

Miss Maynard has now been asked to do soldiers' button brushes at 5/8d a gross and the other workers have had notice that they will have to start them in a few days time. Miss Maynard has refused the work and the other workers have come out on strike in sympathy with her. They say that in order to put them in the same position that they are when making the soldiers' hair brushes, they must have at least 7/6d a gross and that even then they think they probably will be earning less.

Mrs. Page, one of the quickest workers employed by this factory, who earns considerably more than the others, took some of these brushes home to do, and was only able to earn 1/6d in 12 hours. Mrs. Page is a specially quick worker who has had long experience in the trade. All these workers are experienced workers, Miss Maynard having worked at this factory for four years next September.

I am sure that you will realise that this payment is much below the usual rates, which are already far lower than they ought to be, especially when it is taken into consideration that these are skilled workers who have been a number of years acquiring proficiency in the trade.

Faithfully yours,

*E. J. J. Parkhurst*