing, and in another I was not permitted to the room where the clothing was manufactured or made.

Q. And you believe that the clothing was there, do you? A. I do honestly believe that the clothing was there. It was at the time of a strike when an employer wanted to defeat the honest endeavors of organized labor, and he was very indiscriminate about sending out work. He would send it all over, so for this reason I was not permitted even to go inside.

Q. Is it generally understood among the dealers who manufacture for the custom tailors, and, as you have stated, the best houses in this city that contagious or infectious diseases may exist where the goods are being made or finished, is it generally understood among your profession? A. That is generally understood; anything may exist for all we know. The employer never asks any questions as to sanitary conditions, and he don't investigate. If he did, I am confident in many cases that the man would not be permitted to work for him, if he knew the condition of the rooms where those individuals take the work; but their main object is to get it done anyway. I never heard of a case yet where the employer investigated as to the condition of the employés' shops.

Q. Do you know whether any precautions were exercised to kill the germs in the cases you mention regarding infectious diseases? A. I don't think there was any.

Q. Is it the practice at all to exercise precaution in a case of that kind? A. I hardly think it is; I never heard of anything direct being done; there is so very little time left for the employé to attend to those matters that I suppose he won't bother with it.

Q. Will you state what are the average wages per piece paid for the making of those garments? A. What garments especially?

Q. Well, you said that you are a pants maker. What are the prices prevailing for the making of pants, either to a dealer at his home or at his shop? A. The prices are for first class work

all the way from $2 a pair up to $4 a pair, but I wish to state here that those figures will be misleading if you don't consider at the same time that the average tailor can only make from $10 to $12 a week.

Q. To what is that due? A. That is due to the fact that he has to furnish himself with a work shop, with tools, machines and all implements necessary to carry on the trade. The average dealer has to pay for the privilege of working from $150 to $200 a year; that is for the privilege of working; in other words, he has to furnish himself with this machinery and that is deducted from his wages, and then he has to go up town and down town to his employer, as the case may be, and wait for a job.

Q. How long is he required to wait? A. All the way from an hour to a day; it is a common occurrence at this time of the year that a man will call repeatedly in one day without getting anything, and have to call again the next day.

Q. That applies not only to pants makers, but to the makers of coats and vests? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What are the number of hours that a tailor does work? A. There is no limit to it.

Q. What is the usual practice? A. In the season, all the way from twelve hours to fifteen or eighteen. Tailors are supposed to work twenty-four hours without stopping.

Q. Do the other members of the family assist in the manufacture of the work? A. If the man is working in his home, they do. If he is working in his home, it is often the case that the wife and children assist him, and often the small children have to work long hours. I myself worked twenty-five hours without resting at the age of thirteen.

Q. The same practice continues to-day? A. There is some limit may be, but it is a thing that is practiced right along.

Q. The kind of work you refer to is of the best class? A. The very best class done in the city.

Q. And the highest wages a tailor can earn is from twelve to fourteen dollars a week? A. That is the average.

Q. Will he continue to earn that throughout the year? A. No, he will often be able to earn as high as $30 a week by hard work, by working long hours, and he will be able to make from $20 to $30 and in exceptional cases above that.

Q. Counting in the assistance of his family? A. Of his family or helpers that he may employ cheap, but his average wages I would judge would be between twelve and fourteen dollars a week the year around.

Q. Do I understand from the evidence you have heretofore given that the work of these custom tailors is in many instances made in sweat shops? A. Well, I wouldn't give it that name,

sweat shops: there may be instances where it is done, especially under strikes or labor troubles; the merchant tailors will give work wherever they can have it made.

Q. Are there any instances where the contractor will take a contract from a tailor and have it made up in a shop owned by him by a number of men, women and children working in that shop for piece price paid by him? A. There was one instance I recall where it is done.

Q. And do they make for those firms that you speak of? A. For one firm I remember.

Q. What is the name of the firm? A. Theodore Valentine.

Q. Would it be a betterment of the condition to have home work abolished by law? A. Yes, I believe it would; we endeavor, in our union, to promote that.

Q. What, if any, suggestions have you to offer to the committee in relation to the remedy or a remedy for this evil? A. My suggestion is that those merchant tailors should, by law, be compelled to furnish their employés with proper sanitary conditions, such as would be a means to protect the public at large.

Q. Would it not better the condition of the tailor himself? A. It would indeed; it would better his condition most surely; he would have shorter hours and better health; tailors, as a rule, are broken down in health by working long hours, in poorly ventilated shops, in small rooms.

I. Levine, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan.

Q. What is your name? A. I. Levine.

Q. Where do you live? A. 147 Maxwell street.

Q. What is your business? A. Cloak-making.

Q. How long have you been so engaged? A. For the last five years.

Q. At whose work-shop do you work? A. At present I am working for F. Seigel & Bro., on Market street.

Q. Their shop is located on Market street? A. Yes, but I am outside of the sweat shops now.

Q. How long have you been working there? A. Since last June.

Q. Where did you work before that? A. Before that we had a coöperation shop.

Q. What do you mean? A. Well, a few machine operators take out work, and we have a foreman of our own, and we paid him a certain per cent. for managing the shop; certainly we got paid for just as much as we made according to the prices received from the firms.

Q. How long did that shop continue? A. That shop continued a year previous to when I came there, and I worked there for a year, that is two years altogether.

Q. Is that shop in existence now? A. No, sir.

Q. Why did it cease to exist? A. Well, I don't think I am able to give the reasons why, but some way or other there was some trouble between the men themselves. We wanted it to continue because we had some benefit out of it; we could have had a better shop and better prices, but the firms themselves didn't like it.

Q. The wholesale firms didn't approve of the coöperative shop? So it seems; after our manager went out we wanted to get another manager and they refused us to work.

Q. How many employès were there in that shop? A. Well, I think about twelve operators, and sometimes a little less, and two presses besides the girls for finishing the work.

Q. What wages did you earn there? A. Well, we worked by the piece.

Q. How much? A. Well, a little more than we earned in the other shops.

Q. How much more? A. Well, from 10 to 20 per cent. more.

Q. That is just about the share that the contractor would take away from each man, because the manager we had does the work that the contractor generally does; and he got his pay, and we had 10 to 20 per cent. over what we would otherwise have. The contractor makes more than 10 or 20 per cent., but I sav we make 20 per cent. after paying the manager, but the contractor got the wages of the manager, too. He had fair wages; for instance, he made some weeks $30 or $40.

Q. And you made some weeks as much as 20 per cent. more than you could in the other shops? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you any remedy to suggest to this committee for the evil that exists in those sweat shops, or the maintenance of those sweat shops? A. Well, there are a good many remedies, but I would suggest the first of all that some kind of a law ought to be passed, for instance, to limit child labor, because the sweater can't exist if he can't get the small children he wants to work for him, and get them at as low a price as possible. If this were done, then the sweater would be done away with. All those profits he can make is out of the long hours and the child labor; that is where he makes the most profit, because if it wouldn't be for the long hours, he couldn't go into the business. If a man should work for eight hours a day, for instance, where he has got three or four men employed, he can only make half what he would in fifteen or sixteen hours, so he would have to work double that. Then, he has some machines to buy. The sweater when they go into the business they have no capital at all; they go in with nothing at all, except a few dollars, to get

a machine on payments, or two machines. Now, if they shouldn't be allowed to keep children under age and having a man working there a limited time, certainly they wouldn't do as much work as they do now, but that would be one remedy at least.

Q. What do you call children under age? A. Under 14 years.

Q. Are there many of them employed in sweat shops to your knowledge? A. Well, in cloak-making there is not as many as in coats and in pants.

Q. Have they any permit from any authority to work? A. No, sir, not to my knowledge.

P. Sissman having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. May:

Q. State your name? A. P. Sissman.

Q. Where are you employed now, Mr. Sissman? A. At Mr. Krauss', a contractor on Ashland avenue and Brigham street.

Q. What is he doing? A. Cloak-making.

Q. Is he a general contractor for cloak-making. A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where does he secure his work? A. From Biefield Bros., or rather Joeseph Biefield & Co. it is now, I think.

Q. How does he send that work out? A. It comes to the shop; it is operated on the machine; I am one of the machinists. The work that is given out, almost every garment, almost every one of the garments that are sent out of the shop to the contractor's shop are given out to women to do the finishing. Afterwards it is brought back and the rest of the finishing is done and it is sent back to Biefield's. The work is not pressed in our place. This is the custom with this particular house.

Q. After he gets it from the wholesale merchant what stage of manufacture does it go through in your shop? A. Sewing up the garments.

Q. It is then sent out to women to do the finishing in their living apartments? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And after that it is sent back to you and pressed? A. It is not pressed, but the finishing is completed and it is pressed at the finishers.

Q. How long have you been engaged in cloak-making? A. Six years.

Q. Have you been in Chicago all of that time? A. All the time.

Q. What was the original rate of wages by the week? A. Well, in my particular case the wages hardly varied; it was always the same, $8.50 to $9 a week on an average.

Q. For yourself or man in the same position you now occupy, what would be the wages at the time you commenced?

A. Well, the average man about the same, but sometimes they would make a good deal more than that; they would earn $15 a week.

Q. Has there been any increase or decrease in the rate of wages? A. Well, the prices of the garment did decrease, it is true, but the men have learned to be more skillful; they make the garment quicker. A garment of the better class that would pay five years ago double what it pays now, it takes double the time to make it.

Q. What rate of wages do you receive now? A. About $9.50, but it isn't all through the year that the wages are of the same scale.

Q. How many people are in the shop where you work? A. About sixteen.

Q. How large a place is it? A. A tolerably large room; the room is large.

Q. Are the sanitary conditions good? A. In that particular place, yes; but I would remark at the same time that this is not the general rule. The sanitary conditions of the shops are of a very ill nature, but some are good.

Q. Do you know what the sanitary condition of those homes where those women finish the garments is? A. Well, to my personal knowledge, I will testify that they are of a very poor condition.

Q. Have you ever been in them? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you, in any instance, ever see any person sick with diphtheria, or scarlet fever, or measles, in those rooms? A. I can only remember one case, where a child had a red, woolen sock around its neck; it was supposed that it had a cold, but it afterwards turned out that it had diphtheria.

Q. Were they finishing up the garments in the room where the child lay? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You say you received from $8 to $9.50 a week? What was the rate of wages two years ago? A. Well, I stated that it was about the same rate all the time I worked.

Q. How long have you been at work for this present contractor? A. A very short time, about two weeks, and this will be a fair example of all the men. They change their places very frequently.

Q. Do you belong to any labor union? A. I belong to the cloak-makers' union ever since it was organized.

Q. Do you mean to say that you have always averaged between $8 and $9 a week since you began to follow this vocation? A. Yes, after I earned it.

Q. Never more and never less? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Are you sure that you are telling the truth? A. Yes, I am; I can produce the books where my wages are paid for all this time.

Q. How many hours do you work now? A. Well, I make an exception now. I intend to give up the trade, and it wouldn't be fair to make that a rule. I work short hours; I work ten hours a day.

Q. How many hours do the same people in the shop with you work? A. Generally twelve; in busy times fourteen to fifteen.

Q. How many months of the year are they employed? A. Eight to ten months of the year.

Q. Well, during the rest of the year the time they are not engaged in cloak making, are they engaged in any other work? A. Some of them look for other work such as pants making or vest making, or something like that.

Q. What proportion of those people are employed in other occupations during the whole year? A. I should think about one-third.

Q. And the rest are thrown out of employment? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is the power employed in your place steam or foot power? A. It is foot power.

Q. In your judgment or observation, what effect has it upon the health of the employés? A. I think the effect is very bad. I know of three or four cases where one caught consumption and another was sick with rheumatism from having constantly strained his feet with running this machine at the greatest rate of speed.

Q. Is that rate of speed great? A. Very high; it is the highest rate of speed.

Q. To what do you attribute the low rate of wages of the cloak makers? A. I think it is the intense competition.

Q. And to the making of goods outside of the factory? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you any suggestions to offer as to what should be done to remedy this thing? A. I think it would be very hard work to abolish it. I think my idea would be to abolish child labor entirely.

Q. That is labor under fourteen years? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What percentage of children are working in proportion to grown men? A. It would be a very hard question to answer; I should say about eight to ten per cent.; I wouldn't like to exaggerate things; I want to get things as I think they are.

Q. Are you familiar with the provisions of the bill adopted by the cloak makers' union? A. Yes, sir, and I may state that I think that bill would cover the entire field.

Q. When did you read it? A. About an hour ago. There is one place where I think there is a big point in it, and that is in the clause providing for shop inspectors. We have some inspectors now, but we have no State inspectors. From the experience I have gained elsewhere, my observation is that inspectors inspect very unsatisfactorily when they are not directly under the control of the labor organizations—that the labor people by one way or another, either by bribe or some way, I don't know what, influence them.

Q. You think the general provisions of that bill good? A. Yes, sir; there is one point in regard to those inspectors, and that is having the inspectors appointed by the Governor. They should be appointed by the Governor, but they should be appointed at the recommendation of organized labor or unions.

Emanuel M. Backerman, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. State your name and residence? A. Emanuel M. Backerman: I reside at 889 North Hoyne avenue.

Q. What is your business? A. Art publisher.

Q. What do you know about the sweating business? A. I know something about it, having been born and brought up in Russia, and having traveled, and been also in England and Germany, and in this country, where I met a great many of my brothers who are in this line of business. I think my testimony will be important to this committee, as a citizen of the United States, so I thought it my duty to come up and testify.

Q. Where are you living now? A. 889 North Hoyne avenue.

Q. How long have you been living in Chicago? A. I am in Chicago thirteen years. I want to state that in Chicago as well as in other American cities, New York, New Orleans, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, and at least twenty-five more that I have been in and seen those people in those shops, I have seen diseases in the same room—contagious diseases in the same room where cloaks and coats were manufactured, also caps and all those commodities in this line. I have seen one case in Chicago, but I will not give the name because he is a friend of mine. I will mention it confidentially, if you want me to, and give the address, where a case of scarlet fever occurred where he was manufacturing custom tailor goods.

Q. What class of tailor goods? A. The very highest class.

Q. For a custom shop here in Chicago? A. Yes, sir; and I should say that the child died and they had some sort of seven day mourning. But they worked right along without any interruption. That man had a half a dozen helpers.

Q. How many rooms had he? A. They were all living rooms; they were living in one room as well as the other.

Q. You say the child was not buried for seven days? A. No, sir; the child was buried as soon as it died.

Q. Were the garments in the same room where the child was sick? A. Yes, sir; and the child laid on the floor for a certain time, and the garments were also in the same room. Now, I want to tell you the origin of it in my opinion, as I have studied the subject; I will tell you how this condition has originated: I would say that those labor unions—I am not against them at all, I am in favor of them, but they want to get a man of their own society as inspector. I can only come to the conclusion that this is their sole object. As long as a man has to be Governor, he can certainly be trusted to appoint inspectors.

Q. Well, that has nothing to do with the condition. A. I think the condition is that there is a certain evil which lessens the consumption of the product, and the consumption is lessened to such an extent that there are more workers than there is work. Now, the competition is not in the commodity manufactured, but among the mechanics and the workingmen to get work. There are too many of them, and that is a fact, because to begin with, the raw material costs more than it ought to cost. The manufactured goods can, on account of the original cost of material being high, can be exported to any foreign markets. The same condition prevails in Russia. I have traveled extensively in Germany before I came here; and in England I can't find that that condition prevails there at all. In those countries, they are glad to have a mechanic work for them, while in Chicago and other American cities, if you take any paper, you will find that there are more people that want situations than people that advertise to supply situations. If the tariff, the duty on the raw material will be abolished, you will not find such a thing as a sweat shop in Chicago.

Q. Your remedy then is tariff for revenue only? A. That is it, and you gentlemen will not be able to do anything. You will find those inspectors the same as the sidewalk inspectors in Chicago, that they don't inspect at all. We have enough laws already. If the health inspectors would enforce the laws, there wouldn't be such a thing as a disease in a room with a factory.

Q. I will ask you if you believe the limiting of labor to children over fourteen years of age would affect it? A. I certainly believe in that, but I warn you that that law will be a dead letter. You will not be able to enforce it. You may in public, but not in private. Now, I have a child six years old in my house, and if I want to employ it at something, you can't prevent me; maybe to bring up a scuttle of coal or something of the kind, and there may be people who take in work and you can't prevent them from getting their own children to help them, because you won't know it. My opinion is that the only remedy is that this committee shall kindly recommend to the State Legislature that they shall recommend to Congress to abolish the tariff entirely, and you will not find as weats hop in Chicago.

Q. Under the present conditions, what suggestions have you to offer to the committee to remedy the sweat shops to-day? A. Under the present conditions there is hardly a remedy. There is a remedy for larceny and for crimes, there is punishment for crimes for violation of it, and yet you will find people who are violating it right along.

Q. That is the enforcement of the law you are referring to now, not the remedy? A. Well, the only remedy you can make is to prohibit children from working.

Q. Are you in favor of the manufacture of clothing in tenement houses? A. I don't think I would be in favor of doing anything that would be unconstitutional. I don't see that a house in Hyde Park where the rent of one room is $25, that a man should have more privilege there than a house on the West Side where a room rents for $5 a month. It would be against American liberty.

Q. Suppose that a number of people other than those living in tenement houses, get together and form a shop and operate machines, and make wearing apparel and receive the garments cut and trimmed, and turn them out completely finished—if they worked from twelve to fourteen, or a greater number of hours per day in a small room, what would be your opinion as to that? A. Well, my opinion is something like this: If the man is poor, if he can't get along, he will certainly work the whole day and the whole night.

Q. Did the committee understand you to say that the sweat shop evil did not exist in London? A. Yes, sir; I claim it does not exist in London, for I have been there. I want to testify that in London there is no such system as sweat shops. There is a manufacturer, a wholesaler, and a retail dealer. The manufacturer keeps hands to manufacture goods in his own shop, and that shop is usually large, with all accommodations. Next to that there is a wholesale dealer. He is simply a dealer; he deals in large quantities from the manufacturer. Next to that, there is a retail dealer. The retail dealer buys either from the wholesaler, or he has the goods manufactured by so-called sweat shops—what you call them here. Now, the retail dealer having those goods manufactured by sweat shops, he pays them a better price than the wholesaler would pay them. He gives them a limited quantity to make, and he pays a better price than the wholesale dealer would pay. He is a tailor on a large scale, and buys from the factory.

Q. Are any of the goods finished in tenement houses in London? A. Oh, yes.

Q. Is it not the practice of the custom tailors to send the goods out to journeymen tailors? A. No, not in London. They have their own tailors and they can take home the goods and bring them back in the morning if they want to do extra work.

Q. What is the practice in Poole's place? A. I haven't heard of that firm. I have heard of a firm named Livingston. Poole's place must be a small place; I never heard of it.

An adjournment was here taken until Monday morning, February 20th, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

CHICAGO, February 20, 1893.

Pursuant to adjournment, the committee met at ten o'clock, a. m., in the reading room of the Sherman House, and proceeded with the taking of testimony.

David McDonald, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. State your name, residence and occupation? A. My name is David McDonald; my occupation at present is in the Health Office, my residence is 169 Lincoln avenue.

Q. You mean the health office of the city of Chicago? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What are your duties? A. Sanitary inspection in the main.

Q. How long have you been so employed? A. Very nearly two years.

Q. As sanitary inspector of the health department are you aware what laws are now on the list of code of the city in relation to the inspection of the tenement houses? A. Yes, I have occasion to read them often.

Q. Have you the laws or code of the city of Chicago? A. I have.

Q. Will you kindly read for the benefit of this committee such sections of the code as refer to the inspection of tenement houses? A. Yes, sir. This law covers tenement houses or manufactures, or any place where manufactures are carried on. I will read such sections as are more closely related to places where manufacture is carried on. There are some distinctions in the ordinances between tenement houses and places where manufacture is carried on.

"1909. Ventilation, etc., of stores, work shops, etc.—That no person, being the owner, proprietor, lessee, manager or superintendent of any store, factory, work shop or other structure, or place of employment where workmen and workwomen are employed for wages, shall cause, permit or allow the same or any portion or apartment of or any room in said store, factory, work shop or other structure, or place of employment, to be overcrowded or inadequate, faulty or insufficient in respect of ventilation and cleanliness; and, in every such building or apartment, or room in any such building, where one or more such persons are employed, as aforesaid, at least 500 cubic feet of air space shall be allowed to each and every person employed therein, and the air changed or renewed by ventilation at least once in every 20 minutes during the hours of employment."

Now, section 1911 reads as follows:

"1911. Inspection of stores, warehouses, etc.—The commissioner of health shall visit, or cause to be visited by an officer, all such places of employ-

ment or service within the city at least once a month, to see that the provisions of this article are complied with, and shall have such arrangements made as may be deemed necessary for the safety and health of the employés pursuant to the terms of this article, and such laws as may be in force concerning health and sanitary measures."

Now, I would say that in regard to this last section, 1911, recommending that the commissioner of health shall visit or cause to be visited once a month all such places to see that these provisions are complied with, and make arrangements, etc.,—I will read section 1907. It says:

"That no person shall hereafter erect, or cause to be erected, or converted to a new purpose by alteration, any building or structure which, or any part of which, shall be inadequate or defective in respect to ventilation, light, sewerage or any of the usual, proper or necessary provisions or precautions for the preservation of health, nor shall the builder, lessee, tenant or occupant of any such or of any other building or structure (having the right or ability to remedy or prevent the same) cause or allow any matter or thing to be or to be done in or about any such building or structure dangerous or prejudicial to health."

I am reading this section 1907 to show wherein 1911 is entirely inoperative. The effect of it is simply this, that no place under this section can be newly erected, because section 1907 says: "That no person hereafter shall erect, or cause to be erected," and that word "hereafter" makes 1911 entirely inoperative.

Q. What do you mean by that? A. I mean by taking the two sections together.

Q. Well, by pleading section 1911 no offense is proven? A. In other words, that we can't compel them under that section to conform in all respects to 1911. "Hereafter," had that word been inserted we would have entire power over both sections. Another thing that makes that of no effect is that it says that all such places shall be visited at least once a month. Now, that is an absurdity on the face of it, with the force that the health officer has to do with. A force of nine men, besides the other things that they have to do. Now, here is section 1919, that treats of residences like some of the places that were visited by your honorable committee:

"That no person, having the right and power to prevent the same, shall knowingly cause or permit any child under fifteen years of age to be employed at night in any place where machinery is used, or more than eight hours in any day, at any trade or employment, and then only between the hours of seven o'clock A. M. and six o'clock P. M."

Now, that is also inoperative, from the fact that it provides no penalty. There is no penalty provided for an infraction of the ordinance. Section 1938 defines a cellar:

"A cellar shall be taken to mean and include every basement, or lower story of any building or house of which one-half or more of the height from the floor to the ceiling is below the level of the street adjoining."

The ordinances all read very well on their face. Section 1925 provides that:

"Every house situated upon a lot or street in which there is a sewer, shall have the water closets or privies furnished with a proper connection with the sewer, which connection shall be, in all parts, adequate for the purpose as to permit entirely and freely to pass whatever enters the same."

1926 is as follows:

"All such water closets and vaults shall be provided with the proper traps, and connected with the house sewer by a proper, tight pipe, and shall be provided with sufficient water, and other proper means for flushing the same; and every owner, lessee and occupant shall take adequate measures to prevent improper substances from entering such water closets or privies, or their connections, and to secure the prompt removal of any improper substance that may enter them so that no accumulation shall take place, and so as to prevent any exhalation therefrom, offensive, dangerous or prejudicial to health, and so as to prevent the same from being or becoming obstructed."

Now, that is liable to the very same objection. In any place where they now exist, we have no power under the ordinance to compel their removal. We have power under the ordinances to prevent the erection of any new one, or the building of the same under a permit from the health office. And such permits are not granted since that time. They are only granted in a street where there is a sewer, or a street where there is a proper cess pool.

Section 1923 reads:

"Every such building shall be provided with good and sufficient water closets or privies, and shall have proper doors, traps, soil pans, and other suitable works and arrangements, so far as may be necessary to insure the efficient operation thereof."

Now, there is but one more section here that I consider necessary to read in connection with the subject matter under consideration. It is section 1931:

"Whenever it shall be decided by the commissioner of health that any building or part thereof is unfit for human habitation, by reason of its being so infected with disease, or from other causes, as to be likely to cause sickness among the occupants, and notice of such decision shall have been affixed conspicuously on the building or part thereof so decided to be unfit for human habitation, and personally served upon the owner, agent or lessee, if the same can be found in the State, requiring all persons therein to vacate such building or part thereof for the reasons to be stated therein, as aforesaid, such building or part thereof shall within ten days thereafter be vacated, or within such shorter time, not less than 24 hours, as in said notice may be specified."

Now, under that section I have brought a number of suits, probably during the last season as many as 35 or 40 suits. In some cases upon posting the notices the people would vacate; in other cases they would take the bluff. Another time a case was taken before Judge Glennon and he decided that Commissioner Ware had to be there and swear to the fact of having posted the notices. He wouldn't allow the testimony of other officers, myself included, to swear that such notices had been posted under and by the direction of Commissioner Ware. He held that Commissioner Ware himself had to post the notice. Now, I will ask any one of you in the name of common sense whether

the commissioner of health could go and forestall those notices himself. Consequently I hold that those ordinances are wholly inoperative, provided that such decision holds good.

Q. Is there a penalty attached to them? A. No. In other cases I have succeeded in having judgments and fines under Section 1919. "Cellar or place illy ventilated." In some instances the fines have been paid, fines ranging from $150 to $200; but in those cases where fines were appealed to the criminal court and placed on the quasi-criminal calendar, there would be several continuances taken, and in one instance the decision of the lower court was affirmed by the upper court; and then I found that we had no officers to serve the papers, the sheriff refused to serve the papers in city cases and we have no proper officer to serve the papers in the city, and that is the way that stands at present. There are many other ordinances here that relate to other things; that is, the same thing would relate in a certain way to that, but also to other places as well.

By Mr. May:

Q. Why did the sheriff refuse to serve the papers? A. That I don't know, I am sure; I didn't investigate that; he claimed that it was out of his jurisdiction, that he didn't have to. The only ordinances we have got that we can make effective now are in relation to plumbing of new buildings. They were passed last November in the common council—sometime last November—that is, they were made ordinances.

Q. This ordinance comprehends the whole ordinance in regard to that subject? A. That comprehends the whole ordinance in regard to plumbing of new buildings only. It was passed and in force November, 1891. It is as follows:

ORDINANCE.

Passed and enforced November 30, 1891.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Chicago:

Section 1. That in all buildings hereafter erected in the city of Chicago, and in all other buildings already built or erected, wherein plumbing shall be repaired or changed, the drain, soil, waste pipes and traps must be exposed to view for ready inspection at all times and for convenience in repairing. When necessarily placed within partitions or in recesses, they must be covered with wood work, so fastened as to be readily removed. In no case shall they be inaccessible, unless placed so in accordance with a written permit from the commissioner of health.

Sec. 2. Where sewer connections are not extended to the level of the floor line, foot connections of soil and waste pipes shall be made with one-quarter or one-eighth long iron bends, and an iron sewer cap, such as is in general use, shall be used to finish the construction. When sewer is extended to the floor line, an iron sewer cap shall be used to complete the construction.

Sec. 3. Where water-closets are placed outside of the buildings, the chief inspector must be notified before work is started.

Sec. 4. No brick, sheet metal, earthenware or chimney flue shall be used for a sewer ventilator or to ventilate any trap, soil or waste-pipe.

Sec. 5. Every vertical soil and waste-pipe must be of iron, and must extend above the roof at least twelve inches and have a diameter of at least one inch greater than that of the pipe proper. But in no case shall it be less than four inches in diameter through and above the roof. The increaser must be placed at least one foot below roof. No cap or cowl shall be affxed to top of such ventilation pipe.

Sec. 6. Soil, waste and vent-pipes in an extension must be carried above the roof of main building when otherwise they would open within twenty feet of the windows, doors or ventilators of main or adjoining buildings.

Sec. 7. Horizontal soil, waste and vent-pipes are prohibited. Where rows of fixtures are placed in line, angle fittings must be used on vent-pipes to prevent the same filling with rust or condensation. Trapped vents are strictly prohibited. No ventilation pipe from house side of any trap shall connect with any re-ventilation pipe, or with any sewer, soil or waste-pipe. Branches on main vertical vent-pipes. where there is more than one fixture, must be taken out above the top of the highest fixture.

Sec. 8. The least diameter of soil-pipe permitted is four inches. A vertical waste-pipe into which a line of kitchen sinks discharge, must be at least three inches in diameter, if receiving the waste of five or more floors, and shall have two-inch branches.

Sec. 9. There shall be no traps at foot of soil or waste-pipes.

Sec. 10. All iron pipes (cast) must be sound, free from holes or cracks, and of the grade known in commerce as extra heavy. The following weights per lineal foot will be accepted as complying with the ordinance:

2	inches,	5½	pounds	per	lineal foot.
3	"	9½	"	"	"
4	"	13	"	"	"
5	"	17	"	"	"
6	"	20	"	"	"
7	"	27	"	"	"
8	"	33½	"	"	"
10	"	45	"	"	"
12	"	54	"	"	"

Sec. 11. All fittings used in connection with such pipe shall correspond with it in weight and quality. Tar or asbestos coated pipe shall be used.

Sec. 12. When required by the commissioner of health all work must be tested by such test as this department decides upon, and in the presence of the inspector. Defective pipes must be removed, and all defective work made good to conform to this ordinance.

Sec. 13. All joints on (cast iron) soil, waste and drain pipes must be so filled with oakum and lead and hand calked so as to make them air-tight.

Sec. 14. All connections of lead, waste or vent pipes shall be made by means of wiped joints, and brad solder nipples or combination ferrules. Wrought or cast iron nipples or ferrules must not be used.

Sec. 15. Every water-closet, urinal, sink, basin, bath, and every set of wash trays, tub, or sets of tubs, must be effectively and separately trapped. When floor washes are connected, it must be by means of a deep seal trap. Traps on bath tubs must be placed in such a manner that the clean-out will be in plain view and above the floor.

Sec. 16. Traps must be placed as near the fixtures as possible, and in no case shall a trap be more than two feet from said fixtures.

Sec. 17. In no case shall a waste from any fixture be connected with any water-closet trap or re-vent connection for same.

Sec. 18. All traps must be protected from syphonage by special vent pipe. The vertical air pipe for traps of water-closet in buildings more than four stories in height must be at least three inches in diameter, with two-inch branch for each water-closet trap. The rule shall apply to all other fixtures, except that branches may be same size as trap, and pipe

may be reduced to two inches for two lower stories. Vent pipes for water-closets in residences must be two inches, with same size branches, and for other fixtures not less than one and one-half inches, with branches same size as trap. All re-vents may be connected with increaser just below roof. (See section 5.)

Sec. 19. No trap vent shall be used as a waste or soil pipe.

Sec. 20. All lead or other safes under fixtures must be drained by special pipe, same to discharge into sink or on cellar floor; and in no case shall the safe waste be connected with any waste, soil or drain-pipe or sewer. The end of safe wastes shall be covered with flap-valves.

Sec. 21. Overflow pipes from fixtures must be in each case connected on the inlet side of the trap.

Sec. 22. The drain-pipe from refrigerator must not be directly connected with any soil or waste pipe, or with the drain or sewer, or discharge upon the ground; it must discharge into an open or water supplied sink. Such drain-pipe must be so arranged as to admit of frequent flushing, and must be as short as possible and disconnected from refrigerator. The outlet should be covered by means of metal flap-valve.

Sec. 23. The sediment pipe from boiler must be connected on inlet side of sink trap.

Sec. 24. Water closets must never be placed in an unventilated room or compartment. In every case the room or compartment must be open to the outer air or be ventilated by means of an air-duct or shaft. Interior water-closets shall not be supplied from city supply pipes direct. All water-closets with the house must be supplied from special tanks or cisterns, the water of which is not used for any other purpose. A group of water-closets may be supplied from one tank; but water-closets on different floors shall not be supplied from one tank. In tenement houses there must be a separate system for each water closet, excepting in a cellar or unfinished basement cistern may be dispensed with, and one water closet must be provided for each of two families.

Sec. 25. The overflow pipes from water-closet cisterns may discharge into an open sink or where its discharge will attract attention and indicate that waste of water is occurring; but not directly into soil, waste, drain vent or sewer pipe. When the city pressure is not sufficient to supply these cisterns adequate pumps must be provided.

Sec. 26. The valves of cisterns must be so fitted and adjusted as to prevent waste of water.

Sec. 27. Water-closets, when placed in the yard, must be separately trapped and so arranged as to be conveniently and adequately flushed, and their water supply pipes and traps must be protected from freezing. The compartment for such water-closets must be ventilated by means of slatted openings in the doors and roof.

Sec. 28. Tanks for drinking water if indispensable, must not be lined with zinc or galvanized iron. They must be constructed of wood or iron or may be lined with planished copper. The over-flow pipes shall discharge upon the roof or be trapped and discharge into an open sink, but never into any soil, waste-pipe, water-closet trap, drain or sewer. Discharge pipes from such tanks shall not be so constructed as to discharge into any sewer, connected soil or waste pipe.

Sec. 29. Rain water leaders shall not be used as soil, waste or vent pipes; nor shall any soil or vent pipe be used for a rain pipe. Where the leader opens near windows or light shaft, it must be properly trapped far enough below surface to prevent freezing. The joint between leader and roof shall be air-tight. Sheet metal or slip joints shall not be allowed inside of any building.

Sec. 30. No steam, exhaust, or blow-off pipe, or drip-pipe shall connect with the sewer or with any house drain, soil or waste pipe. Such pipes shall be discharged into a tank or condenser from which a suitable outlet to the house drain shall be provided.

Sec. 31. Yards and areas shall be properly graded, cemented, flagged or well paved, and properly drained. When there are drains connected to the house drain they must be effectually trapped, and protected by means of back-water valves.

Sec. 32. Cellar and foundation wall shall, where possible, be rendered impervious to dampness, and asphaltum or coal tar pitch in addition to hydraulic cement shall be used for that purpose.

Sec. 33. The general privy accommodations of a tenement house shall not be permitted in the cellar, basement or under sidewalks.

Sec. 34. Wooden wash-trays and sinks are prohibited inside of any building; they shall be non-absorbent material.

Sec. 35. No catch basin shall be allowed in any building.

Sec. 36. Where a water-closet is located on a floor not more than six feet from the ground (within building) and no fixture or fixtures connected, or to be connected to pipe, the main vent may be dispensed with, but in all such cases the two-inch re-vent must be connected so as to ventilate such fixtures.

Sec. 37. Where a sink, bath tub, wash bowl, wash tub, urinal, or any other plumbing fixture is located on a floor not more than six feet from the ground (within building), and no fixture or fixtures connected or to be connected to waste pipe, the two-inch waste pipe with increaser shall be run to and through the roof; re-vents may be dispensed with, provided the trap of the fixture is not more than five feet from the waste pipe.

Sec. 38. Pan closets will not be allowed in any building.

Sec. 39. No privy vault will be allowed on premises where there is a main sewer in street.

Sec. 40. Special permits will be issued by the chief inspector only. Where special permit is used the location must be inspected before work is started.

Sec. 41. The commissioner of health shall be notified in writing when work is ready for inspection.

Sec. 42. Any person, or persons or corporation, who shall violate any of the provisions of this ordinance shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not exceeding two hundred ($200) dollars, nor less than twenty-five ($25) dollars, for each offense, and a further penalty of not less than twenty-five ($25) dollars for each day such violation shall be allowed or suffered to continue. And after the first fine shall have been imposed upon any person or persons having a plumber's license from the city of Chicago for any violation of any of the provisions of this ordinance, the mayor may revoke the license of any such person or persons at once.

Sec. 43. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances conflicting with this ordinance be, and the same are hereby repealed.

Sec. 44. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

EXTRACTS FROM THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF CHICAGO FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF LICENSED PLUMBERS.

2342. Any person desiring to do business in connection with the water works of the city of Chicago as a plumber, shall first obtain a license as such plumber from the department of public works, and shall pay a fee of one dollar therefor, which fee shall be paid to the cashier of the water office of said city, who shall account for the same as all other receipts which come into his hand belonging to the water fund of the city, and no person shall receive such license who shall not have attained the age

of twenty-one years and have an established place of business within the limits of said city, and who shall not furnish the commissioner of public works with satisfactory evidence of his responsibility and skill to ply his trade, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the department of public works and the ordinance of the city.

2343. Every person desiring such license shall file, with the commissioner of public works, a petition, in writing, giving the name of the firm, if he shall be one of a firm, and each member thereof, and place of business, asking to become a licensed plumber, and said petition shall be accompanied by a bond, signed by two or more sureties, to be approved by the commissioner of public works, in the sum of three thousand dollars, conditioned that he, or they, will indemnify and save harmless the city of Chicago, from all accidents and damages, caused by any negligence in either the execution or protection of his work, or for any unfaithful or inadequate work done under and by virtue of his license; and that said licensee, as such, will also conform to all the conditions and requirements of the city for his government, or, in default thereof, will submit to such penalties as are, or may be, prescribed by the city council for the government of licensed plumbers.

2344. Any change of the firm name, or location of business, must be promptly reported to the commissioner of public works. and the license shall be kept in a conspicuous place at the place of business.

2345. When two or more persons are co-partners, licenses shall issue in the name of the firm or co-partnership, and no license shall be transferable.

2346. Any plumber who shall be guilty of a violation of any of the provisions of this article shall forfeit his license, and shall be subject to a fine upon conviction of not less than ten dollars nor more than one hundred dollars.

2347. All licensed plumbers shall be held responsible for all acts of their agents or employés, done by virtue of his or their said license. No license shall be granted for a greater period than one year, nor the unexpired portion thereof: all licenses shall expire on the last day of December in each year, unless sooner revoked.

2348. All applications for permits for the introduction or use of water shall be made in writing, upon the printed forms furnished by the department of public works, the blanks to be specifically and properly filled in and signed by the owner. or duly authorized agent of the owner, and no work whatever shall be done in the street, or outside a building, by any plumber or other person, until after the issuance of such permit. This restriction shall not prevent licensed plumbers, or other persons, from rendering assistance in case of accident to service water pipes, occurring at night, or at any time requiring immediate action; *provided, however*, prompt report shall be made at the department of public works, and a permit for the occasion secured.

2349. No person except the tappers employed by the department of public works will be permitted, under any circumstances, to tap the street main, or insert stop cocks or ferrules therein; all service cocks or ferrules must be inserted at or near the top of the street main, and not in any case nearer than six inches from the bell of the pipe; the size of the cock to be inserted shall be that specified in the permit.

2350. In making excavations in streets, alleys or highways, for the laying of service pipes or making repairs, or for any other purpose, the paving material and earth removed must be kept separate and deposited in a manner that will occasion the least inconvenience to the public, with provision for the passage of water along the gutter, and a safe passage for foot travel.

2351. No lead pipe shall be used in any work done under the authority of a license issued by the city of Chicago, except such as is known to the trade as "strong," and must weigh as follows:

Half-inch	internal	diameter,	1¾	lbs.	per	lineal	foot.
Five-eighths	"	"	2½	"	"	"	"
Three-fourths	"	"	3	"	"	"	"
One-inch	"	"	4	"	"	"	"
One and one-fourth	"	"	4¾	"	"	"	"
One and one-half	"	"	6	"	"	"	"
One and three-fourths	"	"	6½	"	"	"	"
Two-inch	"	"	8	"	"	"	"

No pipe shall be used for the purpose of street service of a different material or size than herein specified, except by special permit.

2352. All service pipes leading from the street main to the building line shall, so far as practicable, be laid in the ground at a depth of not less than five feet, and said pipe shall be laid in such manner and be of such surplus length as to prevent breakage or rupture by settlement, and all joints in said pipes must be of the kind termed "plumber or wiped joints." The connections of pipe by the so-called "cup joint" is prohibited.

2353. Every service pipe must be provided with a stop and waste cock for each consumer, easily accessible, placed beyond damage by frost, and so situated that the water can be conveniently shut off and drain from the pipes.

2354. Said stop-cocks, unless otherwise especially permitted, shall be connected to service pipes within the sidewalk, at or near the curb line of the same, and be enclosed in and protected by a cast-iron box, with a cover having the letter "W" of suitable size cast thereon; said iron box must be of form and dimensions satisfactory to the commissioner of public works, and must extend from service-pipe to surface of sidewalk, and be of proper size to admit of a stop-key for operating the stop-cock.

2355. Whenever two or more distinctive buildings or premises are to be supplied by means of branch or sub-service pipes, supplied by a single tap in the street main, each branch must be independently arranged with a stop-cock and box on the curb line in the manner above described. All cocks used at the sidewalks by licensed plumbers shall be of the kind known as "round water way."

2356. Before filling the trench, the service-cock in the street main must be covered with a suitable cast-iron box furnished by the city, the earth must be well rammed under the main, to a level of the top thereof; from thence the trench must be filled in layers of not more than twelve inches in depth, and each layer thoroughly rammed or puddled to prevent settlement. This work, together with the replacing of sidewalks, ballast and paving, shall be done in all cases by the city. A sufficient amount must be deposited with the city, before issuing the permit for opening the street, to cover this expense. In all cases where the street to be opened has been recently paved with blocks, sufficient of the paving must be removed so that the foundation boards or planks, if any, can be taken up without cutting. No permit shall be granted for the opening of any paved street for the tapping of mains, or laying of service pipes, when the ground is frozen to a depth of twelve inches or more, except when in the opinion of the commissioner of public works there is a sufficient emergency to justify it.

2357. Plumbers are prohibited from connecting pipes whereby steam boilers may be supplied with the water direct with city pressure. All such boilers shall be provided with a tank or other receptacle of sufficient capacity to hold at least six hours' supply in case of pipe district being shut off to repair mains or to make connections or extensions. In such cases the city of Chicago will not be responsible for a lack of water for steam boilers or for any other purpose.

2358. No alteration or addition whatever, in or about any water meter, conduit pipe, or water cock, in connection with the water supply to any building or premises, shall be made or caused to be made by any plumber,

or any person caused to be made by any plumber, or any person whomsoever, without first obtaining a written permit so to do from the commissioner of public works.

2359. No water meter shall be connected with the water supply pipes of any building or premises, until such meter shall be tested and approved by the commissioner of public works, and a special permit granted therefor.

2360. Wherever any material change is to be made in the plumbing work, beyond that specified in the permit therefor, the plumber is hereby required to give previous notice to the commissioner of public works, presenting the original permit for correction and record.

2361. Any plumber or other person who shall turn on the supply of water to any building or premises from which the supply has been shut off by the commissioner of public works, on account of non-payment of water rate, or for any other cause, or shall cause the same to be done without having first obtained a written permit for so doing, shall be subject to a penalty of not less than ten dollars nor more than one hundred dollars for each offense.

2362. No water-closet or apparatus of any kind shall be connected with the water supply, through which the water will pass, when such water-closet or apparatus is not in use.

2363. All work done by licensed plumbers shall be subject to the inspection, supervision and approval of the commissioner of public works, and all faulty or defective work which may at any time be discovered shall be made satisfactory to the commissioner of public works, and no further permit will be issued to the party in default until this section shall have been fully complied with.

2364. All permits issued for any work to be done under the authority of this article shall be returned to the commissioner of public works within twenty-four hours after the work shall be completed, and such permits shall contain a written statement of the facts, and the time the water was turned on for use, which shall be signed by such plumber.

2365. Any plumber whose license shall be declared forfeited by the commissioner of public works, for a violation of any provision of this article, shall not again be entitled to do work under this article, unless said declaration of forfeiture shall be revoked by the said commissioner.

2737. 1.—No occupant or owner of any building in which the water is introduced shall be allowed, without permission, to supply other persons and families. For any violation of this provision, the supply shall be stopped and the amount paid forfeited.

2.—Whenever two or more parties shall be supplied from one service-pipe connecting with the distributing main, the failure on the part of any one of said parties to comply with any provision of this section shall authorize the commissioner of public works to withhold the supply of water from such service-pipe, without any liability whatsoever, and all payments made shall be forfeited.

3.—No addition or alteration whatever, in or about any conduit, pipe or water-cock, shall be made or caused to be made by any person taking the water, without notice thereof first given to and permission had in writing from said commissioner.

4.—All persons taking the water shall keep their own service-pipes, stop-cocks and apparatus in good repair, and protected from frost at their own expense, and shall prevent all unnecessary waste of water, and no claim shall be made against the city by reason of the breakage of any service-cock or service-pipe.

6.—Applications for water must state fully all purposes for which it is required; and upon the payment of the semi-annual charges, parties must answer truthfully all questions put to them relating to its consumption. In case of fraudulent representation by the applicant, or the use of water

for purposes not embraced in the applicant's application, or of willful or unreasonable waste of water, the said commissioner shall have the right to stop the supply of water, unless the offender shall promptly pay such additional charge as said commissioner may impose.

7.—The officers of the department of public works, and every person delegated for such purpose, shall have free access, at proper hours of the day, to all parts of every building in which the water is consumed, to examine the pipes and fixtures, and to ascertain whether there is any unnecessary waste of water.

2757. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons in any manner to interfere with any main or service-pipes of the city without permission therefor obtained from the department of public works, under the penalty of not less than $10 for each offense.

2758. Any person who shall turn on the supply of water to any premises from which the supply has been, on account of non-payment of water rent or for any other cause, turned off by the city, without having first obtained a permit so to do from the department of public works, shall be subject to a fine of not less than $10 nor more than $200, and liable to be excluded from using water for twelve months thereafter.

2762. No person shall in any manner obstruct the access to any stop-cock connected with any pipe within any street, alley or common of said city, by means of any lumber, brick, building material or other article, thing or hindrance whatsoever, under a penalty of not less than $5 nor more than $50.

1075. No permit shall be granted to any person or persons, corporation or corporations, to open a paved or improved street or alley, unless the party applying therefor shall have first deposited with said commissioner a sum of money sufficient to cover the expenses of replacing the same in as good condition as before opening. Said opening shall in every case be replaced by the city, and the actual cost thereof shall be borne and paid by the person or persons, corporation or corporations, for whom such opening was made.

JOHN D. WARE, M. D.,
Commissioner of Health.

CHARLES H. GEORGE,
Chief Tenement, Factory and Smoke Inspector.

REGULATIONS AND CERTIFICATE OF INSTRUCTIONS.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

VENTILATION OF ROOMS.

Every habitable room must have at least one window opening directly upon the street or yard, or upon a court or light shaft.

LIGHT AND AIR SHAFT.

Every light and air shaft for habitable rooms must be at least twelve square feet in area for a three-story house; sixteen square feet in area for a four-story house, and twenty square feet in area for a five-story house; and in every case not less than two feet wide in the clear. Shafts between two houses and common to both, must be of double this area and not less than four feet wide.

Where the sides of the shaft are allowed by the department of buildings to be constructed of studding, they shall be extended above the roof

not less than three feet, be covered with openings protected by slats and glass to admit light, so arranged as to admit air, said opening to be at least equal in area to the area of the shaft.

VENTILATION OF WATER-CLOSETS.

Water-closets shall not be ventilated by a shaft which ventilates habitable rooms; and where they do not open otherwise to the external air, they must be ventilated by means of a separate shaft not less than three square feet in area, to extend above the roof, and to be arranged for the admission of light and air at the top in like manner as the shafts for rooms.

ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS.

No alteration in the light and ventilation of any buildings or approved plans shall be made, except upon the express written approval of the commissioner of health; nor shall any additional structure be erected upon the lot except upon such approval and a special permit.

WINDOWS.

The windows of habitable rooms which open on shafts shall be hung with weights so as to slide vertically, each window to be not less than twelve square feet in area.

Q. Will you kindly state, officer, what knowledge, if any, you have of the existence of so-called sweat shops in this city? A. I have no knowledge whatever except from personal inspections, and that only as to the sanitary conditions; as to the hours of work or rates of pay and wages earned, I know nothing only what I have heard from going around with various committees at various times. But as to any personal knowledge of my own I know nothing only in regard to the sanitation of those places, which I know to be very bad. This is a list of sweating shops, or so-called sweating shop or places wherein people are employed, that have been visited by the health department; and that is not a complete list for we have other similar lists:

507 Laflin street, Anton Benisch, proprietor; basement shop; 34x20x8; 6 males, 2 females employed; vault in yard.

571 Laflin street, T. Sasck, proprietor; coats: shop 22x30x9; 8 females, 5 males employed; 2 vaults in yard.

471 15th street, A. Magrdle, proprietor; 13 persons employed, 9 females, 4 males; size of shop 28x18x8; 2 vaults in yard.

441 15th street, C. Schultz, proprietor; 1 basement shop, 15x 12x8; 3 females, 2 males employed; vault in yard.

153 W. Taylor street, J. Kustka, proprietor; coats; shop 15x 21x9; 1 female, 2 males employed; vault in yard.

457 Jefferson street, rear; shop 25x20x8; 2 females, 3 males employed; vault in yard.

146 W. Taylor street, J. Hynck, proprietor; size of shop 25x 20x9; 2 females, 3 males employed.

648 18th street, Jozef Tuma, proprietor; size of shop 21x 24x11; 9 females, 3 males employed; vault in yard.

474 14th street, B. Wawrecka, proprietor; size of shop 10x 12x9; vault in yard; 6 females employed.

496 19th street, L. Korski, proprietor; shop; 2 females employed..

458 W. 19th street, J. Kucera, proprietor; size of shop 25x 23x10; 8 females, 4 males employed; 2 vaults in yard.

39 Fisk street; size of shop 56x20x9; 13 females, 4 males employed.

389 17th street, S. Swartz, owner; size of shop 20x25x10; 11 females, 4 males employed; vault in yard.

811 17th street. Louis Martinek, proprietor; size of shop 25x 12x7; 3 females, 2 males employed; 2 vaults.

556 Center avenue, F. Dushek, proprietor; size of shop 22x 20x9; 2 males, 1 female employed.

403 16th street, B. Bendik, proprietor; size of shop 20x10x9; 2 females, 1 male employed; vault in yard.

40 Nutt street, R. Wonsley, proprietor; basement shop; 2 females.

193 W. Taylor street, 1 shop 35x30x9; 11 females, 6 males employed.

144 W. Taylor street, J. Plake, proprietor; size of shop 20x 30x8; 9 females, 4 males employed; 2 vaults.

120 W. Taylor street; size of shop 10x10x8; 4 males, 1 female; 3 vaults in yard.

207 W. 14th street, A. Liss, proprietor; 4 females, 8 males employed; size of basement shop 20x40x7; 2 closets under sidewalk.

213 W. 14th street, J. Goldberg, proprietor; size of shop 20x 30x7; 3 males employed; 2 closets in yard.

520 S. Morgan street, A. Grishoff, proprietor; size of shop 14x 16x8; 1 male employed; 2 closets in yard.

208 W. 14th street, L. Melka, proprietor; 8 females, 5 males employed; 20x35x12; pan closets.

219 W. 14th street, Levison & Cohen, proprietors; 4 females, 5 males; size of shop 25x30x13; 3 closets.

510 Throop street, A. Plass, proprietor; 2 females, 2 males employed; size of shop 18x20x8; 3 closets in yard.

219 W. 14th street, J. Goldberg, proprietor; 5 females, 10 males employed; size of shop 25x25x12; 3 closets in yard.

203 Washburn street, A. Kauffman, proprietor; size of shop 24x45x8; 16 females, 4 males employed; 2 closets in yard.

387 W. 16th street, J. Vina, proprietor; size of shop 20x24x8; 4 females, 3 males employed; 2 closets.

495 W. 15th street, Wm. Rommal, proprietor; 3 females, 2 males employed; size of shop 15x21x10; 2 closets in yard.

471 W. 15th street, A. Megrdle, proprietor; size of shop 18x 28x8; 9 females, 4 males employed; 2 closets in yard.

210 W. 14th street, A. Cohen, proprietor; 8 females, 11 males; size of shop 20x45x13; 2 closets in yard.

1095 W. 20th street, J. Heban, proprietor; basement shop 20x24x8; 6 females, 2 males employed; 1 closet in yard.

1071 W. 20th street, F. Ploetz, proprietor; size of shop 20x 24x7; 2 females, 1 male employed; 2 closets in yard.

914 W. 20th street, Wm. Treder, proprietor; size of shop 24x 32x12; 4 females, 4 males employed; 2 closets in yard.

899 W. 20th street, R. Morkinton, proprietor; size of shop 20x20x6; 4 females, 4 males employed; 2 closets in yard.

831 W. 20th street, Miss A. Azuflitowski; 2 females, 1 male employed; size of shop 20x20x8; 2 closets under sidewalk.

1297 W. 17th street, A. Praska, proprietor; 8 females, 3 males employed; size of shop 18x24x9; 2 vaults in yard.

802 S. Ashland avenue, A. Fiala, proprietor; size of shop 18x 22x8: 2 females, 1 male employed; 1 pan in building.

13 Pearce street—No such number.

172 Clayton street, F. Baumel, proprietor; size of shop 20x 30x10; 2 closets in basement; 13 females and 7 males employed.

133 DeKoven street. J. Zsadil, proprietor; 5 females, 2 males employed; size of shop 18x24x9; 3 vaults in yard.

1221 Hinman street, L. Svikhart, proprietor; size of shop 24x 34x9; 12 females, 3 males employed; 2 closets in yard.

1257 Hinman street, E. Figar, proprietor; size of shop 20½x 32x10; 9 females, 4 males employed; 2 vaults in yard.

176 Washburn street, F. Wher, proprietor; 6 females, 3 males employed; size of shop 14x16x8; 2 closets in yard.

2866 Main street, F. Wichmann, proprietor; 2 females, 1 male employed; size of shop 12x12x9; 2 closets in yard.

1210 Albany avenue, J. Marton, proprietor; size of shop 20x 30x12; 10 females, 3 males employed; 2 vaults in yard.

1189 Albany avenue, J. Vabecik, proprietor; 8 females, 2 males employed; size of shop 20x25x12; 1 vault in yard.

610 Throop street, F. Balik, proprietor; 7 females, 2 males employed; size of shop 24x30x10; 2 closets in basement.

608 Throop street, J. Rernicik, proprietor; size of shop 18x 30x12; 7 females, 3 males employed; 1 pan closet in house, 2 in yard.

633 Throop street, J. Vinopal, proprietor; size of shop 20x24 x10; 9 females, 3 males employed; 3 closets in basement.

547 W. 20th street, J. Beask, proprietor; size of shop 30x25 x10; 2 vaults in yard; 6 females, 4 males employed.

514 18th street; 15 females, 5 males employed; size of shop 50x25x9; 2 closets in yard.

580 W. 14th street, W. Silkanek, proprietor; size of shop 15x30x9; 6 females, 2 males; vault in yard.

594 Blue Island avenue, J. Peklo, proprietor, coats; size of shop 75x20x8: 18 females, 6 males; 2 closets.

509 16th street, J. Cirny, proprietor; size of shop 37x24x10; 8 females, 4 males; vault in yard.

618 Loomis street; size of shop 20x14x9; J. Sanfl, proprietor; 3 females, 4 males employed; 1 vault in yard.

609 Loomis street; size of shop 30x60x9; 16 females, 8 males employed; 2 vaults in yard.

636 Loomis street, J. Brousek, proprietor; size of shop 22x 25x8; 5 females, 4 males employed; vault in yard.

565 17th street, M. Roylan, proprietor; size of shop 15x10x 9; 1 female employed.

593 Blue Island avenue, J. Willimorsky, proprietor; size of shop 75x20x15; 3 males, 5 females employed.

493 Henry street, J. Gresens, proprietor; size of shop 60x40 x11; 3 closets in yard; 30 females, 10 males employed.

493 Henry street, J. Gresens, proprietor; size of shop 30x40 x10; 3 closets; 7 males employed.

715 18th street, J. Vorda, proprietor; size of shop 22x24x10; vault in yard; 8 females, 4 males employed.

1019 W. 12th street, L. Roeder, proprietor; size of shop 20x 28x12; 3 people employed; 1 closet.

562 20th street; size of shop 20x10x9; 6 females, 4 males employed; vault in yard.

514 18th street, R. Muscheck, proprietor; size of shop 20x25 x8; 2 females, 2 males employed; closet in hall.

589 S. Canal street; size of shop 15x30x10; 5 females, 8 males employed; 2 vaults in yard.

629 W. 12th street, L. Weist, proprietor; 1 female, 1 male employed; vault in yard.

854 Ashland avenue, size of shop 30x20x10; 5 females, 4 males employed: 2 vaults in yard.

1019 W. 12th street; size of shop 50x38x12; 1 closet flush: 16 females, 4 males employed.

24 Zion place; size of shop 20x18x9; 2 females, 2 males employed; vault in yard.

562 20th street; size of shop 20x10x9; 3 females, 2 males employed; J. Svolbada, proprietor.

40 Cornelia street; vacant house.

355 W. Ohio street; vacant house.

68 Fry street, J. Balousek, proprietor; size of shop 12x14x7½; 5 females, 4 males employed; 2 vaults—poor place.

12[illegible] W. Huron street, Z. B. Larson, proprietor; size of shop 20x44x1[illegible]; [illegible] closets in basement; [illegible] females, 4 males employed —good shop.

126 Melrose street, K. Gulke, proprietor; 6 females, 3 males employed; size of shop 20x34x7; 1 vault.

72 Dix street; never was such a place.

236 Townsend street, H. Lyberg, proprietor; 10 females, 3 males employed; size of shop 28x40x10; 1 closet in building.

236 Townsend street, C. J. Eklind, proprietor; size of shop 26x40x10; 14 females, 8 males employed; 1 closet in building.

236 Townsend street, Q. Lundon, proprietor; 11 females, 4 males employed; size of shop 20x40x10; 1 closet in building.

947 W. North avenue, T. Schrider, proprietor; 6 rooms in shop; 2 closets.

170 Potomac avenue, C. Nelson, proprietor; 4 females, 1 male employed; size of shop 15x20x9; 2 closets in yard.

42 Wendell street, O. Lyberg, proprietor; 14 females, 5 males employed; size of shop 26x28½x10; 2 closets in basement.

31 Kroll street, A. Stoak, proprietor; size of shop 22x40x10; 3 vaults; 16 females, 3 males employed.

284 W. 20th street, J. Hrouek, proprietor; 3 females, 4 males employed; size of shop 20x30x12; 2 vaults in yard.

786 Van Horn street, A. Fencel, proprietor; 7 females, 3 males employed; 2 closets under sidewalk; size of shop 20x22x10.

27 Emma street, F. Ksandr, proprietor; size of shop 25x40 x11; 2 vaults; 10 females, 5 males employed.

40 Emma street, H. Schareder, proprietor; 2 females, 2 males employed; size of shop 15x20x11; 2 water closets.

49 Emma street, A. Vacker, proprietor; size of shop 18x30 x10; 4 females, 3 males employed; 1 vault.

70 Emma street, G. Litenski, proprietor; size of shop 20x30 x11; 11 females, 4 males employed; 2 vaults.

72 Emma street, T. Jaloby, proprietor; size of shop 18x22 x11; 5 females, 2 males employed; 2 vaults.

74 Emma street, J. Kovar, proprietor; size of shop 20x22 x11; 2 vaults; 7 females, 3 males employed.

920 W. 18th street, Mr. Polega, owner; 3 females, 1 male employed; size of room 16x18x8; 2 closets in yard.

133 Brown street, J. Plouzk, proprietor; 15 females, 6 males employed; size of room 24x30x10; 2 closets in building.

74-76 Johnson street, J. Sommer, proprietor; 1 female, 3 males employed; size of shop 12x24x10; 1 closet.

74-76 Johnson street, John Nemes, proprietor; 3 females, 4 males employed; 1 closet in building.

809 W. 20th street, J. Koller, proprietor; 16 females, 5 males employed; 4 closets.

127 W. 16th street, Wm. Mueller, proprietor; 5 females, 3 males employed; 1 closet in yard.

927 W. 17th street, C. Franz, Son & Co.; 13 females, 6 males employed; size of shop 20x36x9; 2 closets in yard.

32 O'Brien street, F. Suva, proprietor; 6 females, 5 males employed; size of shop 18x20x10; 3 closets in yard.

745 W. 18th street, J. Dworak, proprietor; 2 females, 2 males employed; size of shop 12x14x10; 2 closets in building.

653 W. 18th street, J. Blaha, proprietor; 7 females, 4 males employed; size of shop 18x20x10; 3 closets in yard.

723 W. 20th street, C. Radcliff, proprietor; 1 female, 1 male employed; size of shop 12x16x8; 2 closets in yard.

927 W. 18th street, A. Bagda, proprietor; 9 females, 2 males employed; size of shop 24x48x10; 3 closets in yard.

219 W. 20th street, R. Lenkie, proprietor; size of shop 12x17 x8; 2 females, 1 male employed; 1 vault.

652 W. 20th street, A. Amman, proprietor; size of shop 10x 12x9; 2 females, 4 males employed; 2 vaults in yard.

684 W. 20th street, rear, A. Schultz, proprietor; size of shop 24x30x ; 2 vaults in rear.

403 Loomis street, W. Rheinfels, proprietor; size of shop 20x 15x8; 7 females, 2 males employed; vault in yard.

774 W. 20th street, J. Moresh, proprietor; size of shop 8x10 x8; 2 males, 1 female employed; vault in yard.

787 W. 20th street, J. Borchert, proprietor; size of shop 22x 20x8; 2 people employed; 2 vaults in yard.

633 Center avenue, L. Smith, proprietor; 1 female, one male employed; 15x12x8 size of shop; vaults in yard.

464 Center avenue; size of shop 40x23x9; 2 females, 2 males employed.

617 18th street; size of shop 20x18x9; 2 females, 1 male employed; vault in yard.

J. Kousal, proprietor, 62 Fisk street; size of shop 15x10x8; vault in yard.

60 Fisk street; size of shop 24x20x8; 2 females, 3 males; vault.

146 Newberry avenue, S. Bernsen, proprietor; coats; basement workshop; 25x50x8½; 5 females, 9 males employed; 11 windows; 2 vaults in yard.

221 DeKoven street, M. Rasset, proprietor; pants; workshop 20x30x9; vault in yard; 2 females, 2 males employed.

146 Blue Island avenue, F. Koroski, proprietor; shop 20x15x 8; 2 females employed; vault in yard.

407 S. Halsted street, Mrs. Cohlan, proprietress; shop 20x15 x8; 2 females employed; vault in yard; also 1 male employed.

503 S. Halsted street, L. Herman, proprietor; shop 18x18x9; 2 people employed; vault in yard.

39 Kramer street, S. Rosemblum, proprietor; 2 females, 1 male employed; shop 25x20x9.

31 Kramer street, C. Kavonack, owner, J. Novack, proprietor; vests; shop 20x20x9; 2 vaults in yard.

24 Kramer street, H. Prince, proprietor; coats; size of shop 25x50x9; 18 males, 6 females employed; 6 windows for light; 2 vaults.

1111 Blue Island avenue, Mrs. Krause, proprietress; basement shop, 12x15x9; 1 female employed.

167 Hastings street, C. Lippe, proprietor; shop 15x12x9; 2 females employed.

463 Union street, I. Woolf; coats; work-shop 15x20x9; 3 males, 1 female employed; 2 windows; 1 closet in hall.

145 Newberry avenue, M. Sgojsa; coats; basement work-shop, size 42x21x9½; 13 females, 7 males employed; 13 windows; 2 vaults in yard.

197 DeKoven street, W. Cevek, proprietor; size of shop 20x 15x9.

183 DeKoven street, J. Lank, proprietor; coats; shop 20x 20x10; 1 vault in yard.

1111 Blue Island avenue, Mrs. Johnson, proprietress; size of shop 12x15x9; vault in yard.

925 Leavitt street, E. Nanies; pants; shop 20x26x7; 2 vaults in yard; 1 male, 3 females employed.

120 Quincy street, S. Silverman & Co., proprietors; size of shop 14x24x13; 5 males employed, 1 male; 2 windows for light; 3 tank closets.

209 E. Van Buren street, Wm. Schumann, proprietor; size of shop 16x16x14; 2 windows for light; 1 male employed; 3 closets under sidewalk.

120 Quincy street, Ehrenberg & Emanuel, proprietors; 5 females, 5 males employed; size of work-shop 25x35x15; 3 windows; 1 door; 3 tank closets.

185 W. Jackson street, Mrs. O. E. Trites, proprietress; shop 0x24x12; 1 window; 3 doors; 1 tank.

218 W. Polk street, W. Goldfish, proprietor; 6 rooms; 1 female, 1 male employed; 2 closets in yard.

1183 California avenue, F. Hueby, proprietor; 2 females, 1 male employed; size of room 12x13x12; 3 windows; 1 door; 2 closets in yard.

441 S. Desplaines street. J. Kada, proprietor; 1 female, 1 male employed: 2 closets in yard.

974 W. 20th street, V. Mares, proprietor; 1 female, 3 males employed; size of shop 12x14x10; 2 closets in yard.

1078 W. 20th street, Miss A. Haller, proprietress; 3 females employed; size of shop 12x15x10; 2 closets in yard.

1022 W. 20th street, Mrs. H. Gutke, proprietress; 4 females employed; shop 8x20x9; 1 closet in yard.

183 DeKoven street, J. Lank; shop 20x24x14; 1 closet in yard.

1177 California avenue, V. Mrazek, proprietor; shop 14x20x13; 1 closet.

906 Van Horn street, M. Dougale, proprietor; 14 females, 5 males employed; shop 23x45x9½; 1 closet in rear building—very filthy place.

57 Fisk street, E. Schmetzer, proprietor; size of shop 15x20x9; 5 females employed; vault in yard.

G. Polega, proprietor, 920 W. 18th street; size of shop 20x 20x8; 2 females, 1 male employed; vault in yard.

920 W. 18th street, W. Polega, proprietor; size of shop ——; 2 females, 2 males employed; vault in yard.

313 13th street; size of shop 15x12x8; vault in yard; 2 females, 1 male employed.

952 S. Leavitt street; size of shop 20x18x9; J. Pecka, proprietor; 2 vaults in yard.

642 Throop street; 2 people employed; J. Spina, proprietor.

656 Throop street, A. Herda, proprietor; size of shop 50x 25x9; 15 females, 5 males employed; 2 vaults in yard.

668 Throop street, Mrs. Wolpeck, proprietress; size of shop 10x15x9; 1 female; vault in yard.

663 Allport avenue, J. Jirrsa, proprietor; size of shop 29x 20x9; 6 females, 4 males employed.

666 Allport street, A. Hurten, proprietor; 1 person employed.

670 Allport street, J. Suchan, proprietor; size of shop 28x 16x9; 7 females, 5 males employed; 2 closets in yard.

707 Allport street; size of shop 25x20x9; 1 female, 1 male employed.

777 Allport street, W. Kuhn, proprietor; size of shop 25x16x9; 5 females, 2 males employed; 1 closet under sidewalk.

Q. How long ago were those places visited by the department? A. All within this last year and a half.

Q. Were you one of the party that went with the committee during the course of their investigation this last week? A. Yes, sir.

Q. From your knowledge and experience as an officer of the health department of this city, what, if any, suggestions have you to offer for the remedy of the sweat shop evil? A. Well, I think to begin with that proper ordinances ought to be enacted, or proper laws passed to give the health department proper power to go through those places, to visit them, and to compel them all, through the owners of the buildings, to be put in proper sanitary condition. I would also suggest an increase in the force of the health department, which is now altogether too small to cope with it, from the fact that the sanitary department to-day has but 34 men, of which number one is employed as entry clerk, another is employed as clerk of the smoke department, there is one building clerk, that is, to take care of all the plans; in other words there are four or five of that number used as clerks; there are 11 men used for plumbers on new buildings, and I think there are 9 in the smoke department. The entire thing comes under one head with 34 men. It is so divided that there are not more than 6 to 7 men that are left to do the sanitary work—not more than 9 at the outside. The plumbers should make two inspections of every new building that is erected in Chicago, and they have numbers of complaints that come in, and they have to investigate them. The districts are entirely too large for the men to cover to do effective work, and I would also suggest that measures be taken to provide the city with more men to clean it up. The city is now three times as large as it was three years ago, and the health office is provided with very little more than it had then. I would also suggest a remedy, or rather a possible remedy, for the garbage contract system. I don't think that legislation of any kind can be made to touch those people who are working in their homes, if they want to. I don't think that anybody can be asked for leave to toil. I think that the betterment of the sanitary conditions and enforcement of sanitary laws would be the true way to start, and I think also that it would be a great deal better to look at the sources and the causes instead of the effect. I think that a great cause of it is competition among the manufacturers, and they ought to be compelled to provide factories for their factory people to work in. I don't think that any tenement house where people are eating and sleeping ought to be allowed to be used as a factory; but in individual cases where a man and his wife work in their own rooms, I don't think we could touch them further than to compel them to keep their place in good sanitary condition. I think every bit of clothing made in Chicago, or work of that kind, ought to be done in manufactories furnished with fire escapes, and every sanitary condition furnished and compelled

to be furnished, and the sooner it is done the better. It is only a question of how to do away with the present system with less hardship to those poor people who are employed in the work at present, and dependent upon it for their livelihood. There are other places too; there are lodging houses and larger manufactories, and over-crowded houses, stove works and cutlery works that are much worse, in my opinion,—much worse than those, full of gasses and noxious vapors and grinding dust of all sort from all sorts of machinery. I think the lodging house evil is one that ought to be taken care of under sanitary laws. Where you find 10 or 15 people cooped up in a room 10x12. There is another great source of danger of infection from contageous diseases, and that is people aggregating and living in basements with their families. Whole families of men, women and children crowded down into a dark, noisome, foul-smelling basement, as I have seen them. It is enough to drive one crazy to go in there and see them. The Chinese opium joints ought to have a little healthy law administered to them, too. I would like to state one instance in order to show the difficulty under which the department of health labors in the proper prosecution of the violators of the ordinance. In the case of a certain building which was erected last year, one of our numerous sky-scrapers that is owned by a stock company, of which a great many of them are well-known to all the voters of Chicago, where the plumber and the architect proceeded openly to violate the sections of the plumber's ordinance, after having been passed by the common council, as shown by this pamphlet. We served notice on them to desist, which they did. They afterwards proceeded again. We summoned them before the courts. The case was continued three or four or five times. At last we got a conviction, and the next thing was a stay order granted by the council at the suggestion of somebody, presumably the stock-holders. I simply revert to that to show that in my estimation, had it been a poor man that was putting up a three-story building, he wouldn't have got the staying order, and he would be compelled to do his work according to the ordinances.

Q. Is there anything further you want to suggest to this committee? A. No, nothing more, unless it should be brought out by further questions. There are so many things that perhaps I ought to have noted them down or written them out.

Q. During the visits of the committee, at which time you were present, did you not point out to the committee a number of violations of the city ordinances on the subject of arrangement? A. I would state, in answer to that, that the committee didn't visit one single place but what had violated one or another of the ordinances of the city of Chicago, in regard to its sanitary laws. I didn't visit one single place with the committee that I didn't observe some violation of the same, more or less aggravated.

Q. You have stated the inability of the city to cope with it? A. Yes, I would state, as supplementary to that, that, wherever we get a notice from any one, calling attention of the health officer to any place that is in an unsanitary condition, we always visit it, and do what we can to have the matter remedied, and in 90 cases out of 100 we succeed in doing so, one way or the other; but it is utterly impossible for the health office, with the force it has in its employ, to visit one-sixteenth of the places, but we have to do our best to keep up and attend to the written complaints that come into the office. I would like to say that I have, from my experience in Chicago, and from my knowledge and experience as a builder and contractor, from my knowledge of buildings in general, I would say that every building, such as the committee visited, that is occupied in part or in whole by manufacturers, or even by people living in them, should have such a law passed as would enable the health officers to compel the owner to put them in proper sanitary condition, or cause them to be vacated; one way or the other. I think it is a shame that rich men, who have plenty of money, should be allowed to collect rent from such hovels as the committee visited; and, if they are allowed to, they should obey the city laws and keep them in proper condition to live in. The committee has visited places that I wouldn't allow my dog to sleep in, if I thought anything of him. I would like to state, in regard to child labor, that there is an ordinance here applying to child labor, but it is, in my mind, altogether useless. I will read it to you:

"1920. Infant under fifteen—employment regulated. That no person, having the right and power to prevent the same, shall knowingly cause or commit any child under 15 years of age to be employed at night in any place where machinery is used, or more than eight hours in any day, at any trade or employment, and then only between the hours of 7 o'clock A. M., and 6 o'clock P. M.

Q. That ordinance is continually violated? A. It is an ordinance that is continually violated. I see them every day, but we have no power to stop it, because it says that they shall not be employed at night in any place where machinery is used. You can employ children six years of age, under the regulations, and you have no power to stop it. People very often talk. There are a great many adverse criticisms made on the health office. They imagine that all they have to do is to go ahead and stop it. I see it every day. They can go through the city and see what ought to be done, but they never see what has been done. The amount of work that has been done by the health office in the last two years is enormous, but it can't be seen: the city is growing too fast.

George Muller, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. State your name, occupation and place of business? A. My name is George Muller; at present I am State Lecturer of the Farmers' Alliance.

Q. Where do you reside? A. In Chicago.

Q. You have a knowledge of the sweat shop system as it is practiced in this city, have you? A. Yes, sir; to a certain degree. I have not investigated it within a year or two. Three years ago I went over it quite thoroughly, on my first visit to Chicago, with an inspector from the health department. I appear here on behalf of the Knights of Labor by request of the district officials of district 24 of this city, to suggest remedies for the evils which are generally admitted to exist in connection with the sweat shop system, and appear because of my known relation to legislation relating to the same matter in the State of New York, where for three years I was a member of the state legislature from the workingmen's assembly, and helped to draft legislation on the tenement inspection and factory inspection up to 1890; and what I have to suggest is that municipal organizations have never been able to reach the matter or the disease that has been spread. Those laws are always the poorest enforced of any in the category of legislation; and it is not within the experience of anybody who has made a study of this matter, that they have ever been effected in employing a remedy. The necessity exists wherever there is manufacturing of any sort in any city for a state bureau of factory inspection, which shall govern all the state, reaching the small manufacturing towns as well as the large manufacturing towns. Because if a thorough investigation was made of this matter it would be found that the sweat shop evil was not confined to the city of Chicago. In every town of any size where manufacture is carried on—manufactory of clothing and other lines of manufacture—it will be discovered that conditions akin to those that have been revealed here exist; and no law can be fair and just unless it is comprehensive in its scope and reaches all manufactures and lines in all parts of the state. A thoroughly organized bureau of factory inspection upon a liberal basis, calculated to be adequate to meet and remedy the evil, as has been done in places where this matter has already been dealt with, but dealt with in an adequate manner. Our experience in New York was that the legislature was disinclined to deal with the matter effectively. They simply proposed to give the labor organizations enough to satisfy them, and prevent any dissatisfaction that the members of the legislature who were called upon to consider this matter might have. There should be a law enacted which would first embody the prohibition of child labor under 15 years of age. In our first effort in New York we succeeded in getting prohibition under 13 years. The law was afterwards amended to fourteen years, but it should be fifteen years, and it should read: "A child under 15 years of age, or apparently under 15 years of age," so that it would be within the province of the court to say whether the child from appearances should be adjudged

to be under 15 years of age, because the parents will probably swear falsely. Several cases for perjury were brought against parents in the State of New York because they swore falsely in regard to the age of their children, and it is necessary to protect the child against those who ought to be its protectors—their parents. That is one of the most important things in connection with this matter. The employment of children is the most fearful evil that you have been called upon to consider. The question of sanitation should be also taken into consideration, and a board of inspectors should be empowered to recommend such sanitation as they shall deem necessary, and enforce its suggestions. The same should be done as to fire escapes. Every remedy necessary to be employed in this connection should be employed. There should be prohibition also in the use of dwelling houses as factories, and people should not be allowed to be employed in their own rooms, that is members of a family; but I don't know as that can be reached, because we may interfere with the livelihood of people who couldn't secure their bread and butter in any other way; but at least the use of a dwelling or any part of a dwelling by members of the family as a workshop should be positively prohibited. I should be glad to answer any questions that I may be able to answer, but I want to suggest about all that in dealing with this matter the advice that is given out of the experience of those who are connected with labor organizations, should be practically heeded, because they are the only ones who have given attention to this matter, which qualifies them for the position of advisors. I am not a mechanic, or one who is naturally a member of labor organizations, but have given my attention to it, first, philanthropically in my experience of fifteen years in my state of New York. I think that the only persons practically qualified to give advice on these questions are those who are connected with labor organizations, those who have given their time and thought to this matter, and who are interested in it at heart, philanthropically interested. The best philanthropists to-day are the members of the labor organizations. I think you will discover that municipal legislation is the poorest of all legislation, and the law should be enforced under state supervision.

Mrs. Florence Kelly, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. Noonan:

Q. Please state your name, occupation and place of residence? A. My name is Florence Kelly; I live at 335 South Halsted street, Chicago, and I am now an expert of the department of labor at Washington, but I was, last summer, special agent of the Illinois Bureau of Labor Statistics, appointed expressly for the purpose of investigating the sweating shops, and the home finishers for the sweating shops here in the city.

Q. Will you please state your knowledge of the existence of the so called sweating shop evil, and what, if any, suggestions have you to offer for the remedy thereof? A. Well, while in that

capacity, I made a room to room investigation, a canvass of the regions in which the sweating shops are most numerous. I visited between 900 and 1,000 shops and rooms, in which clothing was being made. I found employed Russians, Germans, Bohemians, Italians, Scandinavians, but when I looked over my record of people with whom I had spoken, or whose signatures I had got for the purpose of assuring myself of their nationality, I did not find one native American employed either in a shop or as a home finisher. I had nothing to do with the inside shops, only with the sweat shops. The first thing which I noticed in my investigation was the uniformity of filthy surroundings. The first afternoon that I entered upon the work, I came upon a home finisher at 98 Ewing street—it was the second Saturday afternoon in June. The woman had on her lap a baby, wrapped in Italian fashion, with a swelling in its neck, which the mother told me was a scarlet fever swelling; and spread upon the baby, and partly covering it, and coming in contact with its head, was a cloak, which this mother was sewing, which bore the tag "M. F. & Co." It was being finished for a sweater in the neighborhood. I have kept a record of cases of infectious diseases which I found, and they include seven cases of unmistakable infectious diseases, and those were all in finishers families. It is important to note that there is constantly a doubt expressed as to whether it is possible to limit the work of people at home in their own rooms, and not directly in a shop, and not employing persons who are not members of their own families. Now, I will give you a copy from my note book, which I took at the time; I will give you those seven cases. The first Saturday afternoon in June I found this scarlet fever case at 98 Ewing street. The mother was working alone, and employed no one else, in her own bedroom. At 65 Ewing street, the following week, I found a case, in a Sicilian family, where four children were just recovering from scarlet fever, and cloak making had been carried on continuously throughout the illness. On the second Sunday afternoon in July I found, at 145 Bunker street, a Bohemian customs' tailor, sewing a fine, customs cloak, not more than six feet from the bed; and on this bed his little boy lay dying of typhoid fever, and I ascertained that the child died of typhoid fever the following week. At 128 Ewing street I found a diphtheria notice posted, and the patient suffering on the ground floor, in a rear room, with cloaks being finished in the room in front, and knee pants in the room overhead. At 365 Jefferson street I found a case of measles, with women finishing cloaks in the same room with the patient. This was the case to which Dr. Alderson called my attention. At 136 Ewing street I found two children, Francisco and Mary Sergello, finishing knee pants in their mother's bedroom, while suffering from a most aggravated case of scabaies—the itch. This was so aggravated that they had been banished from the childrens' clubs, because it was dangerous for

them to come in contact with other children, and I saw them rubbing their faces and the scales falling on the clothing that they sewed.

Q. What quality of clothing was that? A. Very poor clothing. At 11 Polk street, on the 15th of September, a child died of malignant diphtheria. The work of cloakmaking and knee-pants finishing went on in in the room with the patient, and in the adjacent rooms, and I myself saw bundles of knee pants carried out of an adjacent room to the sweaters' shop at 257 Polk street. I think that makes seven cases, and it is of importance to note that none of those cases of infectious diseases was in a sweater's shop, and each of them was in a family where the family alone worked without employing other help. I also observed in the manufacture of plush cloaks and of expensive fur-trimmed cloaks some of the filthiest places which I visited, and those cloaks are wholly incapable of disinfection by pressing, even if pressing were a disinfecting means, because fur cloaks are never pressed, that is fur-trimmed cloaks, and plush cloaks are never pressed; and throughout the time during which my inspection was made it was principally heavy winter cloaks that I found in process of manufacture among those home finishers. Now, as to the health of the employés, they suffer intensely. The people employed at the sweat shops suffer not only from coming in contact with the clothing which has been finished in the finishers' homes, and from working in ill-ventilated shops, frequently underground, but they also suffer from the excessive speed at which they are compelled to work foot-power machines, and this is true not only of young girls and growing boys, but also of men, in those shops in which any such men are employed. I can't swear that I found in any shop a man able to keep up the regular speed who was over 40 years old. When I inquired as to the age of the employés, I constantly found that the men who looked old and broken-down, and as though they might be well on towards sixty, were early in the thirties. One case which I have since found to be typical came to my attention of a young man about 33, named David Silverman. He had been operating a machine in the ordinary sweaters' shops since he was 14 years old, and was entirely incapacitated by exhaustion from further work. The physicians who examined him agreed in stating that he was suffering from premature old age, and at 33 he was superannuated and wholly dependent upon charity for supporting himself and his five children. I found a large number of cases in which the children were supporting fathers who ranged in age from 38 to 45 years, and were incapacitated purely by reason of having speeded the machine from fifteen to twenty years. The effect of the machine work on young girls and boys was very conspicuous. The effect of speeding machines was seen in the prevailing waxy color of the children's faces, both in the shops and in their homes. I constantly found young people between 15 and 20 who were temporarily disabled by ex-

haustion, consequent upon speeding their machines; they were weak from exhaustion. So that the poverty of the sweaters' victims results not only from the low wages which they actually receive while at work, but from the fact that the work wears them out so that their earnings are limited to a very few years of their life.

Q. How about the wages paid in those places? A. I found that the wages for girls ranged from nothing to the highest that I found—I found one girl for one week in the height of the season to be working 15 hours a day for seven consecutive days at seam binding, which is the heaviest work in the trade, and is usually done by strong men, she earned $18. I found an able-bodied girl speeding a machine making knee pants for nothing, and she told me, and the man beside her corroborated her statement, that she had been working three weeks for nothing; and three men in the shop told me that they had earned their places by working six weeks for nothing. In the same shop, at the southwest corner of Jefferson and Taylor streets, on the fourth floor, over a saloon, I found three little girls, who were absolutely illiterate, sewing on buttons and finishing knee pants for nothing. They were said to be learning the trade. The lowness of the wages is further enhanced by the habit of the sweaters of running away and paying none. A man who is going into the sweating business frequently rents a room for a week, hires his hands for a week, requires them to supply sewing machines, and gets a contract of work which will employ them about a week. At the end of the week he turns in the goods, gets the money and leaves the neighborhood. In one case, a week after seeing such a sweater in a shop in the 19th ward, I found the same sweater working in the same temporary manner in the neighborhood of Dickson street and Milwaukee avenue. I found dozens of cases in which sweaters had moved away and had paid none of the wages which they owed their employés. In one case I found a debt of $40 to a single family, on the part of a sweater who left in this way and went to Brooklyn. The municipal ordinances are partly incapable of enforcement, and partly unenforced by reason of the inadequacy of the staff, and there is no hope of any improvement in the activity of the board of health by reason of simple agitation of the subject, for agitation has been thoroughly tried during the past year, and the committee has seen the results of it. The only hope of an improvement in the condition of the people engaged in the manufacture of clothing in this city is in stringent legislation and the further organization of the victims of the clothing manufacturers. Those victims themselves, so far as they are organized at all, unanimously endorse the cloakmakers' bill and urge its passage at the earliest possible date. And it is the judgment of the employés in the trade, whom I know very thoroughly by reason of my canvass amongst them, and it is most emphatically my own judgment, that any meas-

ure which does not prohibit the manufacture of clothing in any dwelling by any woman or child, will wholly fail of its object. I herewith submit the bill:

AN ACT to regulate the employment of women and children in manufacturing establishments, factories and work-shops, and to provide for the appointment of inspectors to enforce the same.

Hours of labor.

SECTION 1. No minor under eighteen years of age, and no woman shall be employed in any factory or work-shop more than eight hours in any one day or forty-eight hours in any one week.

No clothing for sale to be made in any dwelling.

Sec. 2. No process of making or finishing, altering or repairing for sale any coats, vests, trousers, overcoats, or any wearing apparel of any description whatsoever, intended for sale, shall be carried on in any dwelling by any woman or by any child under sixteen years of age.

No child under fourteen years to be employed in any factory, etc.

Sec. 3. No child under fourteen years of age shall be employed in any manufacturing establishment, factory or work-shop within this state. It shall be the duty of every person, firm, corporation, agent or manager of any corporation employing children to keep a register in which shall be recorded the name, birthplace, age and place of residence of every person employed by him, her or them, under the age of sixteen years; and it shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to hire or employ in any manufacturing establishment, factory or work-shop any child over the age of fourteen years and under the age of sixteen years, unless there is first provided and placed on file an affidavit made by the parent or guardian stating the age, date and place of birth of said child; if said child have no parent or guardian, then such affidavit shall be made by the child, which affidavit shall be kept on file by the employer, and which said register and affidavit shall be produced for inspection on demand by the inspector, assistant inspector or any of the deputies appointed under this act. The factory inspector, assistant inspector and deputy inspectors shall have power to demand a certificate of physical fitness from some regular physician of good standing in the case of children who may appear to him or her physically unable to perform the labor at which they may be engaged, and shall have power to prohibit the employment of any minor that cannot o tain such a certificate.

Affidavit, register, certificates.

Posting notices.

Sec. 4. Every person, firm or corporation, agent or manager of a corporation employing any woman or minor under the age of eighteen years in any manufacturing establishment, factory or work-shop, shall post, and keep posted, in a conspicuous place in every room where such help is employed, a printed notice stating the hours for each day of the week between which work is required of such persons, and in every room where children under sixteen years of age are employed, a list of their names with their ages.

Must read and write easy sentences.

Sec. 5. No child, under the age of sixteen years and over fourteen years of age, shall be employed in any manufacturing establishment, factory or workshop, who cannot read or write simple sentences in the English language, except during the vacation of the public schools in the city or town where such minor lives.

Definition of manufacturing establishment.

Definition of workshop.

Sec. 6. The word "manufacturing establishment," wherever used in this act, shall be construed to mean any place where goods or products are manufactured for sale, or repaired, cleaned or sorted, in whole or in part. Whenever any house, room or place is used for the purpose of carrying on any process of making, altering, repairing or finishing, for sale, any

coats, vests, trousers or overcoats, or any wearing apparel of any description whatsoever, intended for sale, it shall, within the meaning of this act, be deemed a workshop.

Penalty clause.

Sec. 7. Any person who violates or fails to comply with any provision of this act, or who employs, or suffers or permits any person to be employed, either in his own business or in the business of any corporation of which he is manager, and any parent or guardian of any child, who shall suffer or permit any such child to be so employed, in violation of its provisions, shall, on conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than $50, or more than $100, and, in default of payment of such fine, by imprisonment in the county jail for not less than thirty nor more than ninety days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Creating inspector, assistant inspector, deputy inspectors, of whom five shall be women.

Salary.

Term of office.

Powers.

Duties.

Sec. 8. The governor shall, immediately after the passage of this act, appoint a factory inspector at a salary of two thousand dollars a year, and an assistant factory inspector at a salary of fifteen hundred dollars per year, and ten deputy factory inspectors. of whom five shall be women, at a salary of one thousand dollars each. The salaries of the factory inspector and deputies provided for in this act, shall be paid out of the funds of the State not otherwise appropriated. The term of office of the factory inspector shall be three years and the assistant factory inspector and deputy factory inspectors shall hold office during good behavior. The said inspector, assistant inspector and deputy inspectors shall be empowered to visit and inspect, at all reasonable hours, and as often as practicable, the factories, work-shops and manufacturing establishments in the State, where the manufacture of goods is carried on, and the inspector shall publish, on or before the thirteenth day of November of each year, a report of the work performed by them. It shall also be the duty of the said inspectors to enforce the provisions of this act, and to prosecute all violations of the same before any magistrate or any court of competent jurisdiction in the State.

Expenses, how provided for.

When paid.

Sec. 9. All necessary expenses incurred by the inspectors in the discharge of their duty shall be paid from the funds of the State, upon the presentation of proper vouchers for the same, approved by the factory inspector and audited by the comptroller, provided that not more than $5,000 shall be expended by them therefor in any one year. The reasonable necessary traveling and other expenses of the deputy factory inspector while engaged in the performance of their duties, shall be paid in like manner upon vouchers approved by the factory inspector and audited by the comptroller. All expenses shall be payable monthly.

Repeals.

Sec. 10. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

When to take effect.

Sec. 11. This act shall take effect immediately.

Mrs. Emily Wakeman, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. Hine:

Q. Please state you name, occupation and place of residence? A. Emily Wakeman; I am head nurse of the Visiting Nurses' Association.

Q. Now, tell what you know of the conditions surrounding the sweat shops during your investigation of them? A. I know nothing at all about the sweat shops; I have had no occasion to go into the sweat shops except in passing. It is only in the

homes where they do the work that I have been and that I know of. The first case I noticed was on Ewing street, I think it 140 Ewing street; it was a year ago last summer, in the month of August, that a child died in one week's time from malignant scarlet fever—what they call black scarlet fever. The day the child died they pulled the sign off the door, and the whole time the child was ill, and while it lay dead in the room, they made fur-trimmed cloaks which were traced to Marshall Field's retail shops and to Mandels'. Diphtheria is not as infectious as scarlet fever, but this was malignant scarlet fever, of which the child died, and there was nothing under the sun done to keep the garments out of the way; the garments were exposed.

Q. What kind of garments were they? A. They were very good garments, lined with satin—sealskin and very expensive fur. There was also on Forquer street two children ill with diptheria; they were Italians, and the whole time that the children were ill they were finishing those knee trowsers for one of the sweaters. I never once saw a single house, with the exception of two tailors on Union street, in which the sanitary conditions of the house were not injurious to health. Of course I constantly see those cases of typhoid fever—I see them still—where people are employed making garments in a room where the typhoid fever is. The germs of typhoid are not carried in that way, but it is not a safe thing.

Q. Did you discover any other place in which malignant diseases occurred? A. One place where scarlet fever occurred, and one place diptheria. I constantly meet such cases; it is an every day occurance, and where the men are away at work and the women are working at home.

Q. Is there much danger in those cases? A. In cases of typhoid fever I don't think there is much danger, but in cases of scarlet fever it ought to be punishable by law as a crime, because it is most dangerous. People who come into that shop where the scarlet fever is can be contaminated. I think the sweating system is the biggist outrage that ever existed. The germs of scarlet fever can remain in a garment for two years. It can be hung up in a room and the children of the family can take the illness from it after two years, even after it has been steamed and fumigated.

Q. In this case where those fur garments were manufactured the germs of that disease could be carried? A. Well, it is utterly impossible that they should not be carried; of course typhoid fever is not so dangerous, but it is not at all safe, but diphtheria is very dangerous.

Q. Have you any opinions to offer, or any remedies, for the improvement of this state of things? A. Why, that the health inspectors should do their work; that is all I could say, and that the doctors should be looked after more closely; that they should be required to report those cases, and I think there ought

to be inspectors who should visit every house in which those garments are made, to see that there are proper sanitary arrangements. I think my nurses do more than anybody in the city to stop it, because they go right into the rooms and see those things and they tell them.

Q. Those are trained nurses, are they? A. Trained nurses who visit the poor.

Abraham Cahan, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. State your name, occupation and place of residence? A. Abraham Cahan; I live in New York; my occupation is editor of a workingmen's paper, the *Arbeiter Zeitung*, the official organ of the united Hebrew trades of the city of New York.

Q. Have you any knowledge or experience in relation to the sweat shop system, and if so, will you kindly state it? A. Yes, sir; the great majority of the unions represented in the united Hebrew trades are connected with the clothing branches, the tailoring line, and having been connected for eleven years with that movement, I have had ample opportunity to see the system in all its ramifications, and I would state that the sweating system under which the work is done is responsible for the great difference in the economical condition of those people, and the average American workingman, when you come to compare his condition in the city of New york and his surroundings with the neighborhood inhabited by the victims of that system, or compare the people working in regular factories, the difference is very striking. Under the sweating system they can't afford as good a lodging as the workman who is free from that ill; not only that, but he can't afford to pay his rent, and he is compelled to take lodgers to share his rooms with, and all that is due to the sweating system; that is instrumental in keeping down the standard of wages, because they are overworked. While in factories they would probably work no more than ten hours a day, as the custom is, for the electric power or the force that runs the machinery stops working; in those sweating shops there is nothing to control them, and they work on an average between fourteen and fifteen hours a day in the busy time. They don't work at all in the slack time, and of course in the slack time they have to pawn everything they have been able to buy in the busy season in order to live. In fact, it is the case that those men supply too much labor, and the market is always overstocked, pretty nearly always, even in the busiest season, when one does more work than he should, and that keeps the standard of wages down. Another thing connected with the sweating system that lies at the bottom of the low wages is that the contractors are scattered throughout the sweating districts, the entire trade being disorganized, disintegrated, keeps the working men from coming together and coming to an understanding, and keeps them from learning the market value of their own labor, so much so that

they can't even take advantage of the benefits that might sometimes accrue from a scarcity of labor. I can cite a case like that. In the Twenty-sixth ward of the city of Brooklyn a few contractors told me the other day that while there was a great scarcity of hands and they were begging the people to come to work, those that did work only got $5 a week, because there is no unity; they are scattered and they don't know each other. The sweating system also cuts the standard of living down. It doesn't give them a chance to become more exacting in their demands. Everything depends on the standard of living, and their standard of living is very low owing to the sweating system. Their wages are accordingly low. So much for the wages. Then, the system of paying the wages to the workman is a very deplorable one. They don't get paid regularly; they don't get weekly payments because there is not that strictly business relationship between the employer and the employé. During the week it remains the relationship of master and slave, but at the end of the week, at pay day, they treat each other as you do in the old country. The boss says, "I owe you money now, but I will give you $2 on account," and it is a very well known fact that many of the victims of the sweating system can't expect to get their full wages at the end of the week. When $10 is due a man, he can't expect more than $3 or $4, in a great many cases. Those working men I very often hear talk, in referring to some of those employers, to the following effect: "That man is a good man; he pays his wages pretty nearly regularly." "I get my wages," one fellow will boast, "pretty nearly in full every Friday." Now, I have not been here very long, but I know the people are laboring under those same disadvantages. I know they suffer from the same evils I have described. I would also say that not only are the cheap clothing made in those shops, but the most fashionable clothing is made, and the filth is unavoidable, because, in a great majority of cases, the sweater himself can't afford to live in separate rooms, rooms apart from the shop, and, consequently, he is overcrowded. The women do the cooking in the same rooms where the work is done. Another evil I would point out would be this, that the extraordinary long hours of work, being the upshot of the sweating system, debar the young men from attending evening schools, or from developing their minds, and there are a great many foreigners that work under that system from various countries, and they are debarred from attending schools in the city of New York where they can learn the English language and familiarize themselves with the customs and institutions of the country.

Q. What suggestions, if any, have you to offer for the remedy of the evil? A. In answer to that question as to the remedy, I would say that the resolutions passed at the mass-meeting held at the Central Music Hall, Sunday, 19th, are in accord with my own ideas in the matter. I would say that a strictly anti-tenement house and anti-sweat shop law, coupled with the appointment of a force of inspectors adequate to grapple with

the thing in the entire state, and also backed up by the good will and energetic coöperation of organized labor, would probably do away with the evil in the course of a few years.

The committee here adjourned until Friday, February 24, at 10 A. M.

FRIDAY, February 24, 1893.

The committee met pursuant to the adjournment at 10 o'clock A. M., in Parlor B of the Sherman House, and proceeded with the taking of testimony.

Mrs. T. J. Morgan, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. State your name, place of residence, and occupation. A. Mrs. T. J. Morgan; 6239 Madison avenue; occupation, housekeeping.

Q. What knowledge, if any, have you of the existence of the so-called sweat shop system in this city? A. From September 18th, 1891, until May 18th, 1892, I made visits to one hundred and eighty-three places, and I only found one place out of this number where the water-closet was in good condition.

By Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. Where were those shops principally situated? A. I found some on the West side, Southwest side, Northwest side, and the North side.

Q. What portions of the buildings did they generally occupy? A. The most in tenement houses, or in some cases where barns have been fixed up as work-shops, and some were in basements and cellars.

Q. What percentage of those you visited, did you find occupying basements and cellars? A. I should think about one-third.

Q. Go on and state to the committee what you found in different visits? A. In one house I found a case of measles; that was 107 DeKoven street.

Q. What do they manufacture there, where you found the case of measles on DeKoven street? A. Little knee pants.

Q. For boys? A. Yes, sir, for boys.

Q. How many people were employed there? A. In one room there was a woman and a child, and in the next room there were three women and two men.

Q. All engaged at this work? A. Making those pants; and in the same building I found one making cloaks for J. V. Farwell & Co.

Q. Did you ascertain who they were making pants for; what firm? A. No, I could not remember just now.

Q. Go on and state to the committee what further you found? A. I found one case of measles on Bunker street; I have forgotten the number of that, and they were making pants there.

Q. How many persons were emp oyed there? A. Only three persons, two women and a man: they kept one room for a workshop and they lived in the kitchen, they had a bed in it, and a sick baby was in the bed in the kitchen. In one case I found typhoid fever. I think this was in the rear of 237 or 239 Maxwell street, I am not certain which, and they were making cloaks there for a firm that I have forgotten the name of, on Van Buren street. I found one case of scarlet fever; this was on Canal street.

Q. On the Northwest side? A. Yes, and they were making cloaks there for J. V. Farwell, and, where the scarlet fever was, it was a woman who had four rooms, and she rented two of her rooms for these sweaters making cloaks, and the cloaks, and the people that were making them, had to pass through the kitchen where the scarlet fever was; but the woman that had the child with the scarlet fever did not have anything to do with the work; she only rented the room, and that place was extremely dirty. There was one place, 68 Maxwell street, at which they made cloaks for Marshall Field & Co.; this was over a barn; the place where they made the cloaks was upstairs, and under it was a barn where they kept horses; there were two horses there, and one of them was dead, and had been dead three days, and the other was in a dying condition; they had been left there because they had got too old to do any work, and we found out the man that those horses belonged to, and he said he did not know what to do with them, until our committee informed him that he should notify the health department; the man did so, and the next day the horse was moved away.

Q. How many people were employed in that shop? A. About five men and two women. That part of the barn that was kept for a workshop was fairly clean.

Q. What proportion of those employed were under the age of fourteen in those sweat shops? A. I should think about one-tenth.

Q. What sex were they principally? A. Girls.

Q. Did you inquire into the rate of wages paid in those shops? A. For the children?

Q. For the children, and for the men and women? A. I did.

Q. Can you state to the committee as to what you found the wages to be? A. The lowest wages I found for children working over ten hours a day, and in some places where they would have to work six days and a half a week, was sixty cents a week, and the highest would be $2.50; that is, for children.

Q. What were the children employed on that only received sixty cents a week? A. They were on vests and coats and pants.

Q. What do they do? A. They picked out the bastings and sewed on buttons, and sewed on little tags. In one shop alone, that was on West Division street, I found twelve children in one shop, and they were all under twelve years of age, and they were getting seventy-five cents a week.

Q. Where, on Division street, is that shop? A. I think it was 256, if my recollection serves me right.

Q. West Division street, or East Division street? A. West Division street.

Q. Were they working piece work in that shop, or were they paid so much a week? A. They were paid so much a day, and some of the women that had been employed there for a great length of time, they were employed on piece work. They showed us the books and, by accident, the sweater and his wife gave us the wrong book to look at. She was going to show us the time book, and instead of that she gave us the book that the wages were on. We looked through it and found that the highest wages paid were $5.40 a week.

Q. What percentage of those employed in the shops were women? A. I think there are more women than there are men in the sweat shops.

Q. What are the average wages you found paid to women? A. All the way from $3 to $7.

Q. How many hours a day do they work? A. Some work ten, ten and a half, up to twelve hours.

Q. Do they work entirely at piece work, or how? A. Some worked day work, and some worked piece work.

Q. What are the men paid? A. The men received all the way from $5 up to $11; that was the highest wages I could find amongst the men.

Q. How many hours a day did they work? A. All the way from ten to twelve hours.

Q. To earn $11 a week? A. Yes, the men that worked those hours were almost all pressers, and they had to stay longer to press the work, so that it would be ready for the operators the next day.

Q. What's the condition of those shops as to cleanliness? A. Very dirty. You would find one once in a while that the sweater would have whitewashed himself.

Q. As to washstands and closets, how did you find them? A. I never found but one place where any washstand or any thing was provided for the workers, and that happened to be a zinc.

Q. Have you inquired as to why the wages are so low in these shops? A. Well, the sweater claimed that they could not pay any more wages for the reason that the manufacturers did not give the prices, and in many cases the sweater claimed that he lost money by it.

Q. You mean by the sweater, the employer of those who work in those sweat shop? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you ascertain how much of the clothes sold by any of those firms that employed sweaters, were made outside of the city? A. That I tried to ascertain from the sweaters themselves. They said, in one case, they were making very handsome cloaks for Marshall Field, and they said those cloaks were sold all the way from $35 to $50 apiece. They were very handsome garments, and then I have seen cloaks made in the shops that I did not think would sell at more than from $3 to $5 apiece; they were cheap goods.

Q. Did you ascertain, Mrs. Morgan, if any of those large clothing firms have clothes made outside of this city? A. No; I did not; except Mandel Bros., and they claimed that they had no goods whatever made in this city; that they all come from the East.

Q Did you ascertain where they were made in the East? A. No; I did not.

Q. Have you any knowledge of where any clothing made in the East are shipped by those firms in the clothing business in Chicago? A. No.

Q. Have you anything further to state to the committee? A. No; I do not think there is any more than that I have a copy of the city laws, which I will leave with you, and I think if those laws were enforced they would clean out all those sweating dens, and people would have healthy places to work in.

Q. Will you state to the committee how long have these sweating shops been in vogue in Chicago to your knowledge or from what you have ascertained? A. I cannot say from my knowledge, but I have been in the work for the last four years.

Q. And they were in existence then—four years ago? A. Yes; this is a copy of a communication accompanied by the ordinance I referred to:

I submit the following communication as a remedy for the evil. Respectfully,

MRS. T. J. MORGAN.

The cause which creates and sustains the sweating system lies in the ability of the sweater to get work done cheaper than is possible under the direct supervision and upon the premises of the manufacturer or firm. This element of cheapness is secured:

1. Through the use by the sweater of living rooms and delapidated buildings, so undesirable in every respect for living purposes or occupancy by human beings that the expense for use is far below that consequent upon the use of buildings especially constructed for manufacturing purposes.

2. By the employment of the most helpless of both sexes without regard to age or physical condition for a greater number of hours each day (Sundays included) and at much lower rates of wages than are usual in the regular factory.

Therefore, the remedy must be sought in the removal of the causes. As a means to this end, I respectfully make the following recommendations:

1. The prohibition by the under penalty of any one and all processes of manufacture in buildings erected for dwellings.

2. That all buildings used for manufacturing purposes must be made to conform in sanitary and other requirements of State laws.

3. That all places where manufacturing is carried on in any form shall be licensed by the State, such license to be issued to the actual manufacturer or firm, and not to the sweater.

4. That all manufacturers be required to forward to the Secretary of State each month a sworn statement of the number of employés, ages and sexes, hours of labor, accidents and total earnings of employés during the preceding month.

5. That the State require that all manufacturers mark their goods sold or offered for sale within the State with such label as will inform the intended purchaser or the public that such goods have been manufactured according to the requirements of the law.

6. That absolute prohibition of the employment of children under fourteen years of age; that instead of the child being sacrificed because the family is dependent on its small earnings, that the child be saved by the State furnishing the needy family at least the equivalent of the child's labor.

7. That the United States require similar labels for all goods sent outside the State in which they were manufactured.

8. That merchants of manufactures exporting manufacture goods to other states should be required to have a United States license before mentioned and also be required to furnish like monthly reports to the United States Commissioner of Labor or the Secretary of State.

The matter of wages we know is beyond the power of legislation except by the improvement of the conditions which prevail.

CHILD LABOR.

Sec. 1357. That no person having the right and power to prevent the same shall knowingly cause or permit any child under fifteen years of age to be employed at night where any machinery is used, or more than eight hours in any day, at any trade or employment, and then only between the hours of 7 o'clock A. M., and 6 o'clock P. M.

FEMALES (EXCLUSIVELY).

Sec. 1. It shall be the duty of all employers of females in any mercantile or manufacturing business or occupation, to provide and maintain seats for the use of such female employés, and to permit to a reasonable extent the use of such seats by such employés during the hours of their employment, for the preservation of their health.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the department of health to make inspection of all mercantile and manufacturing occupations and establishments where females are employed, to ascertain if the first section of this ordinance is complied with, and to institute and prosecute suits of the violation of said section 1.

Sec. 3. Any employer violating any of the provisions of this ordinance, shall be subject to a fine of not less than five dollars, nor more than one hundred dollars for each and every offense.

WAGE WORKERS (GENERALLY).

Sec. 1349. That no person being the owner, proprietor, lessee, manager or superintendent of any store, factory, workshop or any other place of employment where workmen and workwomen are employed for wages, shall cause, permit or allow the same or any portion or apartment of, or any room in said store, factory, workshop or other structure or place of employment, to be overcrowded or inadequate, faulty or insufficient in respect of ventilation and cleanliness; and in every such building or apartment, or room in any such building, where one or more persons are employed as aforesaid, at least five hundred feet of air space shall be allowed to each and every person employed therein, and the air changed or renewed by ventilation at least once in every twenty minutes during the hours of employment.

Sec. 1350. All such places of employment or service shall be kept in a cleanly condition, free from the affluvia of a sewer, drain, privy, stable or other nuisance, also as far as practicable from all gases, vapors, dust or other impurities generated by manufacturing processes or otherwise and injurious to health. Sufficient and separate privies and urinals shall be provided for male and female employés and such privies shall be ventilated.

Sec. 1351. The commissioner of health shall visit or caused to be visited by an officer, all such places of employment or service within the city at least once a month, to see that the provision of this article is complied with, and shall have such arrangements made as may be deemed necessary for the safety and health of the employés, pursuant to the terms of this article, and such laws as may be in force concerning health and sanitary measures.

Sec. 1352. The commissioner of health shall annually during the first quarter of each and every fiscal year, place full and detailed statistical reports of the work of the inspectors before the city council. The report shall specify the following:

1. Number of males and females of all ages employed; also number of girls and boys under fifteen years of age employed.

2. The number of violations of this article and the number of abatements, with detailed accounts of improvements effected.

3. General and special sanitary condition of all people in labor or service in factories, workshops, stores, warehouses, elevators, yards and domestic workrooms.

4. Number and kind of dangerous and unhealthy employments, and diseases of the several trades and occupations.

Sec. 1356. That no person having the right and the power to prevent the same, shall knowingly cause or permit any person to sleep or remain in any cellar, or in any place dangerous or prejudicial to health, by reason of want of drainage or ventilation, or by reason of the presence of any poisonous, noxious or offensive substance or otherwise.

Sec. 1360. Every such building shall be provided with good and sufficient water-closets or privies, and shall have proper doors, traps and soil-pans and other suitable works and arrangements, so far as may be necessary to insure efficient operation thereof.

Sec. 1361. Such water-closets or privies shall not be less in number than one to every twenty occupants of said house; but water-closets or privies may be used in common by the occupants of any two or more houses, provided the access is convenient and direct, and provided the number of occupants in the house for which they are provided shall not exceed the proportion above required for every privy or water-closet.

Sec. 1365. Every tenement or lodging house shall have proper and suitable conveniences or receptacles for receiving garbage and other refuse matter. No tenement or lodging house, nor any portion thereof, shall be used as a place of storage for any combustible article, or any article dangerous or detrimental to health, nor shall any horse, cow, swine, pig, sheep or goat be kept in said house.

Sec. 1366. The walls and ceilings of tenement houses to be whitewashed twice at least in every year, and in the months of April and October. * *

Sec. 1871. No privy vault shall be opened, nor the contents thereof disturbed or removed between the hours of 6 o'clock A. M. and 10 o'clock P. M. of any day, nor shall contents be buried or deposited within the city.

Sec. 1488. * * * All cesspools and privy vaults shall be water-tight, and when on lots adjacent to sewers, to be connected with same. * * Any person * * neglecting to comply with the provisions * * of this act, shall be liable to a fine of $25 for failing to comply with the same within a reasonable time (not to exceed thirty days) after notice from the health officer, and a fine of $5 for every day's neglect and failure thereafter to comply with the provisions of said section four.

Sec. 1628. No unsound or decaying animal matter allowed to remain more than twelve hours within the city or within one mile of the limits thereof.

Sec. 1642. * * Foul or offensive privies are declared a nuisance.

Sec. 1401. That no decayed or unwholesome vegetables shall be brought into said city to be consumed or offered for sale for human food, nor shall such articles be kept or stored therein.

Samuel Kohn, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. What is your name? A. Samuel Kohn.

Q. Where do you live? A. No. 170 Aberdeen street, Chicago.

Q. Chicago? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is your business? A. I am the manager of Jos. Beifield & Co.

Q. What is the business of Jos. Beifield & Co.? A. Manufacturing cloaks.

Q. Exclusively cloaks? A. Exclusively cloaks.

Q. They do not manufacture anything else? A. No, sir.

Q. Where are the cloaks manufactured that are sold by Jos. Beifield & Co.? A. Manufactured partly in the house, on the corner of Jackson and Market streets, and partly outside by contractors.

Q. Where outside are they manufactured? A. Outside, in different parts of the city.

Q. Do you have any cloaks manufactured outside of this city or State? A. No, sir.

Q. In how many different places are they manufactured in this city? A. Well, at present we have about thirty different places, but in the season we have as many as forty, which is in the fall.

Q. What is the price of your cloaks, the cheapest grade of cloaks you manufacture? A. As low as $1.75 apiece.

Q. And the highest? A. The highest is $35 or $40.

Q. You make all grades of goods? A. All grades of goods from the cheapest to the best.

Q. Do the contractors you let this work to, make all grades? A. No, sir.

Q. What grade or class are manufactured by those small contractors? A. All grades from $1.75 to $12 or $13.

Q. The better grades of goods are made in the house? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How much is paid by your firm for the manufacture of cloaks to the contractor? A. Through the year or by the piece?

Q. By the piece?———A. Well, it varies; all the way from thirty cents to $3; it all depends on what class it is.

Q. Who has charge in your firm of letting those contracts? A. I am the man.

Q. Do you visit those places where the cloaks are made? A. Well, two or three times a year; some of them oftener who do more business for me; but there are places that I never go to.

By Senator Mahoney:

Q. What is the highest priced cloak that you have made by a contractor in Chicago? A. Well, every year has a different style; this year seems to be a plain class of goods. I cannot describe them, but $2 is the most we pay an outside contractor.

Q. That is the most you pay for this style of cloak? A. Yes, to an outside contractor.

Q. What was the lowest you paid this year for a cloak? A. The lowest, which is for a garment which we sell to the wholesaler for$1.75, we pay fifty-five cents for making; for that he simply does the sewing; the pressing and and button-holing is done in the house; some people get pressing and button-holing done outside, but we do not.

Q. What was the highest you paid a contractor last year for cloaks? A. About the same thing, as near as I can remember.

Q. How many years have you been manager? A. I am manager five years there, but I am with the concern eleven years.

Q. During the last five years, since you have been manager, is $2 the highest you have paid a contractor, commonly called sweater, for a cloak? A. No, sir, that I would not state, because ladies clothes are different from mens; every year there is a different style, and anything made last year we could not duplicate this year, because we could not sell it.

Q. What was the highest you paid for a cloak last year? A. I cannot tell, but there were many as high as $3 apiece, and maybe higher.

Q. What do those cloaks retail for, that you paid the contractor $3 for? A. I know what we get for them, but I do not know what they retail for.

Q. What do you get for them? A. About $19 apiece.

Q. The garment that you pay the contractor $3 for making you get at wholesale $19 for? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is the lowest? A. About fifty cents is the lowest we ever pay for a garment.

Q. What do you get for such a garment? A. $1.75.

Q. And that is a fair average for the last five years? A. I think so; to my knowledge they do not give any cheaper labor. There are some things that people are more practical in doing. Wherever you see a plush cloak on the street, they are all alike, and a man who could make one plush garment before, he could make to-day two, because they are quicker in handling it.

Q. You say that your business compels you to visit these contractors about three times a year? A. Well, as far as that is concerned, I am compelled sometimes more; there are certain parties that I have more dealings with—larger manufacturers—and I have to rush over and see the garments and push them along.

Q. Have you been compelled since you are manager to visit any of the tenement houses where work of this kind is done, in any part of the city. A. No, sir; I do not know of any tenement houses where people are working for us; I do not know of any tenement houses at all.

Q. What would be the cost of the material which go into a $19 cloak? A. Well it varies from $2.25 to $3 a yard.

Q. How many yards in a garment? how much would the goods in a garment cost? A. It all depends on the style, or if there is a cape on it it takes considerable more goods, or if it is a plain garment it takes less, and it all depends on the grade of lining that is in it, so if it is trimmed with fur, which is very expensive. You cannot state anything as to how much the material costs in a garment like that.

Q. Then you do not know of your own knowledge as manager for this house, the condition of the people who manufacture your garments in the several different divisions of the city of Chicago? A. If I know their condition?

Q. You do not know their condition? A. I do most of them, I know their conditions; in fact, most of them are people who are working for us for eight or nine years, or maybe longer.

Q. What kind of an establishment do they run? A. Some of them have stores, and they run as many as from five to fifteen machines.

Q. Do they send out any of their work from those stores? A. Yes, sir; yes, sir, they send it out to finish.

Q. They employ what is commonly called a finisher? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you ever visited any of those places, the finishers' homes? A. I visited one on Paulina street, 278 Paulina street.

Q. Have you ever visited any others? A. No, sir.

Q. Then during the five years that you have been manager of the house, you visited the home of but one finisher? A. Yes, sir; the reason is this: I give the work to the contractor, he is responsible for the work; I do not care who works for him; he is supposed to deliver the work properly, and if he does not pay the wages to the people, they come to me, and I generally keep the money back. If the man is not straight about it I make the people take a garnishee out for him.

Q You are not familiar with the wages he pays his employés? A. I am; yes, sir; pretty familiar with them.

Q. Do you know the prices that are paid the finisher for a garment for which you pay the contractor 55 cents? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is the price? A. There are different conditions.

Q. The garment for which you pay 55 cents? A. Well, there are different conditions. Those outside people take a garment home, one does the armholes, and the operator inside fells down the face and the sleeves, and for this she received from 4 to 6 cents.

Q. That is 6 cents a dozen? A. No, sir; 6 cents a piece.

Q. You are talking about cloaks? A. I am talking about cloaks.

Q. Is there any finisher on cloaks who gets more than 6? A. Operators get from 25 to 30 cents.

Q. Eor every garment? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Well, there is more than one piece of cloth in a garment? A. Only one piece.

Q. Is shere any trimming on them? A. Only the buttons?

Q. How much do they get for putting buttons on? A. They get paid by the week.

Q. How much a week do they get? A. They tell me they pay all the way from $4 to $8 a week.

Q. For putting buttons on? A. Yes, and for work too.

Q. What are the ages of the employés who put buttons on those garments? A. I visited those shops, and found no one working there less than 16 years of age.

Q. What do they get for putting on the buttons? A. $8 a week.

Q. For putting on buttons? A. Yes, and for doing general finishing on the cloaks.

Q. They are all girls too, that do this work? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You visited one finisher's establishment that was employed by your firm, but only one on Paulina street? A. Not by our firm, but I stated that they were employed by the contractor and took the work home.

Q. That is the only one you visited? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you visit the contractors employed by your firm about three time a year? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did your firm ever take any steps to ascertain where those garments were made; what are the sanitary conditions of the places where they are made, or who makes them? A. You mean the contractors?

Q. No, but if your firm has? A. They leave that to me; I am supposed to take control of that, and see that the garment comes in again in proper shape, and all that.

Q. You have not taken any steps in that matter yourself? A. All I do is, I go to the places and see if it is not calcimined, and I did it last week to one of them. I said "You cannot get any more work from me, until you get this place calcimined."

Q. Is that since this investigation has started? A. I do not know when you started the investigation.

Q. Will you give us the names of your contractors? A. Yes, sir, they are as follows:

O. Brail, 347 South Canal street.
Bernson, 237 Maxwell street.
Bannet, 568 21st street.
Bersfosky, 21 Mather street.
T. Duberstein, 71 Brigham street.
E. Duberstein. 490 Ashland avenue.
Fishman, 86 Bauwaus street near Black Hawk.
S. Greenberg, 560 Jefferson street.
Hakin, 134 West Taylor street.
Herzog, 244 Division street.
Hirschberg, 172 Division street (not working for us).
Jostrom, 501 Halsted street.
Kraus, 673 North Ashland avenue.
D. Karazik, 596 Dixon street.
M. Karazik, 155 Division street.
Koenig, 283 West North avenue.
Levy, 364 14th street.
Loeff, 37 Newberry avenue.
Redman, 677 Elk Grove avenue.
Rosenberg, 589 South Jefferson street.
Stepanovrt, 652 20th street.
Storobinski, 165 Maxwell street.

Q. Have you had any strikes in your shop, that is, your main shop? A. Well, as far as that is concerned, we had one three years ago.

Q. And none since? A. No.

Q. You have not had a strike then for three years? A. No, not our house.

Q. What caused the strike? A. Well, some of them wanted more pay, and some of them had different reasons to strike for, but I know they were glad to come back to work.

Q. It was a question of wages that they struck for? A. Yes, it was a question more of sympathy with the outside strikers; I remember it well now; the outside operators were strikers, and they called the inside operators out; we have about 75 or 80 girls, and they didn't strike; it was only the men.

Q. Do you know the number of cloaks your firm has made in a year, in Chicago, in the sweat shops? A. How many garments?

Q. Yes? A. Well, I should say that outside there are made 80,000 a year.

Q. Have there been any strikes amongst your small contractors—amongst their hands? A. Two years ago there was one.

Q. Do you know what the cause of that was? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you please state it? A. The committee that called on me was headed by a man by the name of Bisno. He stated that they did not want to work for any contractors; they called them sweaters; the reason, they said, was the margin he makes on the cloaks, they could make themselves. Another thing he stated was, that they did not have air enough; the places were not large enough; if they were a coöperative shop, between them they could do better, could make more money and have plenty of air. Finally I told Mr. Bisno that it is just like a man that wanted to build a building. A bricklayer would say to him, "You don't want any architect; give me the job and I will put up the building for you." We must have a contractor who is a tailor to do the business, and those people that are employed by those contractors are not tailors. They are all a lot of people who are taught a lot of work, to sew seams, to cut, etc., and that is all they know, but, as far as finishing is concerned, they know nothing. Finally they were striking, for a week or so. and I came to a conclusion. I sent a written notice to all my contractors that they shall return all the work they have in their houses, that I was going to hire a loft on East Jackson street, and I did, and we paid $75 rent for it, and told all our operators, any one that wishes to come down to that place to work is welcome to come. Finally they did so; they returned all the work, but, instead of the people coming along to work who wanted so much air, there were only two out of 200 that come to work. Well, we got plenty of people to work for us, because they knew our prices were right, but there were some anarchists among them who wanted to agitate this thing and make the people strike. There were certain parties whom we thought were dragged along with these strikes, and we took them back again, and the others we didn't take back to this day.

Q. Have any strikes with your sweater's hands occurred here lately? A. No, sir.

Q. Have you had any strikes since then in the sweaters' hands? A. Two years ago.

Q. How many was there on that committee that came to you? A. Three of them I think.

Q. And they represented the striking sweaters' hands, did they not? A. They represented the Operators' Union.

Q. And they complained they could have no air where they worked? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did they complain about the place being dirty? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did they complain about the small wages? A. Yes, sir; because the margin left to the boss they could make themselves.

Q. Did they call your attention to the profit received by your firm for that $19 cloak? A. I don't think they could do that; they don't know what the cloak costs us?

Q. Did they talk over what the cloak cost you and what your profit was? A. I don't think they did.

Q. Now, you said you rented a loft? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many would that accommodate—this loft? A. Well, that loft was 50 by 80.

Q. Where was it? A. On Jackson street; I think it was 232, right next door to us; I don't exactly remember now.

Q. Have you that place now? A. No, sir; they finished the season there, and then I sent them home again.

Q. That was merely an addition you put to your establishment? A. Yes, sir; I wanted to see if the strike was because they had no air or for some other reasons.

Q. How many hands are employed by these contractors of whom you have given a list here? A. Well, I should say there must be of finishers and operators, well as many as about 300.

Q. Was it the same two years ago? A. Yes, sir.

Q. They could not all fit in this loft on Jackson street? A. No; we don't expect them, because a great many of them did not strike. It was only the Jewish element on Canal street that struck.

Q. On Canal street? A. Yes, sir; that settlement there on Jefferson street.

Q. Have you been up there lately? A. I have been this week to two shops, not on Canal street exactly, but I have been on Newberry avenue.

Q. Have you been on DeKoven street? A. No, sir, I have no tailor on DeKoven street; I will call you the names where we have them: Canal street, Maxwell street, 21st street, Mather

street, Brigham street, Ashland avenue, Bowen street, Taylor street, Division street, Halsted street, Jackson street, North avenue and Newberry avenue. We have every one of those people working for us.

By Mr. Mahoney:

Q. How many months are the workmen who work for your contractors employed? A. They worked last year for fully eleven months.

Q. Out of the year? A. Yes, sir.

Q. That included all the help? A. No, sir. Well, I could not say; the last month in the year we are only making things to order; small orders, and all the places that get work reduce their forces, because they could not employ more.

Q. What are the busy months with the contractors? A. Nine months.

Q. What are those months? A. From January up until about the middle of November.

Q. Those are the busy months? A. Half of January is not very busy.

Q. During that period is the full force in the sweat shops employed? A. There are some months in the year, for instance the month of May, when the winter season commences, they could not employ the full force because they are not sure yet what the styles will be, and they employ about two-thirds of them.

Q. Where do you find a market for your cloaks? A. All over the country.

Q. What percentage of the cloaks you manufacture are sold in the city of Chicago? A. Well, I would not say more than that from 200 garments we sell one.

Q. One garment in the city? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Whom do you manufacture cloaks for in the city of Chicago? A. We don't manufacture for anybody; there are people all over the city who buy cloaks from us, all the way through Halsted street and Milwaukee avenue and State street.

Q. Retail dealers? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What are your arrangements with reference to contractors; do you give them permanent work? A. As far as we possibly can.

Q. Do you have an understanding with them that they should get work during the season? A. We have no understanding; the people who are old hands in the house for 8 years or 10 years, they have the preference.

Q. Do the men compete for every lot of goods, or do you have men that you send so many cloaks to per week? A. No, sir; the arrangement is this: If I have some garments to make,

I have to use my judgment as to what class of garments these men can make. If we have forty contractors, each man has to make a certain class of goods. This man can only do cheap work, and this man can do a better class of work; each garment is different.

Q. Well, what assurance does each one of those contractors have that he will have a certain amount of work? A. We don't give anybody an assurance; if he is a respectable man we give him work, otherwise not, and I am there 11 years. I started as sweeping boy.

Q. State how you distribute this work? A. Well, it is like this. There are some weeks in the year where our force is not as large, in the cutting department, where they cut cloaks; the force is not as large because we have a big stock and we don't sell it; we are waiting for more orders, so we have to stop cutting, and we are compelled to divide what work we have amongst those forty contractors so that each will get a share of it; as fast as orders come in we cut, if they don't come in we don't cut, and we distribute according to the work they can do.

Q. The man that makes the $3 cloaks gets all of that? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And the same with the others? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What provisions did you make in regard to diseases that prevailed in those places? A. Well, I may state that in 11 years, we have not had one case where a contractor died of disease.

Q. Well, we are talking about finishers? A. We have not had any complaint that there was any disease among them.

By Senator Noonan:

Q. How often do you visit the shops of your contractors? A. Three times a year, some places more.

Q. How many places have you at present? A. About 20 now.

Q. Do you visit all the shops three times a year? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many finishers have those shops in their employ? A. From four to twelve.

Q. How often did you visit the homes of the finishers where the goods are finished? A. I did not go there.

Q. Do you know what is the sanitary condition of the place where the goods are finished? A. I could not tell that.

Q. You have never been there; you don't know? A. No, sir.

Q. What, if any, steps has the firm taken to ascertain the sanitary or healthful condition of the places where the goods are made or finished? A. As far as the contractor is concerned we go to a man who is supposed to be a clean man, and supposed to deliver the goods clean, and if he gives it out to a

third party to finish, I do not see that we have any reason to go into any such investigation, because we have never had any such disease in those houses.

Q. Then you don't know whether any infectious diseases have existed in the places where the goods were finished? A. No, sir; I do not know.

Q. You don't know whether any contagious or infectious diseases existed in the sweat shops in the three times a year you visited those shops? A. I never heard of any.

Q. Then you have taken no precautions to prevent or to fumigate, or to disinfect the garments that come from the homes of the finishers? A. The only thing we do is to press the garments; they are pressed inside, but we don't do this for fumigation's sake; we do it to press it.

Q. Do you know whether this pressing would kill the bacteria of disease? A. No; I think it would kill almost anything.

Q. Do you know it? A. I do not; I am not a doctor. We press it with a red-hot iron.

Q. Do you press the fur in the fur-trimmed coats? A. No, sir.

Q. And if there are any germs of disease in the fur they would not be pressed—the germs might live there? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What, if any, objection has your firm towards the inspection on the part of the State of those sweat shops and the houses where the goods are finished? A. We would have no objection; we simply would be glad if all would be clean, but you see that it is the nature of the beast. The people live dirty. You could go on Canal street, and in those low Jewish quarters you will see the people living dirty, and they are dirty from top to bottom.

Q. And necessarily goods that come from there would be dirty? A. I do not say that, because the contractor must bring the garment in clean; if he doesn't bring it in clean he does not get paid for it; he has got to pay for the garment.

Q. Then as far as your firm is concerned, it would meet with the approval of your firm if the city were to start in and by law regulate the manufacture of clothing in these unhealthful sweat shops and the finishing of goods in tenement houses? A. Positively; we have no objection to that, if people are clean. If a man comes into us with a dirty collar, and he wants a job, now I will say, "here, you come to-morrow, shaved and clean, and you will get a job."

By Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. Is there any competition between your contractors for work? A. Yes; there is big competition.

Q. And you give your work to the lowest bidder, do you not? A. No, sir; it is not the cost, but there is great competition.

Q. To whom do you give it then? A. I give it to responsible parties, and parties that I know.

Q. But now, you have say 100 cloaks to make? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you send word to different contractors that you have these garments to be finished? A. No, sir; I don't send word at all; I take my expressman and make out a list. It is you will get this much, and this man will get this much. There are some places that the contractor comes in and asks the price of a garment, and what is to be done.

Q. Don't they compete with one another in order to get your work? A. They do; but it is not a question of figures with us. If I say this garment is done in New York, and if there is a man who comes in and says: "I could make that garment for a dollar." I look at the garment, and if we can raise the man on it, we will do it; if not, we won't.

Q. Don't you send out to the half dozen contractors that you think are responsible or do you notify them to come there and give you figures? A. No, sir; I never ask any of the contractors.

Q. Do they come any way? A. They come to beg for work, but that does not cut any figure with our prices.

Q. You give the lowest one the work to do? A. No, sir.

Q. Do you give it to the highest one? A. I never ask any contractor how much he is going to make that garment for. I say: "This garment pays so much." If he feels like making it, all right.

Q. How do you fix your prices?. A. That is my business; I must be judge enough to know that this garment has so much work. I am the judge to know that this garment is worth $1.

Q. You are the man then, that fixes the price? A. Yes.

Q. Where do you get your information so that you can make the price? A. I look at the garment; I must understand the garment, otherwise I cannot be in that place. I must understand the garment better than the tailor.

Q. Do you compare them with what they work for in New York? A. No, sir.

Q. What do you consider in the price of these garments, what element do you take into consideration in fixing the price? A. Everything; machine and hand-work and everything.

Q. What is your business? A. I am the manager.

Q. Before you were manager, what was your business? A. I started in the cutting business, and used to make seam binding.

Q. How long did you work as cutter and seam binder? A. As trimmer, I worked four years, and then I got a higher position, and in this place.

Q. Before that what did you do? A. I went to Europe.

Q. What was your business? A. I was studying.

Q. What did you cut, when you were cutting? A. Clothing; different kinds of clothing.

Q. You never made a cloak from start to finish? A. No sir, I never did machine work.

Q. Nor never sewed any buttons on, nor fixed sleeve lining? A. Nothing in the line of sewing.

Q. And all you know about it is that you were a cutter or a trimmer? A. Yes, sir, that is all.

Q. Then you must consult somebody else in making your prices—fixing your prices? You get your information from other sources outside of your own knowledge? A. No, sir, that is not the case; the case is this: We have men in the house that are working piece work; we have people who are making samples in our house; they get paid by the week, all the way from $12 up to $20. These people can give me an idea of how long it takes to make a garment. That is the judgment we generally go by.

Ferdinand Seigel, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. Noonan:

Q. State your name, occupation and place of residence? A. My name is Ferdinand Seigel; I am a manufacturer of cloaks in this city.

Q. Where is your place of business? A. 222 Market street.

Q. How long have you been in business in this town? A. About eighteen years.

Q. What, if any, knowledge have you of the sweat shops in this city? A. I have no particular knowledge; I have been in some of the shops that we employ, but not of late.

Q. Is it not the practice of the clothing manufacturers to have some employé of the firm transact the business with the contractors who know those shops, or conduct the sweat shops? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then what knowledge you have personally is very limited? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Concerning the making of those cloaks, and the finishing? A. Yes, sir.

Q. That is, the contractors throughout the city—the wholesale dealers—they all have contractors? A. Yes, sir; each large house has what they call manufacturers.

Q. What objection have you, if any, on the part of the state as to the sweat shops in tenement houses where goods are finished? A. I have no objection at all; you mean for them to examine into the workings of it?

Q. Yes? A. I have no objection at all.

Q. The only factory you have is located in Chicago? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You don't import any of the goods from eastern States? A. Some; not very much.

Q. Why? A. We buy some goods in New York.

Q. Do you know where they are made in New York? A. No, sir, I could not tell you.

Q. From what firm do you buy them? A. We buy of several small manufacturers there.

Q. Do you know whether they are made in New York, or Ohio, or Pennsylvania? A. I could not tell you; I think they are made in New York.

Q. Give us the name of a couple of firms that you buy from in New York City? A. Well, I really have not got them in my mind; I can send you the names, if you wish.

Q. Is there any man in your establishment who has any knowledge of those firms—has your firm? A. I think they have.

Q. Who in your firm has? A. I can send you the names.

Q. Who is the employé of your firm who transacts the business of your firm with those contractors? A. My foreman.

Q. What is his name? A. Mr. Bonwit.

Q. What is the volume of your business in a year? A. About two million dollars.

Q. Give us your opinion as to the aggregate value of the cloak making of this city? A. What do you mean?

Q. The amount of work that the manufacturers of cloaks do? A. I could not tell you.

Q. What percentage of your clothing is sold in this city? A. About ten per cent.

Q. Where is the rest of it sold? A. All over the western country.

Max Bonwit, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. What is your name? A. Max Bonwit.

Q. What is your business? A. I am manager for F. Seigel & Bro.

Q. How long have you been in their employ? A. Since the end of last year, the 5th of December.

Q. What are your duties as manager? A. I manage the whole factory; I have samples made up, have the goods cut and see that they are made.

Q. By whom are they made? A. Partly in the house, by tailors, certainly.

Q. Where are the rest made? A. Outside, by contractors.

Q. You transact the business with the contractors? A. Yes, I do; that is, I have a young man who sends the work out.

Q. You take on the contractors? A. I take them on myself; if we want any contractors to make our work, I engage the contractor.

Q. Will you state to the committee the manner and method by which you contract with those contractors? Give us the proceeding as you go through it? How do you make the contracts with them? How do you reach the agreement? A. Whenever we have work cut, we send for the contractors and show them the samples, and tell them the price, and send it to them.

Q. And those who accept your price will receive the work? A. Certainly; if they cannot make it at our price they cannot get it.

Q. You fix the price? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How do you fix the price; by what method? A. First, we have the samples made in the house of our sample hands, and I figure how much it takes for the operator. The cloak-making is really done under two classifications; one part is done by machine; the other part is done by hand. I will say that that garment is worth so much for machine work, and so much for hand work, pressing, etc., and allowing a fair margin for expenses to the contractor.

Q. Those contractors come to you and get the work? Have you ever been to their shops? A. Yes, not alone here, but I had ten years' experience in New York before I came to Chicago. I worked for Meyer, Johnson & Co. in New York. That is one of the largest houses in the United States.

Q. How often did you visit shops here? A. Here, in Chicago? Once; because I am here only a short time.

Q. How long have you been here? A. Since December 5 of last year.

Q. Do you know what wages the contractors pay their operators? A. Do you want to know how much they make a week, or how much they make for a garment?

Q. Do you know how much they make? A. Yes, sir; I have men working in the spring season who make on an average from twelve to fifteen dollars a week, allowing the time from eight in the morning to six in the evening. Those people who work on the machine; the finishers make a little less.

Q. How many contractors do you employ? A. Twenty-two at present.

Q. Do the machine operators make from twelve to fifteen dollars a week? A. I cannot say exactly that they all make that; I take the average.

Q. Working ten hours a day? A. Working ten hours a day; those are machine workers.

Q. Where is the finishing of the goods done? A. Right in the shops where the machine work is done.

Q. That is the practice in all the shops where you have your work done? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know that the contractors sometimes send the work to the finishers at their homes? A. O, I told you there are some contractors who make very cheap work, and they take women to finish the work outside; that is, certain parts of the garment; they finish only parts of it, which any woman who can sew can do; but that part of the garment where skillful labor is required, they cannot finish it outside. Those people who talk about finishing outside, they talk about things they don't understand; they haven't the slightest idea of how cloaks are made. There are certain parts where there can be unskillful labor used, that can be done outside, but a girl sixteen years old can do it.

Q. Any child can do it? A. No, please; don't turn my words. I say girls of sixteen; girls who can sew, so far as I find, they can do it.

Q. You have only been around once? A. Well, I think that is enough. I didn't go to see where they live. I investigated the thing, though.

Q. What is the average number of employés in those contract shops that you have working for you? A. For those contractors, you mean?

Q. Yes? A. We employ large contractors who have from ten to fifteen finishers. Those people do the work, and there are a few pressers.

Q. Do you take into consideration the sanitary condition of the sweat shops? A. I do.

Q. What is the sanitary condition of the sweaters? A. I find them to be very fair; much superior to New York.

Q. When did you visit them? A. I visited them last Wednesday; day before yesterday, and this morning I visited them without the knowledge of any of contractors, so that they could not clean the shops first.

Q. What shops did you visit? A. G. Kohnke, 353 Clybourne avenue; Julius Ahlefeld, 469 West Indiana; Detleson, 887 Rockwell street; Hyman Kestel, 228 Maxwell street.

Q. When did you visit Kestel's shop at 228 Maxwell street? A. This morning.

Q. How many employés are there? A. He has forty machine hands, and I should say twelve or fifteen hand sewers.

Q. How big is the shop? A. I don't know.

Q. What do you approximate it to be? A. I could not say.

Q. It is in the rear of 228 Maxwell street? A. Yes, sir. Now I want to say something. Kestel's shop I found not as I would like to. He has more people than he ought to have, but he is going to make a move next week. I told him unless he took a

larger place he could not get so much work. He promised to do that. He made the arrangements already to get another shop.

Q. How long has he been working for you? A. I think he has been working for the house about three years, as far as I know.

Q. When was the first time that the house complained regarding the condition of the work? A. Sir?

Q. Did the house complain of the condition of his work before you visited his shop? A. There was no reason to complain at all.

Q. Why do you complain now? A. I don't exactly complain, but I don't like the way the people are working. Now, this is the busy season of the year, and I told him that unless he had a larger place he could not get the work. He told me he would take a larger place. I asked him why he did not deliver more work, and he said he didn't have a large enough place.

Q. Did you tell him you would not give him any more work unless he got a new shop? A. No, I told him I would not give him as much work.

Q. The only consideration you took in the matter was the quantity of work you wanted him to take out? A. No, I want our people to work in shops which look clean and neat. I always look upon that. I have to do it, because it is not alone the sanitary condition I take—I take that too—but unless our tailors have a clean shop they cannot bring in the work clean.

Q. What is the name of that firm that worked for you? A. Hirshberg & Seigel. They don't work for us any more.

Q. How long have they ceased to work for your firm? A. About a week.

Q. How long did they work for you before that time? A. I don't know; they were working before I came there.

Q. You have been there only since December 5? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You have not been to that shop? A. No, I have not. You wanted to know what the contractors are making for us now?

Q. Or at any time? A. Those people worked for us when I came there, and they stopped working because the partners could not agree.

Q. You don't know anything of the condition of their shops? A. No, I am not there.

By Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. How long have you been working for this firm of Seigel Brothers? A. Since the 5th of December of last year.

Q. And this shop that you have been talking about was working for you when you came there? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And ever since, up to a week ago? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now you stated that you visited every shop in your employ. How, here is a shop that you did not visit it? A. I didn't say so. I visited nine shops.

Q. And twenty-two shops you have in your employ? A. Well, I will give you the names. The next is Slapek, 182 O'Brien street; A. H. Strand, 126 Milwaukee avenue; Mandel Weil, 425 Division street; Isenbaum, 1692 Milwaukee avenue.

Q. What is your business? A. I am managing the factory for F. Seigel & Bros.

Q. You have been managing their factory since December 5? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Before that, what was your business? A. With Meyer, Johnson & Co., of New York.

Q. How long have you been in their employ? A. Five years; from 1881 to 1886; I was one year in the west for my health.

Q. You have always been the manager? A. I have always been.

Q. Have you a trade? A. A merchant. I am called a merchant. I am a cloak man; I understand the manufacture of cloaks.

Q. When did you enlist yourself in the manufacture of cloaks? How long since? A. Thirteen years now.

Q. Where first? A. In New York.

Q. What did you start out as? A. I started in as trimmer; I trimmed garments, and sent cloaks out to the tailors.

Q. Did you serve your time as cloak-maker? A. I did not.

Q. Did you do the work on the cloaks? A. No, I did not.

Q. You never worked on cloaks yourself? A. No.

Q. You are not a tailor? A. No, I am not a tailor.

Q. Nor a cloak-cutter? A. No, but I understand cutting cloaks.

Q. You started in taking cloaks to the tailors? A. No, I trimmed. Now, I will tell you.

Q. What did you do about cloak trimming? A. I gave the buttons out.

Q. That is what you call trimming? A. In the cloak trade.

Q. Is that what you call trimming? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Giving out the buttons and thread, etc.? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And that is what you call trimming? A. Well, I have gone through the whole process of learning how cloaks are made.

Q. Did you ever make one? A. I answered before that I did not.

Q. How do you arrive at the price to be paid for them? How do you arrive at the price to be paid for the making of them? A. By practice and experience.

Q. Practice in giving out the trimming? A. No: is it necessary for a man to be a practical mechanic to supervise a certain thing? That is what I want to get at.

Q. I want you to answer the question? A. Well, have I the privilege of declining answers here?

Q. You may do so at your peril. I want you to tell where you got your information? A. I will give any fair answer.

Q. You are the man that gives out the work to the sweaters here in Chicago? A. I don't call them sweaters.

Q. Well, to the small contractors? A. Yes; but we have large contractors.

Q. Have you given out work to this firm of Hirshberg & Seigel? A. Yes, I did.

Q. Did you ever visit their place? A. No, sir.

Q. Did you ever think of doing it? A. Certainly; I have visited all of them.

Q. Did you look at the closets in those nine out of twenty-two places? A. No, I did not.

Q. Did you look to see if there was a washstand in a certain place there? A. No, I did not.

Q. How many of those places that you visited are in basements? A. I think there was two, if I am not mistaken. I am not sure about that; one I know of.

Q. And how many in barns, or in the rear? A. None; not in barns. There are some in the rear.

Q. Did you notice the condition of the place—whether it is clean or not? A. Well, they didn't look like parlors. They looked like workshops.

Q. What kind of workshop did they look like? A. They looked like workshops where work is done.

Q. Where they make cloaks? A. Yes, sir; I told you I had been around in other parts already, and they looked as good as those of other trades. I have been in clothing shops.

Q. Yes; but you did not take the trouble to go and see where your goods are made until a few days ago? A. No.

Q. Who told you to do that? A. I do that every season. I told you that so often, I don't like to repeat it.

Q. How did you come to notice this place on Maxwell street? That it was not just the place where garments ought to be made? A. Well, the place was all right, bnt it was a little bit too small for the quantity of work.

Q. Nobody suggested the idea to you that it was too small? A. My eyes suggested that to me.

Q. Not before this last week. Was it suggested to you before that? A. It may have been suggested before.

Q. You didn't say anything about it to anybody? A. No.

Q. Do you know what percentage of the garments that your firm sell in a year are made in this place? A. I could not tell you.

Q. You don't know of your own knowledge that they have any garments made in the establishment? A. I do not know of my own knowledge. I came here when the fall season was over.

Q. You are sure they didn't do any making in the establishment since December last? A. I am not positive; I don't think so.

By Mr. Mahoney:

Q. Now, when a style of cloak comes out you have your men in the store make a model? A. Make the first sample, yes.

Q. Then you fix the price for work by that model—the price to be paid to the contractor? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You fix that price? A. Yes, sir, with the assistance of our pattern cutter and designer.

Q. What things do you take into consideration with your designer in determining the value of labor on that garment? A. We say, for instance, that I have a cloak before me; we say a man, or an operator, can make about from three to four, or as many as he can make a day, or from four to six; and we say a finisher can finish so many; we know what a man ought to make, and that is the way we make our price.

Q. Then you reason the figure by the number of garments a man can make a day? A. On how long it will take. Say it takes an operator to work on that cloak for two hours, or three hours, or as long as it will take; and then it will take a finisher so and so long; that is the only way that we can get at it.

Q. How much do you figure an operator ought to make a day? A. I figure that a fair operator ought to make fifteen dollars a week. There are times in the year that he will make more, and sometimes less.

Q. A good operator ought to make fifteen dollars a week? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And in determining the price of labor on a garment you figure on a basis of fifteen dollars a week? A. Yes, about.

Q. Do you take anything else into consideration in the value of labor? A. The finishing.

Q. Anything else? A. The pressing.

Q. Anything else? A. And the expenses, such as coal, etc., and allowing the contractor a fair margin.

Q. Well, in figuring the margin for the contractor, what things figure in the expenses? A. The man has to pay rent, to pay coal, to pay for pressing, and the man has to live.

Q. What investigation did you make with reference to the man's living—you say he has to live? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What investigations did you make with reference to his living? A. I did not make any investigation at all.

Q. You did not investigate the price of coal? A. Certainly; I allow that in expenses; allow a man a fair margin.

Q. Well, now, one of the items of expenses is living? A. Well, it depends on how the man lives; the man that lives on $15 a week—but you are asking me now about the contractors?

Q. You know how they live? A. I know I saw their houses already, but I didn't visit their private houses yet.

Q. Well, the houses that you visited in New York? A. Yes, it was privately, you understand.

Q. You visited your contractors privately in New York? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you ever have dinner with them? A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know what kind of table they set? A. I know they lived pretty good.

Q. Have you ever seen their tables set? A. I may have.

Q. Have you ever seen their tables set? A. It never interested me so much that I should see it.

Q. Have you ever seen the table that the finisher eats at. A. No, I have not seen it; I may have seen it; I don't remember.

Q. But you don't know; you don't recollect? A. I don't remember any more.

Q. How long were you employed in New York? A. Ten years.

Q. Can you recollect one instance in that ten years where you saw the table set in the home of a finisher? A. I am pretty sure that I have, but I cannot remember.

Q. Where? A. It is some time ago; I have more to think about than to think of that.

Q. Then, as a matter of fact, summing up your testimony now, you reach the price that you are to pay the contractor from the number of garments that he can make a day? A. Not that he can make—the garment must be made by the workmen.

Q. You reach the price of that garment—the price that he ought to receive for that garment by the number of garments he can make a day, figuring that he ought to receive about $15 a week? A. Yes; I take the standard of wages which the machine worker ought to make as $15.

Q. What are the lowest wages which the machine worker ought to make? A. That depends on the time of year.

Q. What is the lowest that you have heard of? A. I don't remember.

Q. What is the highest you ever heard of? A. Thirty-five dollars a week.

Q. That is where they paid a helper? A. No.

Q. Did those men have any helpers? A. Oh, some have.

Q. But the man that you speak of; that you heard he earned $35 a week? A. I don't remember the certain man.

Q. But did that man employ a helper? A. No, he did not.

Q. Then you don't take into consideration the price of food, or the manner of living among the finishers and among the employés of the contractors, when you determine what price shall be paid to the contractor? A. Certainly, I take that into consideration; that is what I stated. I make my price, but that contractor does not make the cloak; his help makes the cloak. I say machine hands who make $15 a week, from 8 to 6 in the evening; and in order to do that, I allow so much for making that cloak in order to leave him a margin.

Q. You don't know how they live; you have not visited their homes. You don't know how they live, or what food they live on? A. I have in New York but not here. I have not been here long enough.

F. Sutcliffe, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. Where do you live? A. At Edgewater.

Q. In the county of Cook? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How far is that from Chicago? A. Eight miles.

Q. What is your business? A. Superintendent of Marshall Field's cloak factory.

Q. How long have you been employed by Marshall Field as his superintendent in that department? A. About three years.

Q. Are you a tradesman of any kind? A. Do I know a trade, do you mean?

Q. Yes? A. No; that is, I am not a cutter, nor a tailor.

Q. How long did you say that you were employed in that department? A. About three years.

Q. Before that time you were employed at what? A. In the store.

Q. For Marshall Field? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you been employed there? A. About six years.

Q. By Marshall Field? A. Yes, sir; about seven years.

Q. Are you the man that give out the work to these small contractors? A. Yes, with an assistant.

Q. How many small contractors does Marshall Field work in the city of Chicago? A. From ten to twelve; it varies a little.

Q. Can you give us the names and localities where those workshops are situated? A. Not from memory; I cannot give the numbers.

Q. Can you tell us the streets? Yes, sir; I think I can.

Q. Have you visited those shops lately? A. Not since last fall, personally.

Q. How often do you visit them? A. At that time I was visiting them once a week.

Q. Why did you visit them? A. One reason was to see that the garments were being pushed along as we require them, and being made in the shape we wanted them, and to see that they were made under the right conditions.

Q. What do you mean by that? A. That they were not getting soiled nor dirty, nor being contaminated, so far as I could judge.

Q. Now, did you receive any instructions about that from Marshall Field & Co.? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What were the instructions given? A. I had no written instructions, nor anything definitely stated, any more than it was understood we were to make the cloaks in the right manner and under the right conditions.

Q. When was the last time that you visited any of those places that you had your cloaks made in? A. Along about November.

Q. Of last year? A. Yes; between that time and this we don't do much work.

Q. Who instructed you to go out there and visit those places? A. Oh, that is a matter that follows from the business.

Q. You don't have any instructions? A. No definite instructions as to going out; that is part of the business.

Q. Now, as to the conditions, whether the clothing was contaminated, what investigation did you make as to that in the different places where they are made? A. Well, I look around.

Q. What do you look at? A. At the cloaks and the places.

Q. At the places? What in the places do you mean? A. The general appearance.

Q. Did you examine the closets? A. I have not seen any.

Q. The out-houses? A. I have not seen any.

Q. You didn't look for them? A. No, sir.

Q. Did you examine whether there was a washstand in the room? A. No, sir.

Q. Did you get the dimensions of the places? A. Not in measurement; no, sir.

Q. About how many people are employed in your shops? A. It varies with the different shops different times of the year.

Q. Who on Maxwell street does your work? A. We had one man named Lasky.

Q. When have you been to Lasky's place? A. Last fall.

Q. Not since? A. No, sir.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. Did you find the conditions healthful at that time? Was that shop in a satisfactory condition to you at that time? A. No, sir

Q. You raised no objections? A. No, sir.

Q. You made no objection to the firm that it was unsatisfactory? A. No, sir.

By Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. You give this work out to the contractors? A. Yes, sir; that is, I superintend it. I don't handle the garments at all, I designate the stuff to be given out.

Q. Where is Lasky's shop? Will you describe Lasky's shop? A. Where it was?

Q. Yes. A. 237 Maxwell street, I think the number is. In the rear of the residence building, detached from the front building.

Q. And over what? A. I think it was over a stable.

Q. And there were fourteen hands employed there? A. Not that I could see; I never saw that many in the place.

Q. Were there men and women in there? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you see any children in there? A. No.

Q. Or did you look for them? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was the occasion that you looked for them? A. Information to see that they were having the right kind of people there.

Q. You did that on your own responsibility? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You thought of that away back at that time? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where was the water closet? A. I didn't see any; it was not in the shop, to my knowledge.

Q. You give out the work to those contractors? A. Yes, sir.

Q. There is some competition for work, is there not? A. I understand.

Q. How do you determine to whom you give the preference for work? A. To the man that can make it the best.

Q. And for the cheapest price? Is that considered at all? A. Yes, sir.

Q. The man, in your, judgment, that can make it the cheapest and best gets the work? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How do you arrange it? A. The work is divided into its several classes; some men can do one class of work better than another. We want the work well done and we give it to the man that does it well.

Q. How do you determine that? A. By experience.

Q. By having men in your employ for some time? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then there is no such thing as competition among them to get work? A. It is not at all marked, I think. There is no marked competition.

Q. How do you fix the price? A. A matter of judgment.

Q. A matter of whose judgment? A. Mine.

By Senator Mahoney:

Q. Do you fix the price for the work that is done for Marshall Field & Co.? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How do you determine that? A. I rely on my judgment and my best experience.

Q. You have never been a cloak-maker? A. No, sir.

Q. You are not a cutter? A. No, sir.

Q- Nor a presser? A. No, sir.

Q. Where did you get your knowledge from, then, upon which to base your judgment? A. I could not put my finger on that.

Q. Could you put your thought on it, so that you could explain to us? A. I don't think that I could. It is a matter of experience upon which my judgment is formed, and I go on that judgment.

Q. What things enter into your calculation upon which you determine the price? A. How much work is on the garment.

Q. Do you take anything else into consideration? A. The easiness or difficulty with which certain clothes can be manufactured and brought out in good shape.

Q. Do you take anything else into the calculation? A. I don't know of anything else that I would take into consideration; the largeness or the smallness of the lot of garments that were to be made up—the quantities.

Q. Do you figure how much time it takes to make a garment? A. No; we cannot do that.

Q. Well, then, how do you determine what the labor on a garment is worth? A. Comparison with past seasons, to some extent.

Q. Nothing else? Do you make up sample garments in your store? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Well, who makes the sample garments? A. We have people there to make them.

Q. Do these people assist you in reaching the price that you pay? A. I might ask them something about what the difficulty of such and such a thing is in making, but that does not assist me in making the price.

By Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. Don't you take one of these sample garments and give it to your contractor and ask him how much he can make a dozen of them for? A. Very little.

Q. What conversation do you have with your contractor? Just tell us how you give out your work? Don't you show a man what he has got to make? Just tell us in your own way? A. Well, the prices are made and the clothes are given to the contractor to make.

Q. You arbitrarily fix the price and tell the contractor he shall receive so much per garment for making that garment, or, if he does not do it, you will send for someone else? A. I can't say that that is right.

Q. Or do you show those samples to the different contractors and ask them what they can do that work for? A. No, sir.

Q. What do you do? A. I set the price and give them to the men that I pretty nearly know can make them for that.

Q. How do you know that they can make the garment for that price? A. By what I have known garments to be made for in the past.

Q. Where? A. By the same man.

Q. Now, have you ever visited the homes of those men? Do you know the condition of living? A. No.

Q. You don't know anything about their condition of living? A. No.

Q. Have you any knowledge of what the operators that are employed by the contractors receive as wages? A. No.

Q. Have you any knowledge of what the finishers receive as their compensation for their share of the work? A. No.

Q. Do you know where they live—the finishers? A. No.

Q. You do know that the work that you give the contractors is let out to the finishers? A. I think it is, to some extent.

Q. But you don't know what their condition of living is? A. No.

Q. Do you know the sanitary condition of the shops and the tenement houses where the finishers work, and the shop people work? A. No.

Q. You never gave any thought to that in the past? A. No.

Q. Your firm has never taken any steps to ascertain that? A. Not through me.

Q. You never received instructions from Marshall Field & Co. to visit those establishments A. No.

Q. What is the highest wages that your house pays the contractors for garments—the highest price? A. I must decline to answer that.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. Have you been instructed by your firm to answer thusly to this question? A. No, sir.

Q. Why do you decline to answer the question? A. I think it is a matter of private business.

Q. Is it your private business, or is it your firm's business? A. I think it is the firm's business.

Q. Have you had any talk with your firm concerning your appearance before this committee? A. Yes, sir.

Q. With whom? A. The manager.

Q. Give his name. A. Mr. Fair and Mr. Templeton.

Q. What was the nature of your conversation with them? A. He gave me the letter and told me to appear.

Q. Did you talk with him about what this examination was? A. He asked me what I had to say, and I said that I could appear before the committee and make answer.

Q. Who asked you? A. Mr. Fair.

Q. Well, you came here and you don't answer—

By Mr. Mahoney:

Q. Now, in the first place, this is an examination being conducted by the State of Illinois, for the purpose of determining the conditions of its citizens, for the purpose of enacting such laws as will remedy their conditions. You have been subpœnaed to attend this examination by the State of Illinois, so that the State may obtain the proper information upon which to remedy the evils that exist within her boundaries. You are expected to answer all questions propounded to you by this committee in relation to this matter which do not incriminate you. The law compels you to answer all questions put by this committee unless such will incriminate you; that is, will put you in such a position that you may be prosecuted. Now, if you don't answer the questions you will be in contempt just as much as you would be in contempt in a court of justice, and the law provides that a witness in contempt in such matter is punishable by imprisonment in the county jail. This committee does not seek to get at the private business of any firm doing business in the State of Illinois, but in order to get at facts, from which facts a bill may be prepared and a law passed to remedy evils existing. Now, if you refuse on your own account to answer the questions propounded by this committee, you personally shall be responsible for so refusing, and you personally shall be dealt with according to law.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. Inasmuch as this matter includes the names of the largest firms in the city of Chicago, I desire to have this witness state if it is at the suggestion or instance of the firm that he refuses? I don't want it to go out, unless it is absolutely necessary, that Marshall Field refuses to give out this information to the committee. What are the facts? A. I think I am answering on my own responsibility. If I am asked to answer further on that question I should decline to answer until I have the advice of counsel.

Q. You never had any conversation with your superior here to-day, or with anybody connected with the firm with reference to what you should testify to here to-day? A. We talked about that yesterday.

Q. What was that talk? A. With Mr. Templeton and Mr. Fair.

Q. What was the talk you had with them? A. Whether I thought things were all right the way we were doing work, and I said yes.

Q. They asked you if you thought things were all right? A. Yes; and I said yes.

Q. Did they mention anything in particular? A. No, sir.

Q. Did they talk about the workshops? A. I think that was involved.

Q. What was said about the work-shops? A. Whether the garments were made in the right places.

Q. And you thought they were? A. No, sir.

Q. And the last time you saw them was last fall?

Q. Did you state that to them—to the members of your firm? A. No, I don't think I did.

Q. But you stated you thought they were all right? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you tell them about this particular place—Lasky's place on Maxwell street, where the shop was over the barn? Did you call their attention to that? A. No, sir.

Q. Did you talk with them about the prices to employés in the shops, and the finishers? A. No, sir.

Q. Did they talk to you about the prices? A. No, sir.

Q. Did they talk to you about the prices of garments at all? A. Well, I might say, I think they asked the question, did we pay good enough prices, and I said yes.

Q. They asked if you paid good enough prices, and you said yes? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did they talk with you about the prices you paid the contractor? A. No, sir.

Q. They didn't talk with you about that? A. No; I thought when you said that, that the question previous meant that.

Q. Then, no person in the firm of Marshall Field suggested to you that you should refuse to tell the prices before this committee that you pay to the contractor? A. They understand my position.

Q. I want to know if anybody ever talked with you about that? A. No.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. How did they understand your position? A. From what I stated so them.

Q. What did you state to them? A. That I could not tell the prices.

Q. In answer to what question? A. What I was going to state to the committee.

Q. How did they understand that you would refuse to testify before the committee to-day about the prices paid by you? How did they get that understanding? You say that they understood that you would refuse to testify to the prices paid to contractors. How did they understand it? What conversation occurred between you? A. Simply that I said I could not tell the prices.

Q. You told Mr. Fair that you could not tell the prices? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What did he say? A. (After a pause) Well, I hesitate because I cannot recollect exactly the conversation, or what I said myself.

Q. You don't recollect what answer he made to you? A. No.

Q. What is his full name? A. Robert G. Fair.

Q. Was the principal part of the conversation had on this subject had with him or with Mr. Templeton? A. They were both together.

Q. What is Mr. Templeton's name? A. Thomas Templeton.

Q. You say you fix the price with the contractors?

By Mr. Mahoney: No, he fixes the price for them and gives them the work. If the contractor does not want to take it at that price he sends it to another; is that right? A. That might happen if I thought the prices were all right.

Q. In the first place, you determine the price for the garment? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You set that down? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you keep it in a book? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then you send for the contractor that you want to do that particular piece of work? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You tell him how much you will pay for that particular piece of work, and you show him the model? A. Yes, sir.

Q. If he takes it, you give it to him? A. Yes, sir.

Q. If he does not, what will you do? A. I might induce him to take it, and have a talk with him as to the class of the garment, or take off some of the work. Another way is, that if I thought he could not do it at that price, I would give it to some one else.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. What is the volume of the goods manufactured by Marshall Field & Co.—by your firm? A. Cloaks, do you mean?

Q. Yes. A. Well, I think I should decline to answer that. I only know figures up to a certain point; beyond that, I don't.

Q. Do Templeton and Fair know the figures? The amount paid to these contractors? Do they look over your books? A. I think Mr. Templeton has supervision of that.

By Mr. Mahoney:

Q From such supervision he is familiar with your work? A. Well, he would know how much in volume we were paying out.

Q. Will your books show in detail how much you pay out? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know what percentage of your cloaks are made outside the city of Chicago? A. No, sir.

Q. Do you buy or have manufactured outside the city of Chicago cloaks, or any garments for your store? A. There are some few, I think, for the wholesale. I don't know about the retail.

Q. Those goods made in the sweat shops are sold in the retail store? A. I don't know; I think not. There might be a limited quantity.

Q. Do you know where the goods made outside the city of Chicago are made? A. No, sir.

Q. Do you enter into contracts with firms outside the city of Chicago, or outside of this State, for the manufacture of goods? A. I don't know about that.

Q. Who in your firm know about that? Does Mr. Fair know or Mr. Templeton? A. I don't know. The firm is so large, I don't whether that would come under their notice, or not?

Q. But you have much of the manufacturing done here? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What precautions do you exercise to prevent infectious diseases being carried about in these clothes that are manufactured by you? A. We make it a point to see that the man who gets the garments to make has his shop in a good state of cleanliness, or ordinary cleanliness.

Q. And the last time you visited those shops was last October? A. Yes, sir.

Q. That is the only precaution you exercise?. A. Yes, sir; there might be other things that I do that I don't think of at present.

Q. Did you ever visit the houses where the goods are finished, or the tenement houses? A. No.

Q. And therefore you would exercise no precaution against infectious diseases existing there where the goods are finished? A. No.

Robert M. Fair, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. Noonan:

Q. What is your name? A. Robert M. Fair.

Q. What is your occupation? A. I am a member of the firm of Marshall Field & Co.

Q. What, if any, knowledge have you of the relation of your firm to the so-called sweat shop system? A. Nothing except the specific instructions given to the men who have charge of that part of the business.

Q. Who has charge of that part of business? A. Well, Mr. Sutcliffe is in charge of the cloak factory.

Q. What are the instructions of the firm to the employé in charge of that department? A. That where he has any work to give outside, he must make a personal investigation of the premises where the work is to be done and see that they are clean and wholesome, and not in an over-crowded condition, and that the surroundings are sanitary. Those are our standing instructions.

Q. Do you know whether or not your instructions have been obeyed in that respect? A. I understood they were until this press report of last week, and then upon investigating that matter I was informed that the man who was complained of, when they did inspect his premises before, they were not overcrowded and that they had every appearance of being healthful surroundings.

Q. Who was the man complained of? A. I think the name was Lasky.

Q. When was the report made that his place was not in a healthful condition? A. Well, I don't recall the time; it was last fall some time.

Q. No inspections were made of that place since then, to your knowledge? A. That I couldn't say; if they were acting under instructions, they should have been made several times since.

Q. As a member of the firm, have you any knowledge of the condition of the places where the goods are finished? A. Any personal knowledge?

Q. Yes. A. No, sir.

Q. As a member of the firm, have any instructions been issued to you in regard thereto? A. Except as I said before, not to give out any work to any place unless they had at first inspected it to see whether the conditions were good.

Q. You refer, then, to the shops? A. To the shops where the work is given outside?

Q. Yes. A. Yes, sir.

Q. And do you not know that it is the practice by those shops in turn to give it out from there to finishers? A. No, I don't; I understood that where we give out the work, it is done.

Q. Entirely completed work there? A. Yes.

Q. Is that the understanding you have in regard to Lasky's place? A. That is the understanding.

Q. What precautions, if any, do you exercise to prevent the dissemination or spreading of the germs in infectious or contagious diseases by reason of having your clothing manufactured in places of which you have no knowledge? A. Well, the precautions of having those places inspected before we give out work to them.

Q. What do you mean by having those places inspected? A. The shops where those people do the work for us—the houses.

Q. That is what you have inspected, but what do you mean by inspecting? What constitutes an inspection under the instructions of your firm? A. To see whether they are working in a clean place—that is what you mean.

Q. I want to know what you mean by inspecting. I want to determine the difference between the inspection made by a physician and the inspection made by one of your employés? A. We have them done entirely by our employés.

Q. What inspection does he make? does he examine the sanitary arrangements? A. He is supposed to examine the sanitary arrangements.

Q. Do you know whether or not he has done so? A. I don't except from his report.

Q. Would you consider a shop located in the rear of a three-story frame tenement, being 23x38, with an 8½-foot ceiling, over a barn, with twenty-six men and women working in there, with the pressers and ironers in the same room, also having a water closet located in the yard, and used by all the people without any distinction in regard to sex, as coming within the instructions required by your firm? A. No; I would not.

Q. That is the condition of Mr. Lasky's shop. A. Well, if that is the condition, why it is against our instructions and without our knowledge.

Q. He has occupied that shop for two and a half years, during which time he worked for your firm, and at no time during

that time have you instructed him or made inspection to the condition of the place? A. Working that number of people right along in those crowded quarters all that time, do I understand?

Q. Answer the question as I have put it to you. A. Well, it was without our knowledge that that condition of affairs prevailed.

Q. Now, is it not true, Mr. Fair, that the firm of Marshall Field & Co. know nothing of the sanitary condition of the shops in which their goods are made? A. The firm have to rely very largely on their employés to follow instructions. We know we give instructions that if carried out, there would be no question about the sanitary conditions under which our work was done.

Q. What precaution do you exercise to see that your instructions are carried out? A. We keep men in charge that we think we can trust. Now, if they don't carry out those instructions, we have been deceived.

Q. How long since have you known that the last time your shops were investigated was last fall? A. Well, my attention has not been called to it lately.

Q. Within what periods of time do you require the investigations to be made? A. The men who are in charge of that department are supposed to keep the matter up continually. The house is divided into a number of departments; the heads of those departments are supposed to watch things closely.

Q. And you don't know whether the tenement houses where the goods are finished have been inspected? A. Of my knowledge, no.

Q. And you don't know whether the work shops of the sweaters or contractors have been inspected or not? A. I don't know.

Q. How do you know if your employés comply with your instructions? A. Well, in a house of that size there are a great many instructions that we have to assume are being complied with. There are times that we can go into some particular place and notice how things are going on, but the manufacturing business is something outside of the house itself, and it doesn't have any particular connection with matters inside the house.

Q. How much of your clothing is manufactured outside of the State of Illinois—your made-up clothing? A. We don't handle clothing; it is nothing but cloaks as I understand it.

Q. Well, wearing apparel? A. Well, it is but a very small proportion. A. I couldn't answer that exactly. Mr. Templeton, who follows me, could tell you better than I about that part of the business.

Q. An employé of your firm, Mr. Sutcliffe, hs declined to answer the questions propounded by this committee which concern the business relations of your firm with the contractors who

manufacture cloaks for your firm. Now, you are summoned before the committee to know what attitude your firm takes upon the question that we have taken evidence on regarding the operators of the contractors. Now, we desire to be informed in regard to that. A. In regard to the whole matter?

Q. Yes. A. Well, we are very much in sympathy with the efforts to reform this matter, and will do what we can to help it. I presume that this witness misunderstood the meaning of your questions. He thought you were trying to get at what he considered private matters of the firm in regard to the amount of money they were paying, and he didn't feel authorized to state it, but so far as him desiring to be a stumbling block, I don't think so. He knows our position in the matter. I gather from the tone of those questions that he thought you wanted him to state in dollars and cents how much we were paying for everything to the contractors, and he didn't feel at liberty to state.

Q. Do you feel at liberty to give the committee that information? A. Well, I couldn't answer that without thinking it over. As I understand that matter, the prices range very much for that work, and it would be pretty hard to give a specific answer.

Q. You have no knowledge of how much the employés of your contractors receive? A. I have not.

Q. Or how many hours a day they work? A. No.

Q. Or what price per piece they are paying? A. I don't know.

Q. For any part of the work they have been doing? A. I don't know.

Q. Then would it not be necessary for the committee to know how much the contractor receives in order to know what profit he derives from the transaction? A. Well, that I should think was a matter for the contractor to state before the committee.

Q. We have his statement. Now, if your contractor refuses to give that information to this committee, and the firm refuses to give that information to this committee, would it not put the firm in rather a bad attitude before the public? A. Well, that would depend on how the matter was presented.

Q. State if you have any knowledge of what those employés will receive? A. No.

Q. You have positive knowledge of what you pay your contractors? A. I have not personally, but we could find out, but the question is whether it would not be considered a breach of business confidence on our part, and whether we would be compelled to state that I can't say.

Q. I am not entering or trying to discuss whether you would be compelled to state it. I am trying to determine the attitude

of your firm on that question. A. That is the only objection I could see; whether it would be a breach of business confidence.

Q. The policy of your firm is certainly to pay fair compensation for a fair day's labor? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And if any of your sub-contractors fail to give their employés fair, reasonable wages for fair, reasonable services during fair, reasonable hours of labor, it would meet with the disapprobation of your firm? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You have no knowledge to the contrary? A. That they haven't been doing that?

Q. You don't know what wages the finishers of your contractors, or the operators of your contractors, receive? A. I don't.

Q. Would you know what you paid your contractors? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And is the committee to understand that you fully decline to give that information to the committe, speaking as a member of the firm? A. Well, I wouldn't care to do it until we would consider the matter. I would like to take legal advice on the subject first. Let me put this in here by way of explanation; this is not from any disrespect to the committee, but for the reason that I stated before.

Q. If your counsel were to advise you that the committee could not compel you to answer that question, then you would decline to answer it? A. Well, I wouldn't say that yet. I would like to consider it even then.

Q. You are not competing with other firms in the manufacture of your line of work? A. Why, there are other manufacturers, quite a number of them, in the city.

By Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. Who, in your firm, has all of this knowledge of the amount paid to the different contractors for the work done? A. Who in the firm?

Q. Yes. A. Well, I don't know as anybody in the firm knows it, but they could ascertain very readily by referring to the books.

Q Well, what employé of your firm knows personally what is paid to them? A. They don't any of them know, I don't believe, but they could refer to the books.

Q. Who has charge of the work for letting out those contracts? A. Well, Mr. Sutcliffe has charge of it more than anybody. Will you permit me to make another explanation here in regard to this matter; where we have a number of business competitors we wouldn't like to state what we pay for manufacturing.

DQ you know that there is competition on the part of those contractors for work. A. Yes, as there is in all lines of business.

Q. What you pay one contractor may be known to other contractors, might it not? A. Not necessarily; I presume that the contractors are very apt to keep it to themselves, the price they are paid.

Q. What bearing would it have upon the competition for the public to know how much you paid to the contractors for making a cloak? A. Nothing, except the natural desire to know what the competitors are doing, and possibly to enable them to get better terms.

Q. Our reason for asking these questions is to ascertain whether there are living wages or not paid to those people to work in those sweating-shops. A. So I understand.

Q. And it is necessary that we should get that from your firm, as well as any other firm that has this condition of affairs existing, and we are partially responsible, and, if we can't get it, then there are so many unfortunates compelled to suffer by reason of us not being able to reach their condition, or to legislate for them. Now, in view of these facts, I desire to ask you if Marshall Field desires to stand in the way of that? A. No, I want to say that I don't want to stand in the way of it at all.

Q. And, as a member of the firm, you are in favor of any legislation that will render the evil. that will provide a system of inspection on the part of the State in regard to the employment of women and children, and regulate in a measure the manufacture of clothing in tenement-houses? A. We are decidedly in favor of anything that will alleviate their condition and relieve them.

Q. Would your firm approve of that remedy—take into consideration the hours of labor, the sanitary condition and the amount of wages or prices received by those employés? A. We show it by the people who are employed by ourselves, and the way we work for them.

Q. Those people are employed by you? A. Directly under our own supervision.

Q. Would you take into consideration the hours of labor and the wages received by those people in the tenement-houses and the conditions under which those people are compelled to work? A. Most decidedly.

Q. You have not done so heretofore—would you do so hereafter in your attitude towards this question? A. Well, if our instructions were carried out we should not have any work done in a sweat-shop.

Q. When can you inform us as to whether your firm will give us the desired information or not? A. I can let you know to-morrow.

Q. What time to-morrow? A. Are you going to be in session to-morrow?

Q. Yes; at 10 o'clock. A. I think I can find out by that time.

Q. Has the question of these sweat-shops ever been brought to your notice or attention before? A Yes, sir.

Q. When? A. It was brought to my notice last summer, but I was assured at that time that none of our work was given out to shops of that nature.

Q. By whom were you so assured. A. By Mr. Sutcliffe.

Q. And acting upon that assurance, you have done nothing since? A. Done nothing since; we assumed that he was attending to the orders of the firm.

Thomas Templeton, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. Noonan:

Q. What is your name? A. Thomas Templeton.

Q. What is your business? A. Dry goods merchant.

Q. You are a member of Marshall Field & Co., are you not? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is the volume or quantity of the clothing or wearing apparel manufactured by them? A. I can't state that; I can't exactly remember.

Q. Well, approximately? A. From four to five hundred thousand dollars. Of course that is only my memory; I don't certify to you as to the correctness of it at all.

Q. About how much is manufactured by themselves directly and what proportion is manufactured by them through those contractors? A. I couldn't tell you that; I don't know.

Q. Does Mr. Sutcliffe know? Mr. Sutcliffe would know the amount manufactured by the contractors, would he not? A. He might know.

Q. Mr. Sutcliffe has declined to answer a number of questions concerning the prices paid by the firm to the contractors, and questions of that nature, and the committee wants to know what is the attitude of the firm of Marshall Field & Co. upon the investigation seeking to remedy the sweat shop evil as it exists in the city of Chicago? They have from testimony learned the wages and prices paid to the employés and finishers, and one of your contractors, Mr. Laskey, has declined to state the amount he received from your firm, the amount he received for making those cloaks, and we desire to know from your firm what is paid to him? A. I don't know what is paid to him.

Q. You have no knowledge as a member of the firm, nor has any member of the firm any knowledge of the conditions under which those goods are made by the contractors? A. No; the general way is, the parties managing the cloak department are instructed not to encourage any sweat shops nor to give any work into any sweat shops.

Q. What means has the firm of determining whether or not those instructions are carried out? A. We rely on the managers of the cloak department to follow our instructions.

Q. What is your business in the firm? A. To take charge of the offices and bookkeeping, etc.

Q. How long have you been employed there? A. Twenty-five years; since I entered the house.

Q. What objections have you to giving this information to the committee? A. What information do you refer to?

Q. The prices paid by the firm to those contractors who manufacture goods? A. I should say that that was a matter of private business.

Q. The firm has no knowledge of what those employés receive, the employés of the contractor, or the hours of labor that they work, or the sanitary conditions under which they work? A. Personally I should say no, but, as I say, instructions are given to those managing the cloak department not to give out work to any shop where the conditions were not good.

Q. The amount of wages the employés would receive from those contractors is not specified by you in your instructions? A. No, sir.

Q. Nor the hours which they are to work? A. No, sir.

Mrs. Florence Kelly, having been recalled, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. Your examination was made as an expert? A. Yes, sir.

Q. During your investigation as an expert of the department of labor in Washington, you investigated the so-called sweat shops? A. I did.

Q. Among other firms with whom you had interviews was that of Marshall Field? A. Not with the firm; I had an interview with Marshall Field himself, and with Mr. Selfridge, and I tried in vain to obtain an interview with Mr. Fair.

Q. State the nature of the interview? When and where was it? A. The first interview was with Mr. Selfridge, and at Mr. Field's own office.

Q. When? A. It was very early in June; I think it was certainly a few days before Mr. Field sailed for Europe at the beginning of the summer, this last summer, 1892, and, at the second interview with Mr. Selfridge, Mr. Field was also present, at Mr. Selfridge's request.

Q. Who is Mr. Selfridge? A. He is the head man of the retail department, as Mr. Fair is of the wholesale department, and my object was, in going to see Mr. Selfridge, to state to the Field firm, through him—I had letters of introduction—what I had seen in the homes of their finishers, and where I had seen cloaks bearing the tag "M. F. & Co.," and to urge Mr. Field to

put his finishers into decent shops, and prevent his sweaters from giving out further cloaks to finish in the Italian women's homes, and, in that connection, I told Mr. Field what I testified to the other day, and Mr. Field then said that he, personally, was about to sail and could do nothing, but that the person to see was Mr. Fair, and he requested me to call at the wholesale department, at the earliest time I could, and see Mr. Fair, and said that he would instruct Mr. Fair to take prompt action to have the shops investigated and prevent the further giving out of the cloaks. I wrote to Mr. Fair and went to the wholesale department, and, failing to see him, I left a letter, giving him my address, stating that I called at the request of Mr. Field and Mr. Selfridge, and stating what I had seen in the homes of the finishers working for the firm. I never received any further communication from Mr. Fair, or any of the Field firm, except that in August I received a letter from Mr. Selfridge, asking me to call and see a list of the shops that he instructed his employès to visit and report upon. I read the list and it corresponded with my own list. It stated that Lasky's was a shop over a stable, so that the firm knows that. I said to Mr. Selfridge—I pointed out that this was a stable under the shop, and I said that this list touches everything except the point at issue; it makes no reference to the Italian finishers, and the danger of infection; and again, Mr. Selfridge said that Mr. Fair was the man to act upon that. He again begged me to make further effort to see Mr. Fair. I didn't make any further effort because I didn't see what I could do more than to call upon him, and write to him, and leave a note at his place of business, offering to take him to where clothing was being made for them, under such conditions, at that time.

C. J. Shaw, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. Noonan:

Q. What is your name? A. C. J. Shaw.

Q What is your business? A. I am buyer of clothes and suits for Mandel Bros.

Q. Are you the employé of that firm who conducts the business relations for the same with the contractors of those shops that manufacture clothing? A. We have no connection whatever with any shops; we buy our goods ready-made with the exceptions of what is made right in the house.

Q. Where do you buy them? A. In New York and in Europe.

Q. Where in New York? A. In New York City.

Q. Give us the names of the firms there? A. There is Meyer, Johnson & Co., Benjamin & Caspary, A. Friedlander, and Samuel Oppenheim.

Q. All in New York? A. Yes, sir.

Q. None of those goods are manufactured in Chicago? A. No, sir.

Q. Have you any knowledge of the conditions under which your goods are made in the East? A. No personal knowledge.

Q. Have you any contracts with any other institutions outside of New York City for the manufacture of any goods? A. Nothing, except in Europe.

Q. How many persons are employed in your store down here? A. I couldn't give you any idea of that.

Q. You don't know anything about it? A. No, sir.

Q. Have you at any time had any goods manufactured in this city? A. Nothing to speak of. I have been with the firm two and a half years, and I don't think I ever bought all told $2,000 worth of goods in the city.

Q. You receive orders for custom made cloaks, do yo not? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where are those cloaks made? A. In New York. Well, there are two departments in our store; one is the ready-made department and the other is the custom department. All the custom clothes are made in the house.

Q. Have you any knowledge of the workings of that department? A. No, sir; I have nothing to do with that.

Q. You have the ready-made department? A. I have the ready-made department.

Q. For all you know, they have some goods made outside for that department? A. I don't think they do; I know they have tailors at work right there.

Q. You don't think they have any of their goods made outside? A. I don't think they do.

Martin B. Cahn, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. Noonan:

Q. What is your name? A. Martin B. Cahn.

Q. What is your business? A. I am a member of the firm of Cahn, Wampold & Co., manufacturers of clothing, at 204 and 210 Market street.

Q. How long has your firm been engaged in the manufacture of clothing in this city? A. About twenty-seven or twenty-eight years.

Q. What is the volume of business they do per year? A. In the neighborhood of two millions.

Q. What is the volume of the clothing trade of the city per annum? A. The volume of the clothing trade in the city per annum? You mean the amount of business done.

Q. Yes; the entire trade. A. Well, I have not thought that matter over lately, nor have I seen the exact figures, nor do I know how many houses there are, but I imagine that the volume of clothing business done in this town ought to run up to twenty-five or thirty million dollars. I have not thought of it in the last year or two much.

Q. What proportion of your clothing is made in the city? A. Virtually all of it; such a small percentage is made out of the city that I can't consider it. What is made out of the city doesn't come under our own percentage line; it represents only a smaller line that we carry.

Q. Where is that made? A. In New York.

Q. Do you buy from any other institution, outside of New York city, in the United States? A. You mean manufactured clothing?

Q. Yes? A. No, sir; that is the only city where we buy any other, and it is so small that it isn't worth talking about. Our goods are made by ourselves, that being only a certain amount of small ware that we carry to specify our smaller trade.

Q. How do you manufacture this clothing? A. In the regular process that is known here for years: we have journeymen tailors that we employ who own shops, and they take those goods out to make them for the different houses.

Q. How many different shops have you working for you? A. Oh, that varies from time to time; I suppose that the number of shops that our house employs will vary from one hundred to one hundred and forty shops during the year. I suppose, at the present moment, we will be able to figure out one hundred and thirty shops working for our house, if not more.

Q. Which member of your firm deals directly with those contractors? A. Well, I am probably the one who deals more directly than anyone in our firm, inasmuch as I have the manufacturing in charge, and the guidance of the manufacturing.

Q. Will you tell, for the information of the committee, what is the process of negotiating with those contractors; what is the method established in trade? A. Of course, you understand that we don't always do this work ourselves personally, but, as I said, I have the guidance of this department, and am known as the manufacturer in the house; the practical part of it, and all that I leave to my people. Now then, the process is that those journeymen tailors, or owners of the shops, come in and take the different garments that are about to be manufactured. They are cut at our rooms and they make them into a finished garment, and bring them in completed and finished, at a fixed price.

Q. A fixed price before they take the garment out? A. Yes, sir, the price agreed upon between the foremen of that department and the boss tailor, whoever he may be.

Q. Is there a competition on the part of those one hundred and forty contractors to get the work of the firm? A. There is, most assuredly; yes.

Q. When the contract is let, what considerations do the firm take notice of? A. What am I to understand by that?

Q. Well, is it simply a question of the lowest price for finishing the garment that you ever get? A. What consideration does the firm take notice of in making those contracts?

Q. Yes? A. Why, the consideration of the firm is, a good price for work properly done, and satisfactorily done; that is all.

Q. You are not considering the question of good prices; when competition is made to you, what you do consider is the lowest price? A. No, sir; that is, I speak for our house; we don't consider the lowest price as consideration in this case at all.

Q. Well, do you notify one or more contractors? A. Not in all cases; the general rule is that when the work is ready and about to be given out, we have certain shops that have worked for us for years and we know about the work they make: the contractor is summoned—the tailor—and he is approached; he is informed of the nature of the work; he is shown what is expected of him in this and this garment, and he is asked what is his price.

Q. You do that to several? A. We do that in most all cases; then after a shop has worked for the house a long while, we know exactly what work they do, and, of course, it is unnecessary to go through that ceremony.

Q. I mean when you have one hundred garments to be made, or whatever else you have, you send out word to those manufacturers that you have a lot of garments, and to come and look at them? A. We do in some cases, not in all of them; in most cases, we offer direct to those various manufacturers such garments as we have, because there is such a general line of the same class of work that is coming up so fast, it is not necessary to go through that whole thing again. If something out of the general run should occur, we would have to call in a man and explain to him what we wanted done and get his price.

Q. What knowledge have you of the people employed by the contractors to do their work—the operators and finishers? A. The knowledge that I have of those people is gathered from an experience of probably five to eight years. I started out first by doing the working part of the manufacture for my house, and, through that, I often visited those different shops and got an idea of the people who worked there; my idea is, that as a rule they are a pretty fair class of working people; in fact, a very fair class as a rule.

Q. Do you know what wages the contractors pay their hands? A. Do I know what wages they pay them?

Q. Yes; what price per piece? A. I do not, sir.

Q. Do you know what the finishers of those goods receive, the people who work at their homes and finish the goods and bring them back to the contractors? A. I might be able to guess at it, what a thing like that would be worth, but I don't know anything more about it.

Q. You don't know what the contractors pay? A. I do not.

Q. You don't know how many hours a day they work? A. I do not; they may have some certain hours in some shop, but I couldn't answer that question at all.

Q. Do you know what the sanitary conditions are of those shops? A. Yes, I have, in my observations, found some that were looking very badly, so far as the sanitary improvements and conditions were concerned, while others were certainly very fine and above the average.

Q. Do you exercise any precaution, when those goods are returned to you, to prevent any dissemination of the germs of any infectious or contagious diseases? A. When those goods are returned to us, every article is brushed and cleaned.

Q. What do you mean by brushed and cleaned? A. Brushed by people who are in our house for that purpose alone.

Q. That is all that is done? A. That is all, with the exception of certain articles that we put different preparations on to keep out the vermin or moths in the summer time, such as a preparation of camphor and one thing or another to keep the warm and heavy goods in proper condition in the summer season.

Q. To keep them from being moth eaten? A. Yes, sir, or, in fact, infested with any vermin of that kind; tar paper, also, would be used.

Q. Where are the shops located where you get your goods made? A. All over the city.

Q. How many have you on South Canal street; how many in the southwestern portion of the city? A. Well, that I can answer better than the other question, because I couldn't tell you how many are located on South Canal street.

Q. In the southwestern portion of the city? A. In the southwestern portion of the city we have quite a few; we have, perhaps, from ten to twenty shops.

Q. In fact, they are all over the city? A. They are all over the city.

Q. What is the average number of employés in any of the shops? A. I should judge the number of employés in our shops is ten.

Q. About how many finishers has each shop? A. Do you mean for finishing the goods?

Q. Yes? A. I am not well enough versed with the shop system to answer that.

Q. What is the attitude of your firm upon the investigation seeking to remedy the sweat shop evil? A. Why, we have no attitude at all in the matter.

Q Are you in favor of it? A. To tell the truth, we certainly favor the satisfactory arrangement of matters of that kind, be-

cause we have always helped and tried to be patriotic, and have had a spirit of advancement in our house, but I don't know what our attitude should be unless that we want to see everything rectified and satisfactory, and we have always tried to give our goods into such hands as returned them properly and had their places well protected. We have for the past five or eight years employed one man who constantly runs around to to those shops, and who visits those shops day by day and who reports to us the sanitary condition, and the condition generally of the place, and, if there is any doubt at all as to how our goods are being handled or getting out, we don't want to deal with that party. We have a number of times taken our goods and taken them right out of the places where we thought there was any danger of their being infected or any danger of their being handled in the wrong way.

Q. What determines the contract price which you pay contractors? A. The grade of the goods.

Q. Well, the general price in Chicago, is it determined by the competition from the East? A. It wouldn't be in my opinion; no, sir.

Q. If the State were to pass a law requiring inspection of those sweat shop, requiring them to live in more wholesome quarters and to work their employés a less number of hours than is now practiced, would it have a tendency to affect the contracts or increase the price of wages, or lessen the amount of goods to be manufactured? A. That is a question which I hardly know how to answer for this reason, that I am not well enough versed with the running of those manufacturers in those shops.

Q. You have not been to visit them? A. Yes, I have, but I don't know enough in regard to the prices that they pay, or how they work their shops.

Q. Were you ever at 125 West Division street? A. I don't remember that number.

Q. Just east of Milwaukee avenue on the south side of Division street? A. If I know the name of the party who has the shop I might be able to remember.

Q. Rothman? A. Yes, sir; we have had that lady work for us.

Q. He is a man? A. Well, no; she is a married lady; she comes into our house.

Q. Have you ever been to that place? A. Our representative has.

Q. Do you know of any report that has been made of that place? A. I understand that our firm was even quoted in the papers as being accountable to some extent for the unwholesome condition of her shop.

Q. When was that? A. To my knowledge last week some time; I had just returned from New York city.

Q. There were sixty-seven persons employed in a place of 40x20 feet. Do you know if you ever had a report upon that particular place from your representative? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you know the conditions existing there? A. Yes, sir; we were told by our representative that the place was kept so poorly, that the work was handled so poorly, and that the general routine of business there was so loose that it was not advisable for us to put much work into that shop, which has been proven by the fact that I don't believe the lady has had over fifty-six vests during the past two months, whereas she used to do a great deal of work.

Q. How long have you been having clothing made at that place? A. That lady has been working for our house, perhaps, two years. I may be mistaken. It may be a little longer or a little shorter period of time.

Q. Or did that report come to you? A. Well, I don't know exactly when; but I understood that we were mentioned in connection with that shop last week, and I was in New York city, and I was only told of that—the first I knew of it was when I came into the city last Monday on the Pennsylvania limited, I saw it in the *Herald*.

Q. Is it not the practice in the clothing trade in general to give particular attention to what operatives in the shop say; manufacturers know very little of what contractors pay? A. Yes, sir, very little.

Q. That is the practice throughout the clothing trade? A. Well, it is simply a matter that doesn't concern me; the manufacturing houses are dealing directly with the journeyman tailor, and he is responsible for the work.

Q. He is known as the contractor? A. He is known as the contractor, yes, sir.

Q. And the number of his employés and the number of hours they work and the prices per piece they are paid doesn't enter into the consideration of the firm itself? A. It certainly does not; they have no jurisdiction at all in that shop.

Q. Then they pay no attention to it? A. They really can't say anything; they know nothing about it; I couldn't, for instance, say to a shop owner "You are not paying your hands a proper amount for doing this work, or for operating this machine, or making these button holes, considering what you are getting for it. Why don't you pay them more?" I couldn't tell him that, because it is none of my business. I am dealing with him and he is supposed to give me good work for the amount agreed on.

Q. And that same thing prevails throughout the clothing trade in referring to the sanitary condition of the shops? A. Yes, sir, about the same.

Q. Manufacturers as a rule do not inquire where the goods are finished? A. Oh, I beg your pardon, but I answered that awhile ago. I said that the general instructions were to see where the goods would go, and I repeat that; I can answer that question that way. I say that we, as a house in particular, make it our business to inquire in every case where those garments are going.

Q. As to the shop you mean? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you inquire where the shop sends them to be finished? A. We do as a general rule, yes, sir, because we have occasionally been obliged to take the work away from the finishers in order to get them in, and we know that they are often spread about in the city, and we try, if possible, to get our goods into such houses as will keep them intact as much as they can.

George H. Laubenstein, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. What is your name? A. George H. Laubenstein.

Q. Where do you live? A. LaGrange, fourteen miles out.

Q. In this county? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is your business? A. Designer and foreman for Charles P. Kellogg & Company.

Q. Are you the person in charge of distributing this work to your small contractors? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What do you manufacture? A. Everything in the mens' line.

Q. How much business do you do a year? A. Well, I have no idea; we do a big business; I couldn't tell you that; I don't know; we do an immense business, I know that.

Q. In mens' and childrens' clothing? A. Mens' boys' and childrens' clothing.

Q. Have you an idea of about how much business you do a year? A. No, I have not.

Q. Do you know about what percentage of your clothing is made here in Chicago? A. All of it.

Q. Are you positive of that? A. Well, I won't be positive; they might get some cheap stuff down east that we can't make here.

Q. Do you know where in the east they buy? A. No, sir.

Q. Anywhere else? A. No, I guess that is all; that is all that I know of.

Q. Do you know what firms in New York city they buy from? A. There is a firm named George Bernard.

Q. How many contractors working in shops of their own—shops controlled by them—work for your firm in this city? A. Oh, probably a hundred or a hundred and fifty.

Q. Who gives them this work? A. I do.

Q. Do you make arrangements with them concerning the work? A. Yes, and the prices.

Q. Have you visited those shops? A. Some.

Q. Has your firm any arrangements made for the visiting of those shops? A. For themselves, you mean?

Q. Yes, your firm? A. They never visit the shops.

Q. Have they instructed you to visit the shops? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you please state to the committee the instructions given you by your firm in regard to visiting those shops? A. Only in regard to hurrying work; when lots of work is out a long time, we have to go ourselves in order to push it along.

Q. That is the only instruction you have from your firm; and you are permitted in visiting the shops to inquire about nothing else than pushing the work? A. That is all, sir.

Q. You never looked at the shops and inspected their sanitary requirements and conditions? A. Oh, I have seen them, yes, sir; and spoke about them, too.

Q. There were no instructions from your firm as to that? A. No, sir.

Q. Now, where are the shops, wherein you have your work done, situated here in the city? A. All over.

Q. Where are they principally; what sections? A. In the northwest and southwest.

Q. What clothing do you give out to those shops? A. All kinds; good, bad and indifferent; the cheapest and the best.

Q. Men's and boys' and children's? A. Yes, sir; everything.

Q. Now, you gave out this work. Will you please state in what lots you give out the work to those different shops? A. Just according to how they are cut, twenty-five, fifty, one hundred and fifty and two hundred; that is what we generally do if we possibly can; we separate them; one man makes coats, another makes vests, another makes pants; no one man makes the whole suit.

Q. Now, you have, for instance, a hundred coats to be made, what is your procedure in giving those to those different tailor shops? A. Well, now, we start out: we know what we ought to pay when we start; we know what we ought to pay for making that garment. We have different classes of tailors, running from the lowest price to the best. As soon as the work is ready to go out, I know the man that I am going to give that to. We have two shilling workers and three shilling workers, and I know who I am going to give that work to.

Q. Then there is no competion at all. You just give it to the man in that class? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, how do you fix the price? A. According to the grade of goods; what the goods cost per yard, and also the price they will be sold for.

Q. Now, what do you pay for your cheapest goods that are manufactured? A. Men's goods?

Q. Yes. A. Thirty-five cents a coat; that is the cheapest.

Q. Now, boys' coats? A. About thirty cents.

Q. Children's coats? A. Well, they run twenty-five cents; that is the very cheapest.

Q. And they run up how high in men's coats? A. In fine overcoats they run up as high as three dollars and fifty cents.

Q. And in boys' coats? A. Well, we don't begin to come anywhere near that; we don't manufacture the stuff in boys' that we do in men's. There would'nt be any comparison between a boy's and a man's coat, because we don't pay the attention to them. We have boys' garments that we pay as high as nine and ten shillings for, and for children's we pay as high as six or seven shillings, ninety cents. That is undercoats, not overcoats.

Q. You manufacture a great deal of children's clothes? A. A great deal, yes, sir.

Q. But your work is done outside in those shops? A. Everything, yes, sir; we have nothing manufactured inside.

Q. How long have you been in the business yourself? A. Twenty-two years.

Q. How long have you been with this firm? A. Ten years; I was down East for the balance of the time before that.

Q. How are the prices paid to contractors now—are they lower than they have been heretofore? A. Well, I will tell you, they are higher now; they will be higher, too. It is the demand that regulates the prices. When business is quiet with us, and tailors are plenty, you can get work done real cheap, and you can't when business is good. The tailors can get what they wish, almost.

Q. You say that the prices paid to-day will compare very favorably with the prices paid two years ago, or a year ago? A. Yes, I think fully as good.

Q. How will they compare with what was paid five years ago? A. Well, hardly as good.

Q. What is the difference? A. Not very much; I don't think it would be ten per cent.

Q. Now, when your firm gives out goods, what is it you consider in giving them out, as to the price you pay your contractor for making them up? What does your firm take into consideration in paying that? A. In the work, you mean?

Q. Yes? A. Well, in the first place we want good work; that is the first thing we desire; the next thing is quickness; we want the garment to come in pretty near as it is cut, and clean work.

Q. As to the price paid? A. Well, it doesn't make any difference. Of course, you take a man that makes fifty cent coats, and he couldn't make a dollar coat to suit you. He is expected to have that looking pretty good. There is not as much work in it as there is in a dollar coat.

Q. Do you know how long it takes to make that coat? A. No; this man that makes the three and a half coat, if he makes seventy-five a week he does well, and he ought to make one hundred and fifty a week.

Q. Seventy-five what? A. Seventy-five coats.

Q. That is, with his whole shop? A. Yes, with the shop.

Q. Have you any idea how long it takes an individual to make a coat? A. No, sir; I couldn't tell you.

Q. To turn out seventy-five coats, how many hands will he have to have in the shop? A. Well, I know one case, especially, of a man who runs three machines—to do that he will have to have about ten hands, possibly twelve. Well, he wouldn't hardly turn out seventy-five. He would turn out, probably, sixty-five. Well, they run from sixty-five to seventy-five.

Q. Now, you say you haven't visited those shops in regard to looking at their sanitary condition? A. No, I haven't gone there any further.

Q. Does your firm exercise a degree of care in having the clothing made in those shops disinfected? A. To have the shops disinfected?

Q. The clothing? A. No, I don't know as they do.

Q. These garments are made in those shops, and some of them are located in basements, is that not so? A. There are some in basements.

Q. Some in tenement houses? A. Well, I haven't been in a shop that works for us that has been located in a tenement house. Well, yes, there may be tenement houses underneath and shops upstairs, but what I mean to say by that is, the work is not made in the house; those coat makers, the larger dealers that I go to see, are not working in tenement houses; there might be tenement houses underneath the shops.

Q. Do you take any precaution against the spread of disease at all? A. I never have to do it. I have three children, and I never have to do it.

Q. Now, did you give work to those contractors that you have—do you give them work by the month or by the day, or piece work? A. No, sir, piece work.

Q. But what arrangements did you have with them so that they will know what work they will have for each month? A. We don't make any arrangements with them at all; we simply tell them that we will try and keep them going if they are good men.

Q. Well, a good many of the men, the sweaters, complain that the reason why they can't have better quarters is that they can't tell what they will have from week to week, and they rent their rooms accordingly. A. If a man is a good man he will get what work he wants; now, here is a man that goes into the business. He will start with two machines in the room; he does good work, and pu s in another machine, and his work increases, but the room doesn't increase, and he puts in another machine; he doesn't increase his room, but he increases his help, and he is making more money.

Q. Do you know whether those contractors sub-let the work to finishers? A. Not in coats they don't, but in pants they do; they have to do that.

Q. Do you have any supervision over the people to whom they let out this work? A. Not when they sub-let it; I don't know them at all; I have no idea.

Q. Were you ever at this shop at 219 west Division street—Rothman? A. Yes, I have been there.

Q. Down in the basement? A. No, he is on the ground floor.

Q. 219 is a basement shop? A. He is a vestman, is he?

Q. Yes. A. I never was in his shop.

Q. They do work for you? A. Very little, indeed.

Q. Do you know what is the rate of wages paid by those contractors to their employés? A. I couldn't tell you that.

Q. What is the price per piece paid? A. I couldn't tell you that; I know that in the finer grade of work they pay their hands fifteen and sixteen dollars a week, that is to their men machine operators; lots of those contractors have men that operate the machines.

Q. How many hours a week do they work when they earn that money? A. Sixty; I believe that is the rule, ten hours a day.

Q. Do you know how many hours a day they work? A. No, I couldn't swear to it, only from what they tell me.

Q. Don't the sixteen dollars a week men have helpers to help them, and have to pay them out of that? A. No, sir, I don't think they do; in fact, I am almost positive they don't.

Q. What class of people are employed mostly in this machine work? A. Almost all foreigners.

Q. And recent comers? A. Well, I don't strike much of them; once in a while we do.

Q. Have you ever made an investigation on the influence on the health of those machine operators, or the effect upon them of operating a treadle? A. If you were in the business as long as I was you wouldn't think of those things. It is come and go and come and go. You get so used to it that you don't think of it. Honestly, I never think of those operators, although it isn't right for me to say so.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. What effect would it have upon the trade if the state would require the contractors of these sweat shops to provide better quarters, and to decrease the number of hours of labor to, say, eight hours a day? A. Well, as far as making them have better quarters, that, I don't think, would have any effect. I don't know how that eight hour business would work here in Chicago. At certain times of the year eight hours are all right, but at certain times of the year it might push us to get work made.

Q. It might increase the demand for labor, might it not? A. Well, I should think so.

Q. And the tendency to increase the demand would have a tendency to increase the scale of wages, and the tendency to increase the scale of wages, would it or would it not, increase the amount the contractor would receive? A. I don't understand you.

Q. If the scale of wages were increased by the demand for labor, would the contractor increase his price or not? A. I couldn't say; probably he would.

Q. Have you any idea of what the contractor makes? A. I haven't the least idea.

Q. Is your firm in favor of regulating those establishments? A. Oh, yes, we always were.

Q. So as to bring about better sanitary conditions? A. Yes, sir, sure; I know we give work out to people that, if we find their shops in bad shape, we will take it away from them.

Q. Does the cost of the goods manufactured in the East determine the price paid by you for the manufacture of goods here? A. Yes to a certain extent it does. We come in competition with those folks; they make clothing cheaper in New York than we do here.

Q. Have you any idea under what conditions they make them there? A. No, sir; I have not.

Q. Do you know whether they make them themselves or get them made? A. They run big shops of their own, I believe. I don't know whether they could begin to make all their clothing in shops, whether they peddle it out or not.

Q. Have you any knowledge of any clothes being made in any of the State institutions in the East? A. No, sir.

Q. Did you ever hear that goods that came here have been made in any of the State institutions of the East? A. Oh, yes; I have heard of it.

Q. Do you know if any of those are sold in the Chicago market? A. Well, I couldn't state.

Q. Do you know any firms that patronize those State institutions of the East in Chicago? A. Must I answer a question like that?

Q. Yes, it is a proper question? A. Well, I will tell you; our concern has bought a few goods there last season.

Q. Where? A. In New York.

Q. At Sing Sing? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then the goods made here naturally come in competion with them? A. But we make those goods here this year ourselves.

Q. Do you know of any other concern? A. No, sir.

Q. Now, has your firm taken any steps to look into the sanitary condition of those sweat shops? A. Only merely when I go around or when my assistant goes around to see the condition of the men's shops.

Q. Can you give us an idea of the differences in price of the goods manufactured in the east and those manufactured here, and why it is impossible to compete with them? A. Well, I think in regard to that, that only pertains to a cheaper class of goods. Not the fine goods I think it is about an even thing.

Q. You stated a moment ago that it was hard to compete with this manufactured clothing in the east? A. On the cheaper coats.

Q. You can manufacture them here as cheap as that? A. No, sir.

Q. Are those prices in the east affected by the goods made in the institutions of the State? A. That I couldn't tell you, sir, I don't know anything about it.

Q. Well, because of the fact that the clothes are made so cheap in the east, that is why the prices are so low here for the manufacturer? A. Well, I suppose that must be the cause.

Q. Can you tell us the name of some firms that buy a great deal of their clothing in the east? A. No, sir, I don't know of anybody on the outside. The only thing I ever heard was that little wrangle in the paper between those two concerns here in regard to a contract.

Q. What firms were those? A. Rothschild and Clement, Bane & Company were the two firms mentioned.

Q. What institutions was it that were mentioned in connection with that? A. I don't know; I don't believe it was stated.

T. F. Vaughan, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. What is your name? A. T. F. Vaughan.

Q. Where do you live? A. 4346 Greenwood avenue.

Q. What is your business? A. Wholesale clothing.

Q. Your place of business? A. 203 Monroe street.

Q. What is the name of your firm? A. E. Rothschild & Brother.

Q. Are you one of the firm? A. No, sir.

Q. You have charge of a department? A. I have charge of the financial department.

Q. Will you state to us the amount of clothing manufactured or sold by your firm every year? A. We sold last year about a million and three quarters.

Q. How much of those goods were manufactured here in Chicago? A. Most all of them.

Q. What portion of them were manufactured elsewhere? A. Well, a very small proportion, not over ten or twelve thousand dollars.

Q. Where were they manufactured? A. Some of them were manufactured in New York.

Q. Where in New York? A. I think at Sing Sing, a few of them.

Q. Now, how much clothing was manufactured at Sing Sing? A. The amount I have stated; not over $12,000 worth.

Q. What kind of clothing were they? A. Very cheap.

Q. Boys' or men's clothing? A. Both boys' and men's.

Q. Have you any shops here in Chicago to do your work? A. Yes, sir.

Q. About how many? A. Probably fifty or sixty.

Q. Now, have you been to see those shops? A. Not personally.

Q. What class of clothing do they manufacture for you in those shops? A. They manufacture all classes, cheap, medium and fine.

Q. About what is the average number of hands employed in those shops? A. Well, I should say probably they average from ten to thirty-five or forty persons.

Q. Where in the city are those shops located? A. Well, they are located at different places.

Q. Are you the member of this firm of Rothschild & Company that deals with those contractors? A. No, sir; the manager.

Q. What is his name? A. His name is Harry Simon.

Q. Last year you said there was twelve thousand dollars' worth of goods manufactured outside of the State in New York? A. Yes, sir.

Q. At the present? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Are you under contract with them now? A. No, sir.

Q. You were under contract then? A. We did buy those goods from them.

Q. What other firm in Chicago buys goods from them? A. I think most all the wholesale clothing firms.

Q. Could you name some of them that you have personal knowledge of who deal with the State institution in New York? A. I couldn't of my personal knowledge, only from the man that runs that business saying that most of the houses buy from him.

Q. Do you know his name? A. Yes, sir; Cane.

Q. What is his first name? A. I think the firm is Cane, McCaffrey & Company, of New York; that is the firm that we buy those goods of; and I understood that these goods were made at Sing Sing that we bought from them.

Q. And it was with this firm that you contracted? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was the duration and extent of the contract? A. Well, it was only a contract as far as an order was placed for so many goods.

Q. The firm had the knowledge that they were to be made in Sing Sing, did it? A. I think so.

Q. Now, they were the cheapest grades of men's and boys' clothing? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You make similar grades amongst the contractors here? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Can you compete with the prices? A. No, sir.

Q. What is the difference between the prices of those garments made in the New York penitentiary and those made in the houses here? A. Well, I should think probably twenty-five cents a garment.

Q. What would be the cost of the garment? A. I had better let the manufacturer tell you that.

Q. What would be the percentage of difference, in your opinion? A. I should think, perhaps, from one-eighth to one-sixteenth less than we could manufacture the same garment.

Q. Do you know where in New York, Cane, McCaffrey & Company's place of business is? A. I couldn't tell you.

Q. That is a prominent firm, is it? A. It is quite prominent, I believe.

Q. Do you know of any other firm in New York, or Pennsylvania, or Massachusetts, that have their clothing made in state institutions? A. I don't know anything about those firms at all.

Q. Has your firm taken any steps to look into the sanitary conditions of those shops wherein you have your clothing manufactured here in Chicago? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Will you state what steps you have taken? A. We have a man who goes around with a team, with a wagon, whenever we are in a hurry for goods; he visits our tailors, and I have instructed him personally that if he found any places that were dirty, or where there was any disease, or anything of that nature, to inform us at once.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. Did he find any such places? A. He found two places. Our manufacturer can give you those names. He thought they were not fit places to manufacture goods and we stopped employing them at once.

Q. Have you any knowledge of the sanitary conditions of the dwellings in which the goods are finished by the employés of the contractors? A. Only so far as reported by this man I speak of.

Q. How often does he report? A. Whenever he finds anything that is necessary to be reported; not very often.

Q. Will you state in what instances he has made an adverse report? A. He made, as I stated a minute ago, in two instances, and that is, I think, within the past two months or nine weeks.

Q. How many contractors have you in your employ? A. I think in the neighborhood of eighty or sixty.

Q. How many have those shops in their employ which finish your goods? A. Well, my judgment is, from ten to twenty-five or thirty people each.

Q. That is the number of people in each shop? A. Yes, sir.

Q. All the goods are finished outside of those by other people, are they not? A. Not that I am aware of.

Q. Aren't the pants and vests finished outside of the shop of the sweater, by some finisher who returns them to the contractor? A. That I am not aware of, if it is so.

Q. What knowledge of sanitary inspection has the person in your employ who goes around to visit those places? A. Why,

he is a clean, intelligent man; he should know whether the place is clean or healthy.

Q. What precautions, if any, did you exercise to prevent the dissemination of infectious or contagious diseases being carried in the garments manufactured in those shops? A. Nothing, only so far as to try to see that they are made in proper places.

By Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. You have been in the business how long? A. I have been there ten years.

Q. How long have you been with this firm of Rothschild Brothers? A. Ten years.

Q. Now, the wages paid to-day, that is the piece price, is lower to-day than it was a year ago, is it not? A. I only know as to that what our manufacturer says; he says there is not much difference.

Q. But still it is lower? A. I don't know whether it is or not; he says there is very little difference.

Q. Well, as to five years ago? A. I didn't ask him the particular number of years.

Q. Now, a great deal of this poor grade of clothing is made in the shops here? A. All that we sell is made with the exception of that little we bought in New York.

Q. What was the reason you didn't get more clothes from New York from this firm? A. Because we didn't like them after we did get them, and they were not properly made, and they didn't give any satisfaction.

Q. Do you know anything about Cane, McCaffrey & Company's business? A. I don't know anything as to their business.

Q. You say there are several firms here that buy from them? A. Mr. Cane told me personally that almost every house in the city handled their goods.

Q. Well, that has an effect on the prices of goods here, has it not? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And if all the firms here handled their goods, the employés in those shops must work for cheaper wages in order to allow the firms here to compete? A. Well, not necessarily, for the reason that I bring the argument to bear, that I would rather pay twenty-five or thirty cents more for those suits, and have them made and give satisfaction, than to pay less and not give satisfaction.

Q. But still they sell to all intents and purposes the some as the goods made here? A. A little cheaper; they make what we call a class of leaders, worsted and cotton, and such things as that; you can never get a good price for it.

Q. What does the employer get for making it? A. I don't know.

Q. Do you know the prices paid for making such things as that to the contractor by your firm? A. No, sir; our contractors can tell you.

Q. What class of goods were those you purchased in New York? A. A very cheap class; cotton, worsteds and satinets.

Q. The entire suits—pants, coats and vests? A. Yes, sir.

Q. When was it you talked with Cane, McCaffrey & Co.? A. The last time I saw him was about six weeks ago.

Q. You met him in Chicago? A. Yes, selling goods in this market.

Q. He told you then that all the clothing houses here bought of him? A. Yes, sir; and I told the firm that I wouldn't buy anything of him, that I wouldn't have anything to do with that class of goods.

Q. They come here every season, do they? A. Every season.

Q. Are there any other State institutions competing in this clothing line? A. Not that I am aware of. I would like to ask just one question. I notice that in your investigations you gave the name of a tailor who claimed to work for us. It was a Mrs. Somebody; I forget the name, but I would like to deny the fact and say that she never worked for us.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. Garbulsky is the name, at 257 West Polk street. The room was 17x7; with seven in the family, four small children in one room; they were in a dying condition with measles,—one of them was—and the other three just recovering. The oldest girl was 14 years of age, and worked about ten hours a day, for which she received $1.50 a week; got a half hour for dinner; worked for Rothschild & Co.? A. That is not our firm. Our firm is E. Rothschild & Bro. Now, the report said that this firm made clothing for Rothschild on Monroe street. Well, there is another Rothschild on Monroe street. I don't know the name of this other firm but they are just west of us. I have here a list of our tailors; I took it from the books to show you that we have no such name on the books.

Q. Well, those were the answers given by the person occupying the premises? A. Yes, but it leaves a false impression.

Q. Well, there is a place on Dickson street where the conditions were just as bad; they produced the tag of E. Rothschild & Bro.? A. How do you spell that name Garbulsky?

Q. Garbulsky? A. They never did work for us.

By Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. Now, in the clothing line here, there is an organization of clothing cutters? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And there are clothing makers, that is, finishers and machine hands? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And in this city the business would be somewhat affected in those different lines from the fact of goods coming from the eastern penitentiaries into this market. A. I think they affect them some, but the proportion would be very small.

Q. It would affect them some? A. Naturally.

Harry Simon, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. What is your name? A. Harry Simon.

Q. Where do you live? A. No. 9, Ada street.

Q. What is your business? A. Superintendent of the manufacturing department of E. Rothschild & Bro.

Q. Where is their place of business? A. 203 and 205 Monroe street.

Q. In the city of Chicago? A. In the city of Chicago.

Q. Can you give us an idea of about the amount of cloth that you manufacture in a year in Chicago here? A. Well, I never gave it time to consider; it keeps me busy from one end of the year to the other up there.

Q. What do you do? A. I superintend it; I manage the entire manufacturing department; I give out the work to the tailors, see to the tailors, attend to the cutters, attend to the hiring and discharging, and everything.

Q. How much of your clothing, that is sold in the Chicago market, is made outside of the state of Illinois? A. We make all our clothing up there.

Q. Last year did you make it all up there? A. Yes, sir, all that we got there.

Q. Didn't the firm purchase some outside of the store? A. They purchased some.

Q. Did they purchase any this year? A. No.

Q. Where did they purchase? A. In the east.

Q. Where were the goods made? A. They were made in New York city.

Q. What firms in New York city did you purchase those clothes from? A. I don't know; I didn't look into that at all; it is out of my line entirely.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. What is the method pursued by your firm in relation to the letting of this work outside? A. How do you mean?

Q. You hire journeymen tailors and contractors who have shops located elsewhere? A. Well, the bosses themselves come in and get the work; I contract for the work with them, and give it out to them to be made.

Q. At so much per garment? A. So much per garment.

Q. And when the garments are finished they get their pay? A. Yes, sir. We examine them and if they are all right they get their pay.

Q. What sort of regulations do you provide for the shops that these people have; does it make any difference to you what the shops are? A. Oh, it does; we generally go by the appearance of a tailor; if he is a clean looking man he gets the work; if he is dirty looking I don't give him any work.

Q. Is it not the practice with those contractors to give out the finishing to people who live at home? A. Well, that is only in pants and vests, but not in coats. Pants and vests have got to be finished outside.

Q. Do you manufacture pants and vests too? A. Oh, yes, coats, pants and vests.

Q. Do you know anything about those finishers that do the work for the contractors? A. Well, I don't come in contact with them and never see them.

Q. How often do you visit those shops? A. Well, I generally make it a rule in the season to visit them twice; that is four times a year.

Q. And what is the object of your visit? A. Well, in the first place to see how the work is getting along; in the second place to see how they do the work, and the third, to see whether the shops are clean, and see whether they are in good order.

Q. You do that personally? A. That, I do. Well, I have a man out among the tailors all the time to hurry the goods up.

Q. He carries the goods there and brings them away? A. No, sir. He just hurries them.

Q. What does this man do? A. All he does is to hurry in the goods. There are so many clothing houses here in town that one wants to handle the work quicker than the other.

Q. Do you take any precaution to prevent the spread of any disease by reason of germs being in this clothing or those clothes being manufactured, or finished in places where infectious or contagious diseases exist? A. I can't exactly tell where contagious diseases are.

Q. Do you take any precautions? A. I know there are districts here where we wouldn't have a tailor in the district.

Q. What district is that? A. That is the district around Liberty street, Wilson street, Judd street, from 12th to 14th street, around Union and Canal streets.

Q. When the goods are returned to you, you don't undertake to put them through any process of disinfection or fumigation? A. None at all.

Q. Have you given any goods to 82 Wilson street to be made? A. What is the name?

Q. Do you know 709 Dickson street where they make knee pants? A. For us? He is no tailor of ours.

Q. Have you any knowledge of the hours of labor or the price per piece that is paid by those contractors to their employés? A. No, I have not.

Q. There is great competition between the contractors to get work? A. There is.

Q. And if the contractor appears to be a clean looking man, and would give you the lowest bid for a job of work, he is very apt to get the contract? A. That is right.

Q. You don't take into consideration at the time he gets the contract under what conditions the goods are made afterwards? A. Well, I know who the parties are before I give it out; I know the class of work they make up.

Q. But you don't know under what conditions the work is being made though? A. No, that I don't.

Q. What, if any, suggestions have you to offer for the remedy of what is known as the sweat shop evil? A. I don't know what a sweat shop is, that is what puzzles me. I don't know what you mean by sweat shop.

Q. Do you know of goods being made and manufactured for your firm in tenement houses, by people other than those who are members of the family living there? A. Do I know it?

Q. Yes. A. Not to my knowledge—yes, I know two of them.

Q. How many people are working in the shop besides the family that lives in the adjoining rooms? A. You mean the adjoining rooms in the house?

Q. Yes. A. No, I haven't any of that kind. I thought you meant in the same house.

Q. Where are the shops that you employ located? A. They are located all over the city.

Q. Have they any tenement rooms adjoining the shop? A. Only where they live in.

Q. They live in the rooms adjoining the work shop? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And how many people work in that room? A. Well, it is according to the size of the shop.

Q. From ten upwards? A. Sometimes there is only from six to ten or from six to twelve.

Q. Did Rothman, at 145 Division street, ever do any work for you? A. No, sir.

Q In those shops where you say they have from six to ten people working in a room adjoining the living room, do you believe the sanitary conditon are complied with and that your firm is perfectly justified in giving them work? A. I think they are.

Q. Do you believe your firm is perfectly justified and the public is perfectly protected in having those shops give work out to be finished in tenement houses? A. Well, I don't know; it is according to what neighborhood you get in.

Q. You say your shops are located all over the city? A. Yes, sir.

Q. They are located in districts where the rent is cheap, are they not? A. Well, it is where all the tailor shops are located.

Q. Some of your shops are in basements, are they not? A. Some are.

Q. And some of them are in the rear of the main buildings? A. Yes, sir.

Q. The men and women work together in the same room? A. They do.

Q. You don't know anything personally about the sanitary arrangements there? A. I never investigated it.

Q. Isn't it possible, if any member of a family where your clothes were being manufactured had a contagious or infectious disease, would it not be possible that those clothes would become contaminated and that the disease would be spread to the people who wore those clothes? A. We have men out all the time, and we can tell if there is any disease of that kind in those places; there is a sign on the building; he notifies us.

Q. Your man goes to the contractor and gets the work—does he go to the finishers and get the work? A. He has nothing to do with the finishers.

Q. Aren't those goods of yours finished at the houses of the finishers? A. They are.

Q. Might not those goods be finished at a house where contagious diseases exist? A. We leave that to the contractor; that is his look out.

Q. Then you take no precautions about that yourself? You leave that to the contractor? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then you are satisfied with those conditions? A. Well, it is only the pants and vests that we send out.

Q. A disease could be spread through the pants or vests as well as it could through the coats? A. Yes, sir.

Israel Reens, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. Noonan:

Q. What is your name? A. Israel Reens.

Q. What is your business? A. I am foreman and manager for Ail, Singer & Co.

Q. Where is their place of business? A. 168 and 172 Market street, Chicago, Illinois.

Q. How long have you been so employed? A. Seven years.

Q. What are the duties of your position? A. It is to give out goods to tailors and have them cut, and the general supervision of the manufacture.

Q. What is the business of your firm? A. Manufacturing tailor.

Q. How much business do they do a year? A. Well, I can't positively say about the financial matters.

Q. About how much? A. Well, the firm dissolved two years ago; the firm used to be larger; Mr. Singer is alone now, and it is not as extensive as it was in former years. We have done a business of close on to a million.

Q. You don't think it is that large this year? A. No, it is not.

Q. What proportion of the goods you handle do you manufacture yourselves? A. I should think nine-tenths.

Q. Now, did you buy the other tenth already manufactured? A. Yes, only a small quantity. They are very common goods. It doesn't pay us to manufacture them.

Q. Where are they manufactured, do you know? A. Well, they are manufactured East—in New York.

Q. You buy them from a New York firm? A. Yes, sir.

Q. From one particular firm or from several firms? A. I have no connection with the buying.

Q. Do you know where in New York they are made? A. I couldn't tell you; I think in New York City, to the best of my knowledge. I couldn't name the firms because I have nothing to do with the financial part of the business.

Q. You give out the work for those contractors and fix the price they shall receive per garment do you? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Is that done by competition among the contractors, or do you fix the price yourself? A. Well, there is you might say an established price for certain lines of goods. It depends upon the quality of the goods and how they are to be made.

Q. The manufacturer gets a lot of goods from you and takes them away and manufactures them and brings them back? A. Yes, sir; he gets so much per piece for pants and vests or whatever it is.

Q. Have you any knowledge of what he pays his employés? A. Well, I have this knowledge that I have made it a study very often to inquire after those things. I have been in shops which I thought were not suitable for human beings, and I found out or learned that it was the fault of the contractors principally, because I have known of tailors that had their people working in little woodsheds, you might say, and three or four years afterwards they would put up a three or four-story building. It is not because they don't make money enough, because they do; they could better afford to pay their help; and on the other hand again, some tailors have been telling me that it is very rarely that their hands work a full week. The wages would amount to $7, $8 or $9 a week, and they rarely received more than $5, they are absent so much; they go to balls and parties and don't appear the next day.

Q It is the practice among the manufacturing firms to pay no attention to what the contractor pays his employés? A. No, we have nothing to do with it.

Q. And you have nothing to do with what he pays for the finishers for that part of his work? A. No, he simply deals with the man that takes the work.

Q. Neither do you take any notice of the conditions of his shop or the sanitary arrangements. A. I have at times, and have refused to give some of them work, Now, we haven't one tailor on the West side, that is the boundary of Halsted and Canal street; we haven't one tailor there where we had several when I first came there.

Q. But they are still working there? A. Not for us.

Q. Well, they are making goods for some other firm then. A. I suppose so.

Q. But isn't it the practice of the manufacturing firms to pay no attention to the conditions of the shop where the goods are made? A. Well, I guess as a rule they pay no attention to it.

Q. What they want is to have the goods made according to the way they state for the price they agree on? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Are the prices paid by you to those contractors affected by the price you have to pay for the goods east? Or by the competitors you have in the wholesale trade from the east? A. Yes, I think that the industry in the cheaper grades of goods is not as extensive by two-thirds as they were formerly on account of prison-made goods. They are really forced upon the market in order to force competition.

Q. And your scale of wages is affected by that? A. Yes, especially in common grades of goods.

Q. Does your firm handle any of those goods? A. No.

Q. Can you give us the names of some of those firms here that do? A. No, I couldn't tell you; it doesn't make any dif-

ference to any house to pay a larger price for the making of their goods if they could meet competition.

Q. Wouldn't it help the condition of the employés, the basters and button-hole makers, etc., who do the work, if they found out what the firms paid the contractor? A. It makes no difference; if the contractor made $2 more the employé won't get any benefit from it.

Q. Couldn't you arrange with the contractor that he should pay the employé more? A. No, you can't regulate that, because it is done in such a manner that you have to get your spring goods done in such a time, and if you can't do it there, you must go elsewhere to get your work done. I found occasions of that kind where you have to give them your way, and if you don't they will say, "Don't send me any work, I will get it elsewhere." They have all they can do. But I think the greatest difficulty is due to the large production of cheap goods coming in from the east, and also to the large quantities of goods thrown on the market through failures that are sold at a sacrifice, which those large concerns buy.

By Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. That affects the clothing cutters and tailors and machine hands? A. It affects them all.

Q. And has a tendency to lower wages? A. Certainly.

Q. In your opinion isn't the condition of the sweat shop brought to such a low pitch by the fact of having to compete with the east, and also by the contractor himself? A. In certain lines it is.

Q. It is decidedly so in the cheaper grades? A. In the cheaper grades it is, only it compels a man to lower his expenses in order to come out even, but in better grades of goods, such as are manufactured down east, I think there is no necessity for the sweaters, as you call them, to carry on their business in such places as some of them are doing.

Q. And if the sweaters were compelled by law to work in places with better sanitary conditions, it wouldn't lessen the amount paid to each of the operators or employés, would it? A. It ought not to. From experience I would say that the majority of those tailors, after they are in this country three or four years, they have accumulated sufficient funds to erect their own homes. They do it out of their earnings. But you take a man in business, it will take him ten years to do it. It goes to show that it is taken from the earnings of their employés. I have been among those people over and over; I get up there three or four times a week; I have given this thing careful study, and I have seen some of them in places that ought not to be tolerated by law. But it is not the fault of the wholesaler; it is the fault of the man who takes out the work, the contractor himself, and the majority of them don't speak the language of the country, and you can't tell them any-

thing; they won't understand you. They are used to that mode of living and it is hard to get them to change it unless they are forced to.

Q. What suggestions have you, if any, to offer to the committee? A. Well, I think that the ordinance introduced in the council last night fits the case exactly. I don't know whether you have heard it. That is, that where a man has a tailor shop he shall make application for a license, and a number of machines shall be placed in there, and a member of the health department shall go there and see if the place is suitable to locate so many machines in, and if the place is unfit for use, not to grant them the license; and certainly I would be opposed to tolerate any prison productions to be sold in the market, and those are the views of Mr. Singer.

L. Drom, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. Noonan:

Q. Please state your name, place of residence and occupation? A. L. Drom, 244 Jackson street, Chicago; I live at 3641 Forrest avenue.

Q. What is the name of your firm? A. Strauss, Eisendrath & Drom.

Q. What kind of business is your firm engaged in? A. We are manufacturing knee pants, young men's pants and boys' shirt waists and ladies short waists.

Q. How long have you been engaged in that business in the city? A. We have been engaged in that business now about eight years?

Q. What is the amount of business you do in a year? A. Well, our sales will run about $350.000.

Q. What proportion of the business do you manufacture yourselves? A. We manufacture all of our goods.

Q. You don't buy any goods manufactured outside of the city? A. No, sir; we manufacture all of our goods.

Q. Do you manufacture the goods here in the factory, or do you send them out to be made up? A. Part of our stuff we manufacture under our own supervision, and part we give out.

Q. What proportion of your work do you give out? A. I should judge we give one-half of it out.

Q. How many contractors have you now employed or have contracts with? A. Well, our goods are given out in three different forms; some we give to contractors and others we give out directly to ladies who come in and take the work home, and make it; and part we make in the shop that is run under our own supervision, so that is a pretty hard question to answer.

Q. How many contractors work for you? A. Well, we have, I suppose, 25 or 30.

Q. How many ladies or persons come and get work? A. Well, sometimes I suppose we will have from 150 to 200; some times we have as many as 300 in the busy season.

Q. Do they do their work by the piece? Yes, sir.

Q. What knowledge, if any, have you of the employés of the contractor as to the price received by them or the hours of labor during which they work? A. I don't know anything about the number of hours they work their hands. I have some knowledge though of the prices that they pay on part of our goods.

Q. What is that knowledge? A. Well, there is one class of work what we call satinet knee pants, they pay from 42 to 45 cents a dozen.

Q. To be made? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many dozen can an ordinary operator make a day? A. Well, all I know is that those contractors tell me they employ all men, male operators, and they consider a man a good hand when he turns out from five to six dozen a day, and the man that doesn't turn out five or six dozen a day, they don't consider him a good hand.

Q. How many hour a day do they work to do that? A. I don't know.

Q. What knowledge have you of the sanitary arrangements of those places? A. Well, I havn't been around their shops for probably a year and a half; I used to go around considerably, and they all looked to me like ordinary tailor shops, they seemed to be in fair condition so far as I know. Of course I didn't look after the plumbing or anything of that sort.

Q. Does any one of your firm look after it now? A. Nothing any more than we go out among the tailors to see that we get our work in; that is about all.

Q. Is the price that you pay to those contractors affected by the competition you have from the east? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is the effect, how great is it? A. Well, I couldn't say exactly what effect it has any more than we send our men out, and they quote the prices, and we see that the eastern houses make for less money than we can afford to sell our goods for.

Q. You refer by that to the prison goods of the east? A. No, sir, I don't know anything about that. They are goods that are made right in New York by the foreign element.

L. D. Garratt, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. Noonan:

Q. What is your name, occupation and place of business? A. L. D. Garratt, superintendent of the manufacture of clothing for Work Bros. & Co.

Q. Where is your place of business? A. At the corner of Van Buren and Market streets.

Q. In this city? A. Here in Chicago.

Q. How long have you been engaged in that business in this city? A. Well, I don't know as I can give you that date, how long I have been engaged in that business; I should judge about 15 or 16 years. I have been there about ten years.

Q. What is their business. A. Manufacturers of clothing.

Q. What is the volume of business they do for a year? A. Well, I don't like to answer that question, for I am not in the office where the sales are kept track of.

Q. What proportion of their business do they manufacture in this city, and what proportion do they buy from eastern manufacturers? A. Well, they manufacture the largest proportion of their goods here.

Q. Have you any knowledge with whom they do business in the east? A. No, sir, that does not come under my supervision.

Q. Who in your firm has that knowledge? A. I suppose the firm themselves. I don't know.

Q. What is your position in the firm? A. I am superintendent of the manufacturing.

Q. Don't you know of your own knowledge of any manufacturing done in the east? A. I know they buy goods east, but who of I don't know. I don't see those bills.

Q. Do you know the names of the firms they purchase from in the east. A. I do not.

Q. Do you know of your own knowledge of any purchase of any goods, or do you know of any goods being purchased in any of the State institutions? A. Not personally, I don't.

Q. Well, from reputation in the firm? A. No, I don't; I know very well some goods come from the east, but they are so few I never pay much attention to it.

Q. What percentage of goods do you buy there? A. Oh, a very small percentage.

Q. What business do you do in the year here? A. I couldn't answer that question; I simply attend to the manufacturing portion upstairs.

Q. What proportion of your goods do you have made inside in your own factory, and what proportion do you send out to be made up or manufactured? A. We have a good many of the coats made up there.

Q. You say you have the coats made inside? A. There is quite a good many of them.

Q. Where are the other goods made? A. They are made in different places; some of the coats are made outside.

Q. Do you fix the price and transact the business with those contractors personally? A. Yes, sir, I do the most of it.

Q. How many contractors are engaged with you at present? A. On the outside?

Q. Yes. A. Oh, I may have 25 or 30, maybe more. I never made an estimate.

Q. Do you exercise any precaution as to the sanitary arrangements of the places where those goods are made? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What precaution do you exercise? A. Well, I try to understand what kind of a shop they have and how it is conducted before we put any goods into it.

Q. Have you any knowledge of the price per piece paid to the employés of those contractors? A. No, sir; I have not.

Q. Have you any knowledge of the hours of labor they have to work? A. Well, my impression is that in most places I have been into they run from eight to ten hours; some of them work ten hours, and some of them work eight and nine hours. I should judge that from different times I have been out in the shops. They get to work early in the morning, which is my time to start out for them.

Q. You have no knowledge of the profits made by the contractors? A. No, I have not, only I have a slight idea of what they pay their weekly help, but the piece work I don't know as I could give you.

Q. Some of their work they send out to the finishers before they bring it to you? A. I think that is only the pants.

Q. Do you know what those finishers are getting? A. No, I don't, I am not posted on that price.

Q. Do you know what the sanitary conditions are of the places where those goods are finished? A. No, I couldn't give you any idea.

Q. Do you exercise any precautions as to that? A. Well, nothing only what is done by the men that we give the work to. We leave it to them.

Q. Then contagious or infectious diseases might exist in the houses of the finishers for all you know. A. They might for all I know.

Q. You take no precaution to prevent the dissemination or spread of diseases that may exist or the germs of which might be in the clothing so finished? A. Well, no more than this, that about every month we sulphur our house all through with burnt sulphur; we do that very often. When we get through, ready for the employés to go out of the house, about half-past five, we put pans of sulphur all through the building and burn it.

Q. Are the prices paid by you to the contractor affected by the clothing made in the East? By the selling prices? A. No, sir.

Q. What is the attitude of your firm upon the subject of remedying the so-called sweat-shop evil? A. Well, I couldn't answer for that what their attitude is. I never had any conversation with them. The men that work for us, the majority of them, or a large portion of them, have been working for us for a long time.

Q. I don't mean the people that are working in your place; I mean the sweat-shops. A. I don't know what Mr. Work's feeling is on that, for I never talked with him on it.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. Of your own knowledge, have you any knowledge of any firms in this city who have goods made in the eastern institutions, the state institutions? A. No, Sir, I am not acquainted with any of them at all.

Q. How long have you been with Work Bros. A. Between nine and ten years.

Q. And you state that you have no knowledge of goods being purchased from the east? A. Yes, there are goods purchased, but I don't know by whom.

Q. You have no knowledge of goods being purchased by your firm from any of the eastern penal institutions? A. I couldn't swear that they were made in those places. I know they buy goods there, but I couldn't say what firms.

Q. Do you know the names of any firms in New York that they are purchased from? A. No, sir, that doesn't come under my supervision.

Q. Do you know the firm of Cane, McCaffrey & Co., of New York? A. No, I don't think I do.

Q. Do you know of any goods being purchased from them by your house recently? A. No, I couldn't say.

Q. They might have purchased some for all you know? A. They might for all I know.

An adjournment was here taken until Saturday, February 25, at 10 o'clock a. m.

SATURDAY, February 25, 1893.

The committee met at 10 a. m., in Parlor B of the Sherman House. Present as before.

F. Sutcliffe, having been re-called, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. I will ask you again the question which you refused to answer yesterday: What is the highest wages that your house pays the contractor for a garment; the highest price? A. We have paid as high as $3.50—well, we have paid as high as $4.

Q. What class of garments are those that you pay $4 for? A. Kersey goods.

Q. What are they—cloaks? A. Jackets.

Q. Now, what is the lowest price you pay? A. Thirty and thirty-five cents.

Q. What garments are those? A. Little children's cloaks, jackets and coats.

Q. Do you have pants, vests and coats made by your firm? A. No, sir; that is, not in my department.

Q. Now, will you name the articles of wearing apparel that your department sends out to those different contractors to be made? A. Last season it was principally jackets and some New Markets—cloaks. I want to state that this 30 cents is the price paid to any contractor—I don't know whether you meant Lasky or not.

Q. Have you those contractors graded as to what goods you deliver to them? A. Yes, sir.

Q. To what class of contractors do you give those high-priced Kerseys—those cloaks? A. To the best.

Q. Is there a competition to get that work between those contractors? A. I can't say that there is.

Q. Now, will you tell the committee here how you manage to give out this work and arrange with the contractors as to what prices they will be paid? A. We set a price on the garment, and if they can make them for that they will make them, and if they can't, they leave them; sometimes they take a few and try them.

Q. Then they figure on them? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And the lowest figurer gets the work? A. Not necessarily; it depends upon whether we want to trust them with the work.

Q. But as a general rule, isn't it given out to the best advantage? A. To the best advantage, both as to work and price.

Q. That is as to the price and the interest of the firm? A. The price might not cut any figure.

Q. Well, in giving the work out, the sanitary conditions of those places is not considered by your firm at all? A. We try to make it a point to have them all in a good sanitary condition.

Q. But you haven't heretofore looked at that as cutting any figure in the matter? A. We try to look after it.

By Mr. Dearborn:

Q. Do you attempt to exercise any supervision over the sanitary condition of any shop? A. Unless we are satisfied that the atmosphere of the place is all right, we don't go to any of those men.

Q. How often do you go to any of those men to look at the shops? A. During the season last year I went as often as once a week, or once in two weeks.

Q. How many places did you go to? A. Ten or twelve.

Q. What class of work did this man Laskey do for you? A. A good grade; not the best. We have a shop inside that does the best work for us.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. What kind of work does Jacob Laskey do for your firm? A. Cloaks.

Q. He comprehends the best cloaks, does he not; he does the work upon the best cloaks for your firm? A. Not the best that we make.

Q. The best that are made outside? A. Yes, I think so.

Q. You stated that you paid $4 to contractors for making one cloak? A. Not to this contractor.

Q. What is the highest price you have paid to this contractor? A. I think $2.50.

Q. Do you know how much he pays his employés for sewing that cloak and for finishing it? A. No, sir.

Q. You furnish the materials? A. Yes, sir.

Q. All the materials? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What proportion of the work is that which is done by the operator upon the goods you sent to Laskey's place? If you can't answer that question, tell us what other people work on that cloak, and what they do? A. In addition to the operator there are basters, button-hole makers, button sewers and finishers.

Q. Now what, in your opinion, would be a fair price for the basting of that cloak for which you pay Mr. Laskey $2.50. A. Just the basting?

Q. Yes. A. 10 or 15 cents; perhaps 10 cents.

Q. What would be a fair price, in your opinion, for the button holes that are made? A. 8 cents.

Q. Is that for the entire button holes in the cloak? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And for sewing the buttons on, how much. A. About 8 cents.

Q. How many buttons are there on that cloak? A. 13.

Q. How many button holes. A. The same number.

Q. And do mean to tell me that the fair average price paid by those contractors would be 8 cents for sewing 13 buttons on? What is the price paid by Mr. Laskey? A. I don't know.

Q. Well, that is what you would consider a fair price? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is a fair price for finishing it? A. It is pretty hard for me to tell about the finishing. I should think between 75 cents and a dollar. These workmen are paid by the week, and I couldn't tell how much it costs.

Q. Now that comprehends all the work except the operating? A. Well, they are also examined.

Q. Does Laskey employ people to examine them? A. I think he does, partly; perhaps he does it himself.

Q. What I want to get at is the fair price paid for the balance of the work except the operating. Now, 10 cents for basting, 8 cents for button holes, 8 cents for buttons and 75 cents for finishing would comprehend all of the work except the operating? A. I think it would. The button holes we pay him extra for.

Q. You pay him extra for the button holes? A. Yes, sir.

Q. So that if you allow him a dollar for finishing, it would be $1.18 that Laskey would pay for the balance of the work other than the operating? A. Yes; sir.

Q. And as the workmen in Lasky's shop state that the highest price paid them for any operating on cloaks is 55 cents, then the total amount paid by Laskey would be $1.73, so that with your estimate of allowing a dollar for finishing, for which we have a sworn statement that the highest price paid was on an average of fifty cents? A. Well, this garment would be outside of the average; this is the best price.

Q. Well, I believe it has been the testimony that the best cloak he finished was fifty cents. Now, allowing the highest estimate to $1.73, the profits to the sweater would be the difference between $2.50 and $1.73, or 77 cents on each garment? A. It would be a pretty fair average.

Q. When was it that $2.50 was paid for any cloark to Laskey? A. Sometime during last fall.

Q. Have you paid any such price as that since the first of January? A. No. sir.

Q. What is the highest price that you paid since the first of January? A. $1.75, and the next $1.60 and the next $1.50.

Adolph Nathan having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. What is your name? A. Adolph Nathan.

Q. Where do you live? A. Chicago.

Q. What is your place of residence and occupation? A. I live at 5016 Drexel Boulevard.

Q. What is your business? A. Manufacturer of clothing.

Q. Where is your place of business? A. The corner of Franklin and Van Buren streets.

Q. What is the style of your firm? A. Kuh, Nathan & Fisher Company.

Q. What is your line of business? A. Manufacturing ready made clothing.

Q. How much business in dollars and cents do you do in a year in that line? A. About two millions.

Q. How long have you been in business in this city? A. 13 years as a firm.

Q. Can you tell us what is the value of the business done in the entire clothing trade in Chicago for a year? A. A little over twenty millions, I think. I looked it up a few years ago, and it was then between 19 and twenty millions. I think that was five years ago. I think the trade has increased considerably since, and purely from an estimate I should think it was 21 or 22 million dollars a year; it may run over that.

Q. Now, how much of that clothing is made in Chicago here? A. I should say 95 per cent. of it; at least 95 per cent.

Q. Where is the balance made? A. East.

Q. What kind of clothing do you make in your firm? A. Men's, boys', youths' and children's clothing.

Q. Any women's garments? A. No, sir. Everything for the male sex.

Q. Have you contractors working for your establishment? A. Well, we do a large portion of our business in the house. We run a large factory ourselves; we do some contract work; a large portion of our business is done in the house. We have a very large shop under our own control where labor is performed by the week and not by the piece.

By Mr Noonan:

Q. You say you do a business of about two million a year? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Well, how much clothing is made outside your own shops? A. Well, I should judge that we make at least one-third of it in the house.

Q. And two-thirds is manufactured for you outside? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How is it manufactured for you outside? A. That is done by piece work.

Q. That is you employ those contractors who own shops of their own? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you also employ people living at home to do part of your work? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many contractors have you in your employ at this time for whom you have contracts for making goods? A. I don't know.

Q. Are you the member of the firm who deals directly with those people? A. No, sir.

Q. What is the name of the employé of your firm who transacts the business with those contractors in the making of your goods? A. Mr. Henry Kuh.

Q. Have you any knowledge of the prices paid per garment to those contractors? A. I have a schedule of prices that we pay in our own factory.

Q. I want to know the prices that you pay to those contractors who have their own shops. A. I know some of them, because I have seen the prices paid them very often in the factory when the work has come in, and in looking up the most of the goods I like to see what we pay for making the garments.

Q. But you are not in a position to state just exactly what the prices are and who your firm employs to do this work at this time? A. That is true.

Q. Has your firm any knowledge of the conditions under which those goods are made by those contractors or by those people who live at their homes? A. Well, I think they have.

Q. What knowledge have they? A. We send our man out almost every day to get the work in when they are in a hurry; also to see whether the shops are clean and healthy. One of our main questions that we always ask every man who comes in,—who is a new man, when we take on a new tailor—is whether they have any diseases there; whether they are healthy; whether they have any sickness in the family or anything of that kind. If they have, we don't give them any work.

Q. You ask them that? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What other knowledge have you of the condition of those places where those goods are made? A. Another thing is this: the moment we find that there is any sickness in the place we don't allow any goods to come in until there is a certificate from the health department—until the clothes are properly disinfected; because eight or nine years ago, during the time of the small-pox, there was a little trouble on that account, and we tried to avoid it since.

Q. And you avoid it by asking persons who sought work in your establishment if they had any sickness in their houses? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And if they did have sickness you would require the certificate of the board of health. A. Yes, sir.

Q. In how many instances has the board of health given you certificates? A. I don't know; I know it has been done, but I don't know how often.

Q. Is it a matter of frequent occurrence? A. I don't think it is very often; I think we have a pretty good class of workmen, for the reason that we make a rather high grade of goods, and we pay a little better than the average prices.

Q. Do you know what prices the contractor pays his employes? A. No, sir; I don't.

Q. Is it not a fact that the contractor sends the work out to other persons to their homes to be finished, and returned to him? A. I think not in our case. I think all our work is done by contractors who run large shops. I have been in two or three of them myself two years ago, where they had from fifty to a hundred hands, and they had nice large rooms, and places where they manufacture their goods; but that may not be the case with all of them.

By Mr. Dearborn:

Q. Are all of the goods that you sell, manufactured in Chicago? A. There is probably one per cent. of our goods—not to exceed that—one or one and a half per cent. of them that are bought East; a low grade of children's goods.

Q. Where are those manufactured? A. Those are manufactured in New York, on the east side of Broadway, where they take cheap labor; they probably run one, or one and a half per cent.

Q. Do you know the number of hours that these contractors require their employés to work? A. I do not.

Q. You have stated that you do not know what prices he pays them? A. No, sir; we are employing about three hundred hands ourselves. I can give you the price we are paying them.

Q. That is not within the scope of the resolution. What effect, if any, has the importation of clothing manufactured elsewhere than in Chicago upon the laborer, or upon the prices paid for labor upon clothing of that kind in this city. A. Well, from our standpoint it would be very difficult to tell because it is such an imperceptible amount that we buy outside, that the effect would not be felt. It is too imperceptible; too small. Where a large amount of it would be brought here from eastern states which would cost a very low price, the price of labor must be very low. If the laborers here wanted to compete with it and make it at the same price, of course the price of labor would have to be lowered. No question about that; but my experience has been, for the last ten or twelve years, that there has been more demand than there has been labor to supply it. That has been our experience. We have not shut down a day since we have been in business, and we never discharged a single tailor or a single cutter since we have been in business.

Q. Might not that be explained by the fact that, as you say, your clothing is of a little higher grade, and that you pay a little higher price than others? A. That might be. We have found diffculty in finding help.

Q. That is to find help for as much goods as you make, but in cheaper grades of goods, or in firms who pay lower prices and make cheaper goods, that might not be the case? A. That may be.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. Have you any knowledge of prison-made clothing being sold in Chicago markets? A. I had a small experience about five years ago, I think. There was a demand from some of the western States—Nebraska and Kansas—where the crops had been very poor, and the people very poor, and they wanted a low grade of goods. We could not manufacture them, and they bought them of a New York house, and they were made in a New Jersey prison.

Q. What is the name of that New York firm? A. Well, I won't be right sure. It is either Newberger, or it may have been Boynton,—that is five years ago, and they may not be in the same line of business to-day—and it was a very low grade of goods, and our customers said, "When we buy goods from Chicago we want Chicago made goods." We found that they came back and we turned them over to another clothing man at the same price we paid for them, and we never had any of those goods since.

Q. Being in the manufacturing business here, have you any knowledge of what is current to-day, or recently, of the presence of prison-made clothing in this market? A. I know that there is a large quantity of clothing made in the New Jersey prison, but my impression is that there is very few of them here in Chicago.

Q. Do you know anything as to the Sing Sing penitentiary? A. I do not know. I never saw them.

Q. Has any of the agents of those institutions called upon your house? A. I think they have.

Q. Recently? A. I think they did, but we refused to buy any goods of that kind.

Q. Can you give us the names of those agents, and the firms they represented? A. I don't remember.

Q. It is a fact that they call here every season and try to sell their goods? A. Yes, sir, I think they do.

Q. Do you know any other penitentiary besides the New Jersey and New York that they manufacture those goods in? A. I know of none.

Q. To-day do you know how much of these goods come to Chicago from those eastern institutions? A. I have been speaking to a good many clothiers here, and my impression is that they handle but few of them.

Q. The establishments here cannot compete with them? A. Oh, no, it is an impossibility.

Q. What is the difference in price—what per cent? A. Well, in the first place they only turn out a low grade of goods; they don't take a good quality of goods to make up. We take, for instance, a 25 or 30-cent satinet—which will cost 25 or 30

cents a yard—it will cost to manufacture that here from $3.50 to $3.75, that is, to make it up. Well, they would sell them for $2.75 to $3. I should think it would be a difference of from 25 to 30 per cent. on that class of goods.

Q. That is the principal class of goods they make? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And that 25 to 30 per cent. would represent the difference in the price paid? A. That does not represent the difference in the price of labor; no, that would be wrong, because part of that would be in trimming.

Q. Well, I suppose the question was intended to be for the the same grade of goods? A. Well, it would not be; the price would not be the same in making up the garments; there is a great deal of difference. They could use a two or three cent burlap for trimming, where a good house would use a 25-cent one.

Q. What would be the difference in the trimming? A. Well, the difference in the labor might be fifteen or twenty per cent.; it would not be over that I think.

Q. You say two-thirds of your clothing is made by piece-work given to contractors? A. Well, probably not quite that much; we probably make more than that in the house; we employ about three hundred hands, and the higher grade, of course, is all made there, and they run into money a great deal more, but when you count the pieces, we are making two-thirds more outside. But when it comes to dollars and cents, probably fewer pieces are done in our shops; say a million dollars of it.

Q. How long have you continued to manufacture two-thirds, or this proportion of the work you stated, outside? A. We started the shop, I think, about seven years ago. We started it in a small way, and it is gradually growing.

Q. Is it not cheaper for you to have your goods made outside than to have them made in the factory? A. Not in some kinds of goods; not when the shops inside are thoroughly organized, as they are now; we can manufacture just as cheap as we can outside. Maybe a trifle higher, but it is a mere trifle.

Q. Now, in order that you can throw light on this business and aid the committee, will you state to us fully what prices are paid for the work on the different garments in your shop, in order to make a comparison with what is paid outside? A. In the first place, we don't do any piece-work in the shop, and we make better goods.

Q. You determine the prices paid by the number of pieces they make in a week? A. Our men are paid every Saturday week, and the workman that does not do his duty is discharged.

Q. That is, you mean who does not make a given number of pieces in a week? A. Well, it depends, of course, on the quality of the work. Some work we expect them to work longer on than on others, but whoever is not a good workman is not kept. I find, however, that there is scarcely any discharges there, and we pay from $5 to $11 a week to machine girls—girls operating machines; but our machines are run by steam, and the girls work nine hours. We pay our tailors from $9 to $14 per week, and Saturdays they only work eight hours. Our cutters and operators we pay from $18 to $24 a week.

Q. What do you mean by operators? A. The operator that operates the cutting machine.

Q. What do you pay your finishers per week? A. Well, you mean pressers.

Q. Well, the pressing is a part of the finishing? A. Well, our trimmers we pay from $6 to $15 a week; our pressers $10 and $11. Now, we have hand-sewing girls, and they get from $4 to $7.50 per week.

Q. What do the hand-sewers do on the garments? A. They put on the inter-lining.

Q. And make button holes? A. No, I think the men make the button holes mostly, and sew on the buttons, etc. Certain work that can't be done by machine, that they have to do by hand; the button holes are all made by hand.

Q. What is the percentage of difference, in your opinion, in case of clothing made outside and in case of clothing made in the factory, if you can give it. The firm must certainly think it cheaper to have the goods made outside, or else they would erect a factory? A. Well, the difficulty is, that most people have not got the room. Rents are very high here, and we have been taking the extreme limit of the business outside, and we have always been able to get a building built for us by some one who had a vacant lot, or could give us a large amount of space at a very reasonable rent. We have always had enormous space. Last year the party from whom we had rented for five years, and from whom we had very reasonable rent, he wanted to raise us 13⅓ per cent. in our rent. We could not stand it, and we found another man who had a lot on Van Buren and Franklin streets, so they built us a building 120x128 feet and we occupied the entire top floor of that building, with a ceiling about 14 feet high, with light all around, for a manufacturing room. Our rents are very reasonable, and probably as reasonable as they could be out on the West Side, so that we can afford to manufacture there. The first year that we opened a shop for manufacturing we lost about eight thousand dollars, and the second year about four thousand dollars, figuring the price that we would have to pay to the contractors for the same class of goods. I understand the last three years it has not cost but a trifle more, and we have been so well organized,

and the people so well trained that everything works smoothly, that the goods are done very nearly as cheap as they are done outside. It costs a trifle more, but the work is so perfect and uniform that it is much better.

Q. Mr. Nathan, the question of Senator Noonan was why, if you manufactured so cheaply in the building, you do not construct a factory large enough to accommodate people who could make all of your goods? A. Oh, I presume the principal reason is that where the business houses are established on those principal streets real estate is very valuable; rents are in proportion to the cost of the real estate and the building. Now, where those garments are made real estate is very cheap and rents are cheap. I think that the item of rent is one of the principal things that makes a difference in the cost.

Q. Could not you have a factory located at some distance from your main store where you could manufacture those goods to as good advantage as you can right here in the business district? A. I believe it could be done, as long as we did it here with three hundred hands and make about a million dollars worth of goods in our own shops. They may cost a trifle more, propably fifteen or twenty cents more, but it is worth a dollar more.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. Is it not a fact with the clothing trade that these contractors have no knowledge as to what is paid employes? A. How is that?

Q. You state that your firm has no knowledge of what is paid by the contractors to the emplyés? A. I have not, personally. Perhaps my partner, Henry Kuh, would have exact knowledge.

Q. Exact knowledge of what the contractor pays his employés? A. No, he simply has knowledge of what we pay.

Q. Isn't that a fact or custom throughout the clothing trade? A. I think it is. Of course, we have people who come to us direct; a man who has two or three sons, probably, and a couple of daughters, and they don't give any work out. They work themselves. We have people living out ten or twelve miles, and they will take out garments and bring them back—finish them. I think they make them in their own houses.

Q. What is the attitude of your firm as to the sweat shop evil, which obtains in this city? A. Well, we would like to see them abolished. We would like to see good, clean, healthy places for everybody, and good work, because you can't get good, fair work without paying a fair price.

Q. And, if the legislature of the state were to pass a law providing for state inspection and the regulation of work-shops and dwelling houses where clothing was made, or partly made, it would meet with the approval of your firm, would it not? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What effect would it have upon the cost of making, in your opinion? A. I don't think it would have any effect here in Chicago; no perceptible effect.

Q. Would it be an inconvenience for your firm to take notice of what the contractor pays his employés, and the number of hours he requires them to work? A. Well, that would be prying into a man's private business. I think, would be going beyond our jurisdiction.

Q. Suppose it became the practice on the part of the clothing trade, would it then affect your relations with the contractors? A. How is that?

Q. Suppose all the manufacturers of clothing in this city were to take notice of the conditions of the shops, and the prices paid by the contractors to his employés, and the number of hours he required them to work; would that affect your relations with the contractors? A. Why, if it were universally done, how could it? If it was according to statute?

Q. I am not stating anything about statute. If it were the custon that actually existed? You stated that your firm takes no notice of the prices or the hours of labor. A. I should not think it would injure us any at all.

Q. And it might possibly benefit the condition of the employé? A. Yes, but I will tell you, an employer who does not wish to treat his hands right and gets his labor just as cheaply as he can, and makes them work just as many hours as possible, that man is not going to tell us the truth, and it would not do much good to go into those inquiries. That would do with an honest man, a man that perhaps will conduct his business from a good, moral stand-point, on a high plane but it would not do any good with those men who are dishonest. It is like asking a man to schedule his private property. If he is not an honest man, he will not schedu'e that property.

Q. The answer did not suggest inquiries, but taking notice of the condition? A. Now, the only practical thing I could say is that if a man wants to take steps to see where work is done and investigate into the sanitary condition, and go to the private houses of the employés and see their condition, and find out what they are getting, it would be all right, because it would not be safe to depend on the word of a contractor if he was not honest, because he would not tell you the truth. I don't think that is quite practical. It might in some cases have good effect.

Q. Could you suggest anything that would be practical in the way of the law? A. Well, I have not thought over it yet. There is one thing that should be done, of course, and that is, a rigid inspection by the health department; that is about the best way to reach that evil; to pass a legislative act compelling the health department to visit those places once every two weeks, and condemn every place that is not in a sanitary con-

dition, where it is not well ventilated, and where good conditions do not prevail, and just stop those places so that they cannot run them. I think that would obviate or do away with all those sweat shops and the people would have good, airy places to work in. Whether they work an hour more or less does not cut any figure if they have good places to work in. I know in our places they would work longer if we wanted them to.

Q. You furnish steam power in your places for the machines? A. Yes, sir.

Q. It is much healthier for a girl to run a machine when it is run by steam power? A. O, much easier.

R. B. Merriam, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. Please state your your name, residence, and occupation? A. R. B. Merriam, manager of Clement, Bane & Co.

Q. Where is your place of business? A. Corner of Franklin and Adams.

Q. How long have they been in business in this city? A. The original firm started some thirty years ago.

Q. What is the volume of their business per year? A. Well, we aim at $2,000,000.

Q. What amount of goods do they make themselves? A. Pretty near all of it except a small portion.

Q. Where is the balance made? A. In different parts of the country; sometimes there are some of the cheaper grades that we buy.

Q. How much clothing do you purchase that is made in the state institutions in the east? A. Only a small portion; I couldn't give it to you in dollars; it is a small matter compared with our own.

Q. In what institutions are those clothing made? A. Well, we had some that were made in the New York institutions; they were sold to us by another party.

Q. That is in Sing Sing? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What firm did you buy from? A. Cane, McCaffrey & Co.

Q. That is the only clothing that has been made in the state institutions? A. Yes, sir.

Q. When were those goods purchased? A. We bought some last year—about a year ago.

Q. What class of goods were they? A. Satinets, cheap overcoats.

Q. Men's overcoats? A. Yes, sir.

Q. The satinets are men's goods, too? A. Yes, sir.

Q. No boys' clothing? A. Yes, sir; some boys', men's and boys'.

Q. Do you buy right along from there? A. No, sir; we buy intermittantly of them.

Q. The balance of your clothing is bought—the major part of the clothing you use—is made outside of this State? A. No, sir; we make all our goods.

Q. What percentage do you make of the goods handled by your firm? A. Ninety per cent.

Q. Only 10 per cent. are made outside of the State? Yes, sir.

Q. Those are made in the penitentiary? A. No, sir; not all from there; some are bought from there and some from eastern manufacturers.

Q. Have you bought any goods from the New Jersey penitentiary? A. No, sir.

Q. Mr. Lieveg used to make your clothing? A. He made some lots of children's clothing.

Q. He does not make them any more? A. No, sir, he only made them in small quantities at any time.

Q. Who makes your children's clothing now? A. We don't make them now.

Q. Did you give out an order recently for $5,000 worth of children's clothing? A. No.

Q. To any establishment? A. No, sir.

Q. In the east or any place in Chicago here? A. No, sir.

Q. Have you given out a contract for any amount of children's clothing. A. Yes, sir.

Q. To whom was that given? A. To a party by the name of Freidlander in New York, 173 Leonard street.

Q. He is one of the contractors of the penitentiary in New York, is he not? A. No, sir.

Q. Do you know whether he is or not? A. I know he is not; they don't make children's goods in the penitentiary.

Q. You never bought any in the penitentiary? A. No, sir.

Q. The representatives of those who deal with the penitentiary call around every season of the year? A. I think they do.

Q. And visit all the clothing houses? A. I think they do.

Q. Can you tell us how much goods they sell in Chicago? A. No, sir, I have no idea.

Q. Your folks patronize the eastern firms because they can make those goods cheaper there than they can here? A. We did in the case of Cane & McCaffrey that I spoke of.

Q. People here cant make this grade of goods as cheap as they can? Q. No, sir.

Q. The people here can't compete with them? A. Well, there is another reason for that, and that is we can't get the amount of goods done here, in the cheaper grades.

Q. That affects clothing cutters and machine operators? A. No, sir, I don't think so.

Q. And all labor employed in the manufacture of those goods? A. It wouldn't affect us at all.

Q. It affects the market, doesn't it? A. I should suppose it would.

Q. It affects it very materially, doesn't it? A. I don't think so, because you can't find the hands to do that class of work here; they all aim for better work; there is employment for the tailors in a better class of goods, here.

Q. Can you give us an idea of the value of the goods coming from these institutions into the city of Chicago? A. No, sir, I have no idea.

Q. What is the value of the business done by your firm with those institutions, about, in dollars and cents? A. Oh, it might be $10,000 or $15,000 a season.

Q. You have two seasons in your business? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Two seasons a year? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is the difference in the cost of the goods made here and the goods made there by reason of which you buy the goods manufactured east? A. In percentage?

Q. Yes. A. Well, I should say it might range as high as 15 per cent.; 10 to 15 per cent.

Q. What proportion of that per cent. enters into the labor of the making? A. Well, a large portion of it goes into the labor.

Q. Who transacts the business of your firm with the contractors? A. Which contractors do you refer to?

Q. I mean the goods made at home. A. Well, that is done through our foreman in the cutting-room.

Q. Has the firm any knowledge of the conditions or the prices paid to the employés of those contractors? A. No, sir.

Q. Or the sanitary conditions that prevail there? A. No, sir; we have no means of knowing that.

By Mr. Dearborn:

Q. It is immaterial to the firm then, is it, where the goods are manufactured? A. All we do is, our work is prepared for making, and then we contract with parties to make it at a certain stipulated price, and we don't look into their means. All we look to is to see that the contract is properly carried out. We don't know anything about their methods of conducting their shops.

Mr. Noonan:

Q. What is the attitude of your firm upon the relation of the existence of the so-called sweat-shop evil? A. We will lend all our help possible to suppress them.

Q. If it were the practice by the firms engaged in the clothing trade of this city to take notice of the sanitary conditions of the shops where the clothing is made, and of the tenement-houses where the goods are partly made or finished, and of the prices paid to the employés by the contractors who own shops; and the hours of labor required of them to work, would it affect your relation to the contractors if you were to do that? A. I don't see how we could do that. We are only related to those contractors in so far as the work that we give to them for a stipulated price, and if we were to intrude upon their shops it would be out of place. We could lend our moral influence to it, but it would be all we could do.

Q. If all the firms engaged in the business were to take notice of the condition of these shops, how would it be? A. Well, I think that could be reached a good deal better than that; I don't think that would be the remedy.

Q. What practical step would you suggest? A. Well, I think the proper step is taken by our city authorities now. There should be an inspector appointed for those places to see that they are properly conducted. I don't see how we could reach it, but the city authorities can, and anything in the way of help that the firm could extend to them, we would gladly do it. I think any of the houses in Chicago would be very glad to do it.

Bernard Engel, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. Please state your name and place of residence? A. Bernard Engel, 200 and 202 Monroe street, with Meyer, Engel & Co.

Q. What is the business of that firm? A. Childrens', boys' and gents' clothing.

Q. How long have they been in business in this city? A. 13 years.

Q. How much business do they do a year? A. About $600,000.

Q. Where are your goods made? A. Here in the city, sir; that is, they are cut in the house and given out.

Q. Does your firm have any clothing made outside of the city? A. No, sir.

Q. Is the clothing made directly by the firm, or by giving it out to contractors in shops? A. They are given out to tailors, who take them out and bring them back.

By Mr. Dearborn:

Q. Who has charge of that department? A. I have.

Q. You deal directly with the contractors, and the tailors? A. Well, no. I know them, but the foreman deals directly with them, under my instructions.

Q. Who makes the contracts? A. The foreman; that is, I tell him what to pay, and so on.

Q. How many contractors have you in your employ? A. I really couldn't tell; I suppose there are seventy or eighty I should say, I really couldn't tell.

Q. How long have you been in the business? A. I, myself? I have been in the wholesale business since 1876, but before that we were in the retail business.

By Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. You do about $600,000 worth of work every year? A. We sell that much.

Q. You say that all the clothing that you handle is made in Chicago? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Every bit of it? A. Yes, sir.

Q. For how long have you been having it made in Chicago? A. Well, the cheap work I used to have made in New York, but I stopped that about a year and a half ago.

Q. You bought from the state institutions, or the firms that handled those goods? A. No, sir; I bought the goods in New York City where they were made, not in institutions.

Q. You never bought any goods from the penitentiary at Sing Sing, nor from any firm that had the contract of manufacturing goods there? A. No, sir.

Q. Nor from the penitentiary in New Jersey? A. No, sir; I had my own goods delivered, and had them made by my own patterns.

Q. You know that a great many goods come here from the Eastern penitentiaries to the Chicago market? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And that there are a great many of them handled here? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you any personal knowledge as to the amount or value of the goods sold in this market from those places? A. No, sir; what I know is from hearing that such and such persons handle those goods.

Q. Could you give us any information as to who handles those goods here? A. No, sir; I have no personal knowledge; there is a good deal sold of that work here by different houses.

By Mr. Noonan:

Q. About how much, in your opinion, of prison made goods? A. Well, I should think a few hundred thousand dollars, but I couldn't tell exactly; I know that we hear sometimes that a certain man sells those goods.

By Mr. Dearborn:

Q. I suppose the reason that these firms handle those goods is because they can get them cheaper? A. Yes, sir; they can get them cheaper than they can have them manufactured here.

Q. What is the reason of that? A. I suppose prison labor doesn't cost as much as the labor here.

Q. It is a difference in the cost of labor? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you ever pay any attention as to where your goods are manufactured? A. Yes, sir.

Q. The goods that are taken out to the contractors? A. Well, I told you that a year ago I went myself, twice a week, around to the different tailor shops; that is in the busy time. I used to drive up there and get the goods.

Q. How many tailors were you employing at that time? A. About the same thing, but I didn't go to all of them.

Q. Did you go to any of the places where the goods were finished? A. I went to the contractors; they had goods in the house, for instance, coats are not sent out at all to be finished.

Q. Well, you would go to those contractors? A. Yes, sir; to the one we gave the goods to.

Q. Did those eighty contractors themselves manufacture all the goods that were being manufactured for you at that time? A. Yes, sir; they are in the shops, but I don't suppose they work themselves, but they are right there; it is their own shop and they oversee it.

Q. Were they entirely shops, or were some of them tenement houses? A. They were no tenement houses; just shops of their own in their own buildings.

Q. Are you at all familiar with the shops where your goods are being manufactured now? A. Some of them.

Q. Do you know of 120 Taylor street? A. What is the name of the place?

Q. Bunger's? A. He doesn't work for me; but I know some time ago there was a man on Taylor street named Kumitsky, or such a name; he hasn't done any work for two years for me.

Q. Are you particular about those places where those goods are made? A. Yes, sir; if I find a dirty place in going around there, I would tell my foreman not to give them any more work.

Q. Who is looking after that now? A. I have a young man in the house.

Q. Well, he goes out to take the goods to the contractors? A. No, he goes to see that the work is hurried up and so on; they come for the work themselves.

Q. And do they return it themselves? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Except in a case where you are expressly hurried? A. No, sir; they always deliver it.

Q. Well, then, who looks after this branch, as to where the goods are manufactured? A. We haven't any particular person to look after it, only that I have a man in the shoop that goes out once in a while among the tailors.

Q. I understood you to say that you had a man that you sent out for the goods? A. I know, but he doesn't bring the

goods in; he just looks after them to hurry up the work when we want to get a certain garment in.

Q. Dou pay much attention to the places where goods are made now yourself? A. No, sir.

Q. You haven't been to any of the shops? A. I haven't been out in a year and a half since I was sick; since then I gave it up.

Q. Did you ever hear this young man that you say you employ, who is now looking after this department, say anything about them? A. Certainly, he is under my supervision.

Q. Does he ever see any places that are unwholesome or uncleanly? A. If he did he would report to me.

Q. You never heard him mention a place that was not perfectly clean and sweet and wholesome? A. He never said anything to me about it.

Q. Did you ever hear anything about places in Chicago that were not clean and nice? A. Only what I saw in the papers.

Q. That is all you know about it? A. That is all.

Abraham Bisno, having been sworn, testified as follows:

Examined by Senator Noonan:

Q. State your name and place of residence? A. Abraham Bisno; I live at 149 West 14th street.

Q. What is your occupation? A. Operator on cloaks.

Q. How long have you been an operator on cloaks? A. I am in this business since twelve years; it is pretty near twelve years; I have been doing my time in the business, a contractor, an operator, an inside employé, and I worked on pants, coats, vests and cloaks during that time.

Q. Where have you worked during that time; in what places? A. In Chicago all the time, and I believe I understand the causes that make certain conditions necessary, and will state it; I can explain my own opinions of what you have seen during your investigation.

Q. Now, will you give the committee the benefit of your knowledge and experience as a cloak maker. A. Yes, sir.

Q. Well, proceed. A. I want to dwell upon three important points. First, what is the reason of the existence of this sweating system? Next, what is the reason of the long hours of work, and next, what determines the price per garment of the sweat shop employés? The sweating system exists because the sweaters are able to employ people longer hours than they could possibly employ them in the factories themselves. It came about in this way: The sweaters were employés in the shops of the manufacturers, and they used to take work home, and at home they employed their families to help at the work. The result was that it became evident that at home people could do

more work than they can in the factories, and this is why the manufacturers gave the whole work out to employés, and established what they call those home shops; that was at the time when the factory system began to be introduced in the manufacture of clothing.

Q. State when that was? A. From fifteen years ago up till now it is the continuous practice that the sweat shop competes in such employment. In order to show clearly how the sweat shop competes in such employment, I want to cite some facts. Eleven years ago when I began to work for the firm of F. Siegel & Brothers, there must have been in the neighborhood of three hundred employés inside, and they had comparatively few sweaters, only to or three at a time. During that time they have increased their business to my knowledge six times as much, and they have reduced the number of their inside employés to nothing; they have practically speaking none inside, and they have all their work made outside in those sweat shops. Joseph Beifeld & Company have had three hundred and fifty employés some eleven or twelve years ago inside, and they have only eighty now to my knowledge, and they have increased their business about six times as much as it was eleven years ago. Monheimer, Lepman & Company have gone through the same process; they have no employés, practically speaking, only about eighteen to twenty sample hands inside. The whole work is made in sweat shops. This is only to show you that the sweat shops have beaten out the inside employment. Now, where as I have already told you, the sweaters employ people for fourteen to sixteen hours a day, they couldn't possibly employ them so long in the factory. How is this done? I only want to cite a few cases to you so that you can comprehend where the employé in the sweat shop is at a disadvantage in determining the price or the hours of work. When a lot of work comes in to the sweater, fifty or a hundred cloaks, and he puts in, as the price, fifty cents for machine sewing, where the machine sewers believe that it is worth a dollar. We immediately complain, and say that this cloak is worth more. Well, he says, "I think you are right; I think the cloak is worth more, but I only get so much from the factory." Well, who is the man in the factory? Lepman, or Beifeld, or Siegel. We say "all right, we will go up to the responsible parties and talk to them about the price." Immediately we go to them and they answer us, "we don't know you people, we never saw you; we made no contract with you; you have nothing to do with us; we made the contract with this man; he is the responsible man." We go back, and in turn he answers us with the previous answer; he is not responsible because he is given only so much money for a certain cloak, and he cannot make more. You see we haven't anybody to handle; nobody is responsible for the bad price. What is the faculty of the sweater, that he can exist? He doesn't put any money into the business, practically speaking. He takes a machine at three dollars a month

on payments, and the employé that works on that machine pays that out. He doesn't invest anything. He has no risk in the business. I found, in my observation, that the man that has the fox faculty, the man who is the shrewdest, the man that is without any moral scruples whatever, who has got the ability to grind women and children up to their utmost, and can hunt them out and find them—find the greenhorns that don't know anything, that is the man that survives in the sweating business and is the successful sweater. Others can't be. In the clothing trade there should be, as there is in every other trade, improvements in the shop, the introduction of machines, and steam, and electricity, and so on. We found that the majority of shops, the great majority of shops, have no steam and no electricity. The sewing machines are driven by foot-power. It is my experience, personally, of a number of friends that I have, who have only worked five or six years, they have worked themselves to death. I know girls who became consumptive working on sewing machines, and the majority or all of them have, practically speaking, spoiled their stomachs—I can't speak it in medical language—for the reason that they have to work long hours and intensify all their physical energies, their powers to work, so that they can make a living. The sweater has another ability by which he exists. He can, successfully, defeat every effort that is made on the part of the employés to better their condition. When a certain strike goes on of the employés, to better their conditions, immediately the sweater is here to help the manufacturer to defeat the efforts of the workingman, because he is only here as a man who lives on the spoil that the two share on what they get from the employés. Senator Mahoney was very interested yesterday in finding out how the price was determined. He found, if I understand, that the foremen, the agents of the manufacturers, were neither cloak-makers nor operators of any kind, and he addressed the question straight to them: "How is the price made? How do you know that the cloak is worth a dollar and is not worth fifty cents or a dollar and a half?" Well, they say, that is my ability to judge. I know it. Well, I will tell you how the price is made so far as my knowledge goes of this matter. When there is a lot of cloaks they send out postal cards to the various sweaters to come and see this lot of cloaks. When there is a cloak that is worth a dollar and a half, he offers thirty-five cents to start with. It is the business of the sweater not to kick against the price, because he has got no interest to kick. If the price is reduced he can go home and reduce the wages of the employé; but if the price is too low, he can't possibly take it, because his employés won't have food enough to keep up their physical energies to produce those clothes. Well, he says, "I can't take it." He goes home, and then he sends for the next one, and the third and fourth, and after all those things are done there is another way—he gives

them out at the best price he can. There is another way to force low prices on the sweaters. The sweater comes there and asks for work; he hasn't had work in two or three days, and they try to intimidate him. They take the previous garments that he made and say: "This is perfectly horrible; it is spoiled; we will discharge you." The poor sweater begins to tremble, and when the sweater asks for work he says: "I have only some cheap stuff here," and he brings him a cloak that is a very fine cloak indeed, and says that they are cheap stuff, and the sweater who is afraid for the reason that he makes a living on coats or cloaks—he is afraid to say anything against the low price that is offered him, and in that way you can get work made for very low wages. One of the foremen here testified that he made the price reasonable. Now, the fact is, that the contractors, to my own knowledge, have sent work out to men, cloak-makers, and that the price was probably fair; afterwards he would be offered a little lower price, and he would send an expressman to take the work from this man, and send it to the second or the fourth or the fifth, and so on; he sends it all around and the price is then determined by the party who is most helpless, who is the weakest, who has starved long enough to submit to the lowest kind of a price: that is the factor that determines the price, and that is the practice in all the practical clothing makers and cloak-makers in Chicago. The result is a bad one. I don't think you can see it. You would have the experience if you were in it. Those rotten holes that you have seen simply exemplify the cheapness of the wages and the hopeless condition they are in.

By Mr. Dearborn:

Q. That doesn't prove the quality or the cheapness of the goods? A. No, not at all, it simply signifies the small amount of pay that they get, so that they can't hire a bigger place. It has been my experience with the manufacturer that they wilfully carry on an organized movement among themselves to kill every effort that has been made to better the conditions of those poor men, and there is power behind them. You will have no doubt after you have heard witnesses testify that they are doing a business of three and four millions a year. They have an organization and they boycott everybody who tries to make an effort to better the conditions. No sweater has ever worked in Chicago that is in any way inclined to disobey orders. Their order is indeed much stronger than that of the State of Illinois.

Q. Now, you speak of an organization. Who composes that organization? A. The manufacturers?

Q. The firms? A. The firms.

Q. Have you positive knowledge yourself of such an organization? A. Certainly.

Q. Do you mean a general understanding amongst them? A. No, a perfect organization where they come together and make laws that should govern their trade. I wasn't in it in so far as that I could see what else they have done; I only felt the effect.

Q. Don't you judge of that organization's existence from the effect and not from any actual knowledge of you own? A. No, there is an organization there is no doubt. The Cloak Manufacturers' Association I understand it is called, who through their agents discussed the merits of a given strike in 1886 with our union—a chartered organization. But I am now speaking of power that is behind to keep this sweating system in existence. I don't think that it is necessary for me to give more instances of the effect of that system. I only want to say that this system embraces in the neighborhood of thirty to thirty-five thousand people, mostly weak and helpless, and that it is certainly the duty of the State legislature—

Senator Noonan:

Never mind what is the duty of the State. We will determine that. Give your knowledge of the existence of this thing now.

By Mr. Dearborn:

Q. I think we will get more information from him if he will speak in his own language. What did you say about the State? A. If it will interfere with those manufacturers and see that they extend a helping hand to those victimized employés. I believe it is their duty.

Q. Now, what would you suggest in the way of a law, which is the only way that the State, as you call it, can do anything? A. In answer to this question, I would say that this act has been discussed by an organization of the victims of this system, and we believe that it would go a good way to ameliorate the condition of the people employed in the sweating shops. Indeed, all of us cherish the hope that if this is enacted and a method used for its enforcement, that our condition would be bettered considerably.

Q. Then your idea as to the best way of doing something is to enact that as the law of the State?

Q. Then your ideas are embodied in that law? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now, will you state what that law is, by whom it was prepared, and by whom has it been proved? A. Mrs. Florence Kelly wrote that up with the advice of myself, Henry Lloyd, and a number of prominent attorneys in Chicago.

Q. The attorneys didn't assist in drawing it, did they? A. No, they assisted in suggesting the terms to be used.

Q. The technical language? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Has there been any opinion expressed by prominent attorneys as to the constitutionality of the bill? A. There has,

and they think it is constitutional. Mr. Arnold expressed his opinion that he thinks it is constitutional, so far as I have heard him speak about it.

Q. Now, you might go on and give your ideas. A. This act has three main propositions; one is that we limit the hours of work for women and children. The other is, that we see that no clothing that is made to be sold shall be made under unhealthy conditions, or in a place where people live; and the third is, that a system of inspection should be inaugurated in the State to enforce those two. That is the main part of it. I want to say in defense of the one. the eight-hour plan for women, I want to say that under this system, driving sewing machines by foot-power the women who do it in Chicago by the thousands are being murdered by superior powers to that of their own, working for twelve, thirteen or fourteen hours a day, driving a foot-power sewing machine, making cloaks, coats, pants and other things.

Q. Could you explain what would be the effect on those young girls of driving sewing machines? A. It is my personal knowledge, as being intimate friends with girls who drive sewing machines for long hours—I am not a physician to tell exactly the name or kind of the disease they have as a rule—but they have what they call women sickness, an affection of the womb, and that they are affected with it seriously, and they work seven or eight hours continuously, as a rule. Their physical powers, the sewing machine drains out—sponges out—so that they are weak, powerless, and cripples in one sense, physical cripples, who have been killed by the hard exertion, the hard work. I have a number of friends that are so, to my personal knowledge.

Q. Will it produce consumption? A. Yes, sir; a brouther of mine who was healthy when he started to work in the sewing trade, only succeeded in driving a sewing machine five years, and became consumptive. He was strong when he began to work, but because he had a big family he had to work a little harder than others. When I say a little harder, he had to work eighteen hours a day, instead of sixteen, and to drive the sewing machine harder, and the result was that he became sick and died. I can proceed to give three reasons that are, in my opinion, arguments for legislators to enact laws that will prevent that. I am now speaking of the physical health, and so forth, and I say that if the State can make it impossible for a sweater to employ a girl or woman longer than eight hours, they will thereby save the lives of those people.

Q. Now, as I understand you, you explained the effect of long hours upon women and children; therefore, that is the reason for making it eight hours? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How about the diseases, the infectious diseases? A. The second one is to make it impossible for people to work in places

where they live. I want to say that to my knowledge the greatest part of the clothing, or pretty near all clothing, is being handled in places where people live.

Q. Wouldn't you qualify that a little? You don't mean all clothing? A. The finishing is done in pretty nearly all. I haven't said it has been all made. I have said it has been handled in places where people live. It is self-evident that if garments are held in the places where people live, where there is sickness of a contagious character in any member of the family, it is liable to be carried with the clothing to the store, and a law that would prevent the making of clothing in places where people lived, practically speaking, would abolish that phase of the sweating-shop, for this reason, that a sick person can't work, and they can't, for that reason, go into the place where the clothing is made.

Q. Well, I ask you if that would not in a great many instances be a hardship? A. I think it would not. I think it would better their condition.

Q. Yes, as a whole? A. I do to my personal knowledge know of no person who would be harmed by this, for this reason, that as a rule people who do hand sewing or finishing on clothes where the husband works away from the shops, the finishers compete with their husbands with their ability to work so cheap in the house themselves; they receive so little wages in the house that they can't make a living out of it. If this phase of the business of clothing was eliminated they would raise enough to support the family by the work done by the husband, whose business it is to do it.

Q. How would it be in the case of a widow? A. It is my knowledge that the widow can't support herself from the money she gets from the vests and cloaks for finishing; she can't earn more than $1.25 or $1.50 per week, no matter how hard she works, and she is as a rule a pauper left on the expense of the State. I want to say in addition to this, that so low are the wages being ground down in these sweat shops that the majority of them are either on the verge of pauperism or are paupers. I want to cite one case that would emphasize this very clearly. During the strike in 1889, the foreman that testified here yesterday, Samuel Kohn, said to the employes: "If you don't go back to work, we will close the doors of the hospitals for your sick and the charity institutions for the needy," and that was argument enough for them to bow their heads and go to work. That is the foreman of Beifeld Brothers. Well, the third reason is that we should have inspectors to enforce this law. I believe that the State officials carry out the law more fully than the municipal officials.

Q. State politics is a little improvement on city politics? A. I think they are. I don't think that it would be necessary for me to argue that the State should interfere, but the moment it does interfere in this matter, they can do it no better than to appoint factory inspectors to do the inspecting.

By Mr. O'Donnell:

Q. Has there been an attempt made to organize those that work in the sweat shops, or have they any organization amongst them in their different lines? A. Yes, sir.

Q. State to the committee now what has been done or what exists? A. An attempt to organize those people is being made and has been made continually every year since the last seven years. In 1886 we have had an organization of sweat shop employés in Chicago that numbered more than ten thousand people, under the Knights of Labor. It was during the eight-hour movement in Chicago. That organization died. I want to give my reasons why I think it was killed. It is impossible under the sweating system to keep up an organization. An organization has got to have some ability to have control over its members. In the sweat shop system the members are so distributed that one is in a basement and the second is on the fourth floor, one is in an alley and one is in a stable; and one place two or three are working and in another place four or five are working. A number of women and children are working, and the result of that chaotic state of affairs makes it impossible for the people to organize or make an organization. The whole thing is in a terrible chaotic manner in which it is. The only organization that we have effected is the Cloak Makers' Union; we have now two hundred and thirty members, and the Womens' Cloak Makers' Union, somewhere between thirty and fifty members.

Q. How many women do you suppose are engaged in cloak making in Chicago altogether? A. Oh, I suppose about four thousand.

Q. That is including the girls? A. Yes, sir. I want to say that the manufacturers have made every effort to defeat the purposes of those various organizations, and that they have killed a number of organizations. I have a great many times seen contracts wherein the right to organize was denied in such technical terms that you couldn't grasp them by law, but the right to organize was denied any way.

Q. That is to the sweaters? A. To the employés, but I am very sorry that I haven't got a copy of those things, but you can find information of those things if you want to from Judge Arnd, who was at that time employed to arbitrate between the manufacturers and employés. It would be interesting to cite a case at that time. After being on a strike for ten weeks; after

being starved out to the utmost, I and a number of others, a committee from the Cloak Makers' Union, went to Beifeld and begged Beifeld to give us a chance not to sign this infamous contract—they called Beifeld up and Beifeld came and he said in this way: "Those people are cranks; they earn from twenty-five to thirty-five dollars per week, but they are not satisfied; they have agitators, etc." Our committee then said to him that we had in our possession four hundred books that are made not by ourselves, but by the book-keepers of the houses, that we will show up the wages paid to the different men for the last year, and if it goes higher than eight dollars a week we will sign the contract and obey the orders, and all the other men behind us will do the same, and he then said; "Oh, we are not discussing that part of the matter at all."

Q. Now, what I want to understand is as to how the prices paid now are as compared with that time when they were making eight dollars a week? A. The price per piece is less than at that time, but I think that they make eight dollars a week now because they have developed better abilities.

Q. They can produce more? A. They can produce better and more skilled work. For instance, a fine cloak that would pay three dollars, it is a dollar and a half. A fine cloak is easier to make now for those who are longer in the business, and while wages are reduced, I don't think that they make much less. Some may earn less, because the hours are longer and the work is harder.

Q. But they produce more value now? A. It produces more value.

Q. Then, naturally, the manufacturer makes greater profits? A. Yes. In speaking of the manufacturers' profits, I want to mention this fact, that the people who employ sweat shop help make greater profits than any other business men in this city. A man named Julius Stein, who went into the business eleven years ago with a capital of two thousand dollars—

Q. He went in as a manufacturer? A. As a manufacturer, and he was the owner of seven hundred thousand dollars only seven years after he went into the business. That he told me and his wife told me.

Q. Is there anything that occurs to you that you haven't said? A. Only that the fine goods, the custom-made goods, to my knowledge, are all made in the sweat shop. There is an organization of sweat shop employés in the custom-made tailoring in Chicago numbering about six hundred people, who have made every effort to abolish the sweat shops by single petitions to the manufacturers' organizations asking them to establish big shops. The result was that they didn't heed their pleadings, and they are now working the sweat shops the same as they

did a year ago. I want to say in addition to this that every organization in the United States, or rather throughout the civilized world, that are employed in the tailoring business, have as their leading demand the abolition of the sweating system in their trade. Every organization in the whole civilized world working in the tailoring trade have that leading demand, the abolition of the sweating system.

The committee then adjourned *sine die*, on motion of Mr. Dearborn.