

ROYAL COMMISSION

ON

LABOUR IN INDIA.

EVIDENCE.

Vol. V.—Part 1.

BENGAL

[Excluding Coalfields and the Dooars].

WRITTEN EVIDENCE.

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NOTE TO PART I.

In this part is reproduced the bulk of the evidence submitted to the Commission in the form of written memoranda in reply to the list of subjects circulated in August 1929. In preparing this volume the Commission have sought to retain all matter likely to be of permanent interest to students of the subject, and not available elsewhere. Material supplied to the Commission which has already been printed and published elsewhere has in general not been reproduced. Where memoranda have been abridged all considerable omissions have been indicated in the text.

TERMS OF REFERENCE.

"To inquire into and report on the existing conditions of labour in industrial undertakings and plantations in British India, on the health, efficiency and standard of living of the workers, and on the relations between employers and employed, and to make recommendations."

Nors.—"Industrial undertaking" for the purpose of the Commission is interpreted as in Article I of the Washington Hours Convention, which is as follows:—

"For the purpose of this Convention, the term 'industrial undertaking' includes particularly:—

"(a) Mines, quarries, and other works for the extraction of minerals from the

- "(b) Industries in which articles are manufactured, altered, cleaned, repaired, ornamented, finished, adapted for sale, broken up or demolished, or in which materials are transformed; including shipbuilding and the genera-
- which materials are transformed; including shipbuilding and the generation, transformation and transmission of electricity or motive power of any kind.

 (c) Construction, reconstruction, maintenance, repair, alteration, or demolition of any halding railway, transway, harbour, dock, pier, canal, inland
- of any building, railway, tramway, harbour, dock, pier, canal, inland waterway, road, tunnel, bridge, viaduct, sewer, drain, well, telegraphic or telephonic installation, electrical undertaking, gaswork, waterwork or other work of construction, as well as the preparation for or laying the foundations of any such work or structure.
- "(d) Transport of passengers or goods by road, rail, sea, or inland waterway, including the handling of goods at dooks, quays, wharves or warehouses, but excluding transport by hand."

The competent authority in each country shall define the line of division which separates industry from commerce and agriculture.

MISRCL

LIST OF SUBJECTS.

I. Recruitment.

- (1) Origin of Labour.
 - (i) Extent of migration.
 - (ii) Causes of particular streams of migration.
 - (iii) Changes in recent years.
- (2) Contact with villages.
 - (i) Extent and frequency of return.
 - (ii) Extent of permanent labour force.
- (3) Methods of recruitment.
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 - (ii) Possible improvement.
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 - (b) Possibility of practical schemes.
- (4) Extent and effects of disturbance of family life.
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 - (c) Other causes.
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 - (iv) Unemployment Insurance.
 - (v) Application of International Conventions relating to unemployment.
- (8) Labour "turnover."*
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 - (ii) Extent of casual employment.
 - (iii) Absenteeism.
 - (a) Extent, character and causes.
 - (b) Seasonal or otherwise.
 - (c) Time and wages lost.
- (9) Apprentices Act, 1850.

Value of.

^{*} This word should be read as indicating generally the changes in composition of the labour staff of an undertaking.

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- (10) Details of organisation, administrative and departmental.
- (11) Selection of managing staff.
- (12) Recruitment and training of supervising staff, superior and subordinate.
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- (30) Sickness insurance.
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 - (iii) Possibility of legislation.

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- (55) Hours worked per week and per day.
 - (i) Normal, i.e. as determined by custom or agreement.
 - (ii) Actual, i.e. including overtime.
 - (iii) Spreadover, i.e. relation between hours worked and hours during which worker is on call.
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B. Mines.

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 - (i) Normal, i.e. as determined by custom or agreement.
 - (ii) Actual, i.e. including overtime.
 - (iii) Spreadover, i.e. relation between hours worked and hours during which worker is on call.

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- (73) Hours worked per week and per day.
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56	Capt. W. O'Connor	Senior Certifying Sur- geon of Factories, Bengal.	330335	
57	Dr. Chas. A. Bent- ley, M.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H., C.I.E.	Director of Public Health, Bengal.		
- 58	Mr. F. C. Griffin, M.I.C.E., M.I.E.	Chief Engineer, Public Health Department, Bengal.		
59	Dr. M. E. Sufi, B.A., L.R.C.P.&S.,D.P.H.	Assistant Director of Public Health, Vaccination and Vital Statistics, Bengal.	335—348	199—213,
60	Dr. G. L. Batra, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Assistant Director, Public Health for Industrial Hygiene, Bengal.		E2970.
61	Dr. B. C. Mukharji, M.B., D.P.H.	Inspector of Septic Tank Installations, Calcutta.		
62	Dr. A. C. Ray Chaudhury, D.P.H.	Diet Survey Officer, Public Health Department, Bengal.		
63	Mr. C. W. Gurner, I.C.S.	Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Local Self-Government Department.		213—219, E. 3215.

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64	Mr. H. J. Twynam, I.C.S.	Secretary to the Govern- ment of Bengal, Revenue Department.		23—219, E3215.
85	Mr. R. N. Gilchrist, I.E.S.	Deputy Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Commerce and Marine Departments, Labour Intelligence Officer and Registrar of Trade Unions.	1—190	
66	Mr. A. T. Weston, M. Sc., M.I.C.E., M.I.E.	Director of Industries, Bengal.	391—394	219—244, E3270.
67	Mr. J. A. Beale	Sub-Divisional Officer, Asansol.	}	
68	Khan Bahadur Tasaddak Ahmed.	Second Inspector of Schools, Presidency Division.		
69	Rai Sahib Sushil Kumar Ganguly	Officiating Registrar, Co-operative Societies.		
70	Mr. R. P. Adams, O.B.E., M.I. Mech. E.	Chief Inspector of Factories, Bengal.		
71	Mr. J. B. McBride, A. M. I. (Mech.) E.	Senior Inspector of Fac- tories, Bengal.]	
72	Sir Charles Stuart- Williams, Kt.	Chairman, Calcutta Port Commissioners.	<u> </u>	:
73	Mr. W. A. Burns	Traffic Manager, Calcutta Port.	348—356	245—260, E3599.
74	Commander Nor- cock.	Deputy Consevatorr, Calcutta Port.	J	E3088.
75	Mr. H. F. Darvell	Shipping Master, Calcutta.	Volume II, Part I, pages 328— 334.	260—279, E3804.
76	Mr. E. C. Benthall	Representatives of the	357—362	280—296,
77	Mr. W. Gow	Bengal Chamber of Commerce.		E4050.
78 79	Mr. D. K. Cunnison	Marino Samuelatandant	362365	908 900
19	Captain R. Liddle	Marine Superintendent, British India Steam Navi- gation Company, Limit- ed.	802─-308	296—309, E4255.

				
Serial No.	N а m e.	Designation and/or address of witness.	Part I (Written evidence) pages.	Part II (Oral evidence) pages and Nos. of the first questions of the series.
80	Mr. R. Chakravarti (of the Mohini Mills, Limited, Kushtia, Bengal).		375—378	010 000
81	Mr. U. M. Bose	Representatives of the Bengal National Cham- ber of Commerce.	365375	310—320, E4423.
82	Mr. H. P. Ghose			
83	Mr. J. H. Sen Gupta	J		
84	Mr. L. M. Snelgrove	General Manager, The Oriental Gas Company, Limited, Calcutta and Howrah.	378379	••
. 85	Mr. F. T. Homan	Agent, the Calcutta Elec- tric Supply Corporation, Limited, Calcutta.	\$80—381	•
86	Mr. C. W. Leeson	Rivers Steam Navigation Company, Limited, Calcutta.	382	
87	Mr. J. Donald	Manager of Mesars. Sona- kunda Baling Company, Limited, Naraingunge.	382-384	
88	Burn and Company, Limited	Howrah	3 84 –39 1	
89	Mr. M. Brooks	Managing Director, The Angus Company, Limit- ed, Calcutta.	3 94 —411	••
90	Major-General • G. Tate, I.M.S.	Surgeon General with the Government of Bengal.	412	*•
91	Mr. M. Dalmiya	Secretary and General Manager, Kesoram Cot- ton Mills, Limited.	412-423	
92	Indian Chamber of Commerce.	Calcutta	423-425	
93	Mr. J. P. Mandelia	Secretary, the Birla Jute Manufacturing Company, Limited, Calcutta.	4254 31	₹\$,
94	The Bengal Mariner's Union	Calcutta,	432—434	٠.
95	The Indian Quarter- Master's Union	Calcutta	434 4 35	
. 96	Mr. S. A. M. Shoos- try	General Secretary, Bengal Labour Association.	435—436	**
97	Prof. N. Gangulee, C.L.B., B.So., Ph.D.	Khaira Professor of Agri- culture, Calcutta Univer- sity.	438—444	••

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The evidence (written or oral or both) of the following witnesses belonging to this Presidency, or examined at one of the centres in this Presidency, is printed in Volume VIII, Parts I (written) and II (oral)—Railways.

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		CALOUTTA.			
1	Mr. K. P. Banerjee	1			
2	Mr. J. N. Gupta	Representatives of the Eastern Bengal Railway Indian Employees' As-		510—530	314331, K2970.
3	Mr. P. Chakraborty	sociation.			
4	Kanchrapara Rail- way Workmen's Union	,,		530—532	
5	Mr. Cameron	General Secretary, Anglo-Indian As- sociation.			
6	Mr. Bastien	h :			
7	Mr. Powell	of the E. B. Rail- way.	Repre-	;	
8	Mr. Rigg	ነ [.]	sentatives of the		332—343, K3174.
9	Mr. Lardner	of the E. I. Railway.	Anglo- Indian		
10	Mr. Marteton)	and Do- miciled		
11	Mr. Backman	of the B. N. Rail- way:	Euro-		
12	Mr. Wilson	of the E. I. Rail. way (O. and R. Section).	Employ- ees of Railways		
13	Mr. Atkinson	Travelling Secretary, Anglo- Indian Association.	•	٠	
14	Mr. P. H. Maflin, O.B.E., M.C.	Agent)		
15	Mr. I. St. C. Pringle	Deputy Agent			
16	Mr. A. H. Joscelyne	Locomotive Superintendent.			
17	Dr. H. Suhrawardy	Chief Medical Offi- cer.	The Eas- tern Ben- gal Rail- way.	1—358 (Joint	343372, K3287.
18	Mr. H. N. Parker	Officer on Special		il- Memo.)	
19	Mr. H. A. Outhwaite	Duty. Statistical Officer.			
20	Mr. V. P. Bhandar-	Welfare Officer	}		
21	kar Mr. D. Ghose	Assistant Traffic Superintendent,			

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22 23 24 25	Mr. Surendra Nath, M.A., LL.B. Mr. Hikmstullah, Bar-at-Law. Mr. H. S. Bhstnagar Mr. K. N. Pandey	Acting President. Chief Legal Adviser. General Secretary. Asst. Station Master. Representatives of the East-Indian Railway Union, Moradabad.	4 61 —4 77	373—388, K3570.
26	Mr. G. L. Colvin, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.	Agent		
27	Mr. F. E. Robertson	Chief Operating Superintendent.		
28	Mr. R. L. Ray	Chief Mechanical Engineer.		
29	Mr. A. V. Venables	Chief Engineer		
30	Dr. A. K. H. Pollock	Chief Medical The East	1—358	389—425 .
31	Mr. E. Cameron Ker	Deputy Chief Accounts Officer. Railway.		K3788.
32	Mr. A. O. Evans	Deputy Agent		
33	Mr. M. Robertson	Secretary to		
34	Mr. H. Lancaster	Agent. Manager, Giridih Mines.		
35	Mr, F. C. Badhwar	Employment Officer, Lilloosh,		
36	Mr. C. S. Whit- worth	Chief Mining Engineer (Rail- way Board).	- All Marian Control of the Control	-
37	Mr. Santi Ram Mondal		Andrew of the Control	:
38	Mr. Ram Autar	,		
39	Mr. Atal Behary Santra	Representatives of the	477—486	495_490
40	Mr. S. N. Shaw	East Indian Railway Labour Union, Lillocah.	Z11	425—430, K4196.
41	Mr. Ismail			<u>'</u>
42	Mr. Ali Mohammad			
43	Mr. K. D. Chat- terjee.			
44	Mr. Hardin Shaha	J		skide etware all de la constant de l

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45	General Secretary, East Indian Railway Employ- ees' Union	Lucknow	4 86 4 88	••
46	Mr. J. C. Mitter	General Secretary, East Indian Railway Union, Khagaul.	489—49 7	
47	Bengal North Western Railway- men's Associa- tion	Gorakhpur	497509	4+
48	Mr. V. E. D. Jarrad	Agent		
49	Dr. Mozumdar	Medical Department.		
50	Mr. Bazaz	Engineering Construction.		
5 l	Mr. Chakrabartty	Engineering Open Line. The Ben- gal	1—358	431—458, K-4274.
52	Mr. Khanna	Commercial De- partment. Nagpur Railway.	. 000	
53	Mr. Faroque +	Transportation Department.		
54	Mr. Chowdhury	President, Urban Bank.	• ,	
55	Dr. A. Martin- Leake, V.C., F.R.C.S.]		
56	Mr. Kanshi Nath Muttu] •		
57	Mr. W. V. R. Naidu	Representatives of the	532—5 4 6	459487,
58	Mr. P. Ramachandra Rao		VV20±0	K-4613.
59	Mr. Somayajulu	Truta achur.		
60	Mr. A. N. Bose	J		
61	Mr. H. S. Suhrawardy	President, Muslim Welfare Committee, B. N. Rail- way, Kharagpur.	546—549.	
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