

BATTLE FOR EIGHT-HOUR DAY IS ON BEFORE ILLINOIS LEGISLATURE

Dudley Taylor was not in court representing the restaurant bosses yesterday in their fight on the waitresses' union. Instead of representing them in this city he was in Springfield lobbying in opposition to the women's eight-hour day bill, which is now being considered by the house industrial relations committee.

At the close of her speech boosting the bill Taylor asked Agnes Nestor, pres. Women's Trade Union league, if "you wouldn't be ready to accept nine hours as a compromise."

Miss Nestor replied she had no authority to accept a compromise.

"Who do you represent?" Rep. Medil McCormick asked Taylor.

"None of your business," replied Taylor.

After a warm argument the chairman ruled that the lobbyists need not reveal the names of all their principals until it came time for their set addresses.

Oscar F. Nelson, state factory inspector, told of the weaknesses of the present ten-hour law and suggested changes in form for the new law if enacted.

"The same argument against this bill was used against the eight-hour law for miners," said pres. John Walker of the Ill. Federation of Labor. "Now, every operator in the state will admit the conditions are better than they were before. I personally favor an eight-hour day for everybody, and that is the end toward which we are striving."

Elizabeth Maloney of the Chicago Waitresses' Union told how their ten-hour day was stretched over into a 12 and sometimes 13-hour period. She gave statistics showing that 45 per cent of her trade suffered from illness during the year.

Mary Anderson of the Women's Trade Union league, a shoe worker, told of the horrible conditions which

prevailed because of the piecework system which keeps the women working at top speed for ten hours a day to earn enough to live.

Francis Kilduff, pres. of the Ill. Retail Dry Goods ass'n, did not openly oppose the bill. Instead he suggested several ways to delay it indefinitely.

He advocated a sub-committee which would make an investigation in Chicago and other cities. This would take several weeks. He also urged that if the eight-hour day was established that it be done gradually and pleaded against legislation which would disorganize every concern in the state which employed women.

—o—o—o—
IN APPROVED STYLE



"Say, Joe, I wisht you'd tell me one thing. How do you think up such grand love letters to write me?"

"Aw, it's easy. I copies dem out of de breach o' promise suits in de newspapers."