ONLY $5 A WEEK FOR 11-HOUR DAY IN THE LAUNDRIES

Some Women Describe Bad Conditions Before the State Strike Probers.

Testimony concerning many alleged violations of the State factory laws, which restrict the hours of labor in factories to sixty hours a week, of profane and vulgar language used by managers, lack of dressing rooms and instances where girls worked ninety hours a week and until 1 and 1.30 o'clock in the morning, were presented to-day at the inquiry into the laundry strike by the Board of Mediation in the Aldermanic Chamber. William C. Rogers, James McManus and M. J. Regan are conducting the inquiry. In each instance where laundresses swore to oppressive hours and small salaries, witnesses were produced by the laundry proprietors who did not join the strike and who testified that conditions were "satisfactory."

The Aldermanic Chamber was filled with laundry employees—men and women—and lawyers representing the laundries, who constantly interrupted Chairman Rogers's examination of witnesses by submitting questions on written slips.

The committee is empowered to investigate strikes and lock-outs under section No. 141 of the consolidated laws. It is authori...l to call witnesses from both sides of the controversy. The findings of the committee will be reported to John Williams, Commissioner of Labor.

Thomas Wright, a driver in the employ of the Nonpareil Steam Laundry in West Fifty-first street, was the first witness called. He has driven a laundry wagon for this firm for eight years and receive $15 a week. He worked on an average twelve hours a day.

Mrs. Lena McInerney, a "shaker" in the Nonpariel laundry, told the mediators she stood eleven hours a day and received $5 a week wages. She said the wages were unsatisfactory and her hours of work too long. Women employes had no dressing rooms and were compelled to change their clothes in toilet rooms. Mrs. McInerney's daughter, Mary, gave similar testimony. Miss McInerney is an undersized frail girl. She will be seventeen year's old on her next birthday. She worked long hours and was compelled to stand all day. She received $5 a week and quit when the strike was declared.

Miss Nora Bradley, eighteen years old, a folder, well dressed and smiling, gets $6 a week at the Nonpareil Laundry and is not dissatisfied with her hours or wages. The strike did not affect her.

Benjamin Schneider, manager of the Nonpareil, gave the employers' version of the struggle. He employs eighty-five workers and receives goods from thirty-six sub-laundries. The main trouble, Schneider said, is the keen competition which forces the steam laundries to accept laundry in nets from the hand laundries to retain the latter's trade.

Probably a dozen employes, whom the witness characterized as "unambitious and slothful," receive less than $5 a week. A "good shirt ironer" ought to make from $30 to $35 a week, the witness thought, although he admitted he had none in his laundry.

The Board then turned to Brunswick Laundry on Third avenue and One Hundred and Sixty-fourth street.

Glendolyn Laighton testified her hours on Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursdays were from 7.30 o'clock A. M. to 10 or 10.30 o'clock P. M. She received $6 a week.

"Conditions became intolerable," Miss Laighton said, "going from bad to worse."

Ellen Galettee, a middle-aged starcher, told the commissioners she had $19.70 in ninety hours during a week before Christmas. The hours of work she swore to follow:

Monday—9 A. M. until 1 A. M.—16 hours.
Tuesday—7 A. M. until midnight—17 hours.
Wednesday—7 A. M. until midnight—17 hours.
Thursday—7 A. M. until 1 A. M.—18 hours.
Friday—7.30 A. M. until 11.30 P. M.—16 hours.
Saturday—7 A. M. until 1 P. M.—6 hours.

Another week Miss Lalettee recalls working sixty-three hours in four days and earning "less than $12."

Sarah Hiller, who is fifteen years old to-day, told of working from eleven to fourteen hours a day at the Brunswick Laundry and receiving $4 a week.

Kate Larkin, a pretty young woman, said it was customary for her to earn from $14 to $15 a week. She often makes $19 a week.

Morris Robinson, President of the Brunswick Laundry Company, denied that any of his women employees were required to work after 10 o'clock at night. On the contrary, he testified, the factory is emptied at 10 o'clock to accomodate the night force of men workers.

Robinson had hardly left the stand when Celia Anito, a slender young woman, was sworn. She testified she worked at the Brunswick laundry and worked until 10 or 11 o'clock at night. She was excused after contradicting Robinson, who said he never saw Miss Anito before.

At this point the Board announced that violations of the factory laws appearing from the testimony would be promptly called to the attention of the proper authorities.

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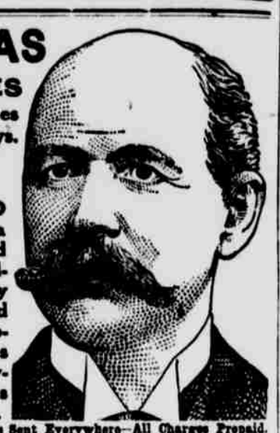

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100 in the lot—52 or 54 inches long; light weight; handsomely moired skins. *The Greatest Fur Bargain Ever Offered.* Skinner's satin lined; former price was $50.00 ..... 19.98

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$30,000 Worth of Furs Sold in Five Days, $95,000 More at the Same Marvelous Prices.

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52 or 54 inches long; made of high lustred fine curl, whole skins, foreign dyed; richly lined with brocaded silk; former price was $65.00 ..... 24.98

$85 Natural Russian Pony Coats, 39.98
52 or 54 inches long; an exceptional bargain; light weight, handsomely marked skins; coat is lined with brocaded silk; former price was $85.00 ..... 39.98

$32.50 Sabled Coney Coats, 14.98
52 inches long; we have been selling coats like these all season for $32.50; made of fine soft French dyed skins; long rolling collar and cuffs; Skinner's satin lined 14.98

$65 Russian Pony Coats, 24.98
52 or 54 inches long; perfectly matched skins, Leipzig dyed; former price was $65.00 ..... 24.98

$85 Mink Marmot Coats, 39.98
52 or 54 inches long; beautifully stripe coats with border effect; fasten with large fancy silk ornaments; brocaded silk lining; former price was $85.00 ..... 39.98

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$90 French Seal Coats, 39.98
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50 Odd Fancy Trimmed Fur Coats

Former Prices $125, $150, $175, $200

Bisam Seal Karakul, and Natural Pony, trimmed with Pointed Fox, Natural Raccoon and Beaver 49.98

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SCARFS		MUFFS
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6.98 Former Price $18.50	Natural Raccoon	9.98 Former Price $22.50
9.98 Former Price $22.50	Pointed Fox	9.98 Former Price $22.50
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18 inch; usually 25c, at .. 10c
22 inch; usually 35c, at .. 15c
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In Mount Millick and braiding designs on fine quality pure linen damask and offered as follows:—
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An expert embroiderer will be in attendance to show you how to embroider any of these pieces.
For beginners these prices ought to be intensely interesting.
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Coats are 52 inches long, made in the newest and most fashionable models.

Russian Pony Skin Coats $24.00
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Handsome Near Seal Coats; at $42.00
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Seal Coats; Leipzig dye; 50 and 52 ins. long; stylish models *$190.00*
No one has ever offered or will ever offer a seal coat 50 and 52 inches long at this low price. If interested we would advise an early selection: sizes are 38, 40, 42 and 44 ins.

Fashionable Russian Pony Skin Coats; handsome, at ..... $59, $48 and $39
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Caracul Coats; of selected skins $49.00
Beautiful Russian Pony Skin Coats ... $65
Russian Pony Skin Coats; moire effect ..... $85 and $95
Beautiful Natural Pony Skin Coats; trimmed with natural Raccoon, natural Beaver ..... $75 and $125
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Our Leather Goods Clearance
Brings these Important Special Offerings for To-Morrow:

Women's Hand Bags:
Hand Bags, velvets, tapestries, satin and leathers; reduced to 35c and 68c.
Hand Bags, worth up to $2.00; all styles in velvet, tapestry and leather; reduced to $1.50 and $1.00.
Hand Bags, worth up to $5.00; all styles of satin, velvet, tapestry and leather; to be sold at $3.95, $3.50, $3.00 and $2.50.
Leather Hand Purses, worth up to $1.00; reduced to 50c.
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Dress Suit Cases:
All 24 inches long, as follows:
Matting Suit Cases, 84c and $1.15.
Russet Leather Suit Cases, regularly $2.98; reduced to $1.95.
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Bellows Suit Cases, deep, russet leather; regularly $5.00; at $3.99.

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Travellers' Bags of Cowhide Leather, odd sizes, regularly $3.98; to be sold at $3.00.
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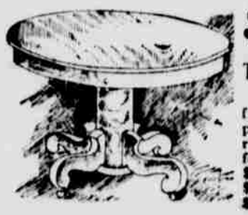

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Grape Jam—Without seeds; large jar 14c
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Our 35c. A La Carte Coffee—Lb. 30c
Our 62c. Teas (all of them)—Per lb 49c
Our 50c. Teas (all of them)—Per lb 35c
Our 24c. Grenoble Walnuts—Per lb. 17c
Our 12c. Rice—Finest; per lb ..... 10c; 5 lbs 40c
Our 6c. Rice—Broken; per lb. 5c; 5 lbs 23c
Our 15c. Metal Polish—Best; per can 8c
Our 10c. Borden's Peerless Milk—Per can 7c

Canned Asparagus
"Eagle" California—Extra fine; can 18c
"Oak" Brand—Heavy spears; large can 22c
"Del Monte" Brand—Very choicest; large can 24c
"Del Monte" Asparagus Tips—Per can 20c
"Silver Lake" Table Pears—Large No. 2½ can 14c
Preserved Plums—Large No. 3 can 12c

Canned Fish
28c. Imported Sardines—Extra fine; large can 19c
22c. Imported Sardines—Extra fine; large can 14c
Red Alaska Salmon—Large No. 2 can 17c
Columbia River salmon—No. 1 can, 22c, 24c and 28c
Columbia River Salmon—No. ½ can 13c
Lobster—Choicest; ½ can, 25c; large can 44c
Sardines—Choicest; per can 10c

California Fruits:
A large range all seasonable fruits.
"Manzanita" Lemon Cling Peaches—Per can 18c
"Manzanita" White Cherries—Per can 20c
"Manzanita" Bartlett Pears—Can 20c
"Manzanita" Apricots—Can 18c
"Del Monte" Lemon Cling Peaches—Per can 25c
"Del Monte" Bartlett Pears 25c
"Del Monte" Apricots 23c
"Del Monte" White Cherries—Per can 25c

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Our 14c. Imported Pastes

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