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**THE INDIAN
WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT
(VIII OF 1923)**

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Indian Civil Service**

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PREFACE

In introducing what is now the ~~Workmen's Com-~~
pensation Act, 1922, in the Legislative Assembly,
the Hon. Mr. Innes said, "What we have tried to do
is to frame a Bill under which men without any
expert legal knowledge, the employer and his work-
man, will be able to see for themselves whether in
any particular case compensation is due, and, if so,
what the compensation amounts to." This book has
been written in the hope that it will assist in
furthering that object. The Act is not a simple one
to master. The very endeavour to leave as few
opportunities for litigation as possible has resulted
in a large amount of detail requiring close reading of
every provision and constant reference to other pro-
visions. And although the Act has been so con-
structed that the layman should be able to under-
stand it and to use it, he cannot except to do either
unless he is willing to devote patient study to it.

The object of this book, then, is to present a fairly
complete view of the scope and intention of the Act.
It is rather an introduction to the Act than a com-
mentary upon it. While it is hoped that the book
will present no difficulty to those who have no pre-
vious knowledge of the law, every endeavour has

been made to secure legal accuracy. In this connection the author desires to acknowledge the great assistance he has received from Mr. W. T. M. Wright, I.C.S., who was largely responsible for the drafting of the Act. Legal niceties have been avoided as far as possible, and the examples chosen are, for the most part, of a fairly obvious type. But the views expressed have been checked by reference to numerous authorities and decisions.

As far as possible, the quotation of decisions has been avoided, both because the Act should be expounded and applied on its own merits, and because isolated quotations from judgments are too often misleading. But no one who wishes to make a particular study of the law can afford to ignore the English decisions, and reference has been made to a few of those which may prove of special assistance in connection with this Act.

In view of the author's official connection with the subject of this book, it should be clearly understood that the statements made in it represent his personal views, and have no official authority of any kind.

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