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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAY DEPARTMENT
(RAILWAY BOARD)

REPORT

ON

**Educational Facilities for the Children of
Subordinates provided by the North
Western, East Indian and Great
Indian Peninsula Railways**

BY

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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

| | PAGES. |
|---|---------|
| Introduction | 1—2 |
| SECTION ONE. | |
| <i>Parental educational assistance.</i> | |
| CHAPTER I.—N. W. Railway. Old Rules. Present cost and probable savings after five years | 3—8 |
| CHAPTER II.—N. W. Railway Educational Census of the 26th October 1931. Procedure and main results | 9—12 |
| CHAPTER III.—N. W. Railway Educational Census of the 26th October 1931. Principal data regarding subordinates (excluding Labourers and Inferior Servants) and their children of school-age 6—16 years | 13—25 |
| CHAPTER IV.—N. W. Railway. Estimates of Immediate Cost under the New Rules | 26—33 |
| CHAPTER V.—N. W. Railway. Ultimate cost under the New Rules | 34—41 |
| CHAPTER VI.—N. W. Railway. Estimates of the cost under the New Rules after five years | 42—44 |
| CHAPTER VII.—The extent of School Education among N. W. Railway children compared with that among children of the same communities in British India and in the Provinces traversed by the N. W. Railway | 45—58 |
| CHAPTER VIII.—N. W. Railway stations. Availability and Proximity of schools. | 59—63 |
| CHAPTER IX.—E. I. Railway. Old Rules for pre-1925 subordinates of the Old O. & R. Railway: Present cost and Probable Savings after five years. "Old Rules" for other subordinates of the E. I. Railway | 64—70 |
| CHAPTER X.—E. I. Railway. Estimates of the Ultimate cost under the New Rules | 71—91 |
| CHAPTER XI.—G. I. P. Railway. Old Rules. History and details of cost and of the employees and children assisted | 92—100 |
| CHAPTER XII.—G. I. P. Railway. Estimates of Ultimate cost under the New Rules | 101—111 |
| CHAPTER XIII.—G. I. P. Railway. Estimates of the cost of Parental Educational Assistance under the Old Rules and New Rules after five years | 112—116 |
| CHAPTER XIV.—Further Recommendations regarding the Railway Board's New Rules | 117—120 |
| SECTION TWO. | |
| <i>Schools managed by State-managed Railways in India.</i> | |
| CHAPTER XV.—General description of Railway Schools with data for the five-year period 1926-27 to 1930-31 and current particulars for January 1932 | 121—153 |
| CHAPTER XVI.—The status of Teachers in schools managed by the State-managed Railways | 153—158 |
| CHAPTER XVII.—Further Recommendations regarding the Administration of Railway schools | 159—173 |
| SECTION THREE. | |
| CHAPTER XVIII.—Railway Recurring grants-in-aid to non-Railway schools | 174—188 |
| SECTION FOUR. | |
| CHAPTER XIX.—Other methods of Educational assistance for the children of Railway employees | 189—190 |

| | Pages. |
|--|---------|
| APPENDICES (BOUND SEPARATELY.) | |
| APPENDIX I. —N. W. Railway. Rules, dated the 12th June 1924, for assistance to subordinates for the education of their children as boarders at European Hill Schools | 1—8 |
| APPENDIX II. —Notification No. 48, from N. W. Railway Gazette No. 28, Monday, September 28, 1931 | 9—26 |
| APPENDIX III. —Instructions for Coding Returns A | 27—30 |
| APPENDIX IV. —Instructions for Punching | 31—32 |
| APPENDIX V. —Procedure for Sorting the Punched cards and obtaining the necessary tabulations.. .. . | 33—36 |
| APPENDIX VI. —Scheme for Sorting and Tabulating Hollerith Cards | 37 |
| APPENDIX VII. —N. W. Railway subordinates, excluding men in Inferior Service and Labourers, <i>Permanent in Service</i> . Tabulated results of Educational Census of 26th October 1931 | 38—46 |
| APPENDIX VIII. —N. W. Railway subordinates, excluding men in Inferior Service and Labourers, <i>Temporary with 3 or more years' continuous service</i> . Tabulated results of Educational Census of 26th October 1931 | 47—62 |
| APPENDIX IX. —N. W. Railway subordinates, excluding men in Inferior Service and Labourers, <i>Temporary with less than 3 years' continuous service</i> . Tabulated results of Educational Census of 26th October 1931.. .. . | 53—58 |
| APPENDIX X. —Notification No. 52, from N. W. Railway Gazette No. 30, dated the 26th October 1931 | 59—61 |
| APPENDIX XI. —Statement of nearest Recognised non-Railway schools for Indians within 5 miles by Rail or by Road of 1,007 stations on the N. W. Railway | 62—178 |
| APPENDIX XII. —Rules for assistance by the E. I. Railway to subordinates recruited before the 1st January 1925 of the late O. & R. Railway for the education of their children as boarders at Hill Schools and Plains Schools | 179—182 |
| APPENDIX XIII. —G. I. P. Railway. Old Rules for Parental Educational Assistance | 183 |
| APPENDIX XIV. —G. I. P. Railway. Application form for subsidy for the education of children in Boarding Schools | 185—188 |
| APPENDIX XV. —Specimen Reports of January and February 1932 on Railway schools, Bhusaval (G. I. P. Railway) and Asansol (E. I. Railway) | 189—200 |
| APPENDIX XVI. —Rules of management for Railway Schools | 201—220 |
| APPENDIX XVII. —Form for Annual Reports on the E. I. and N. W. Railway schools | 221—230 |
| APPENDIX XVIII. —Agreements with Teachers in Railway Schools | 231—236 |
| APPENDIX XIX. —Form of Monthly Return from E. I. Railway Schools | 237—238 |
| APPENDIX XX. —G. I. P. Railway. School Nominations with full particulars of cost, year of purchase, etc. | 239 |

Report on Educational Facilities for the Children of subordinates provided by the North Western, East Indian and Great Indian Peninsula Railways.

INTRODUCTION.

1. *Terms of Reference.*—The nature and scope of the further enquiry entrusted to me is explained in the following terms of reference, dated the 31st August 1931 :—

- “ (1) I am directed to request that you will make an investigation into the cost of giving assistance to railway employees on the North Western Railway towards the education of their children and report to the Railway Board in the manner indicated in their letter No. 4233-E., dated the 3rd January 1931, and in their Memo. bearing the same number and date.
- (2) After framing estimates of cost in respect of the North Western Railway, the Board desire that you should prepare an approximate estimate of the cost of the scheme in respect of the other State-managed Railways, namely, the East Indian and Great Indian Peninsula Railways.
- (3) The Board also desire that you should at intervals during your extended tenure, inspect the railway schools with a view to making recommendations for the introduction of improvements in the existing methods of administration as required in their letter and memorandum quoted above.
- (4) Finally the Board would be glad to have your recommendations on the lines laid down in paragraph 4(c) of their Memorandum No. 4233-E., dated the 3rd January 1931, as to what principle should be followed in regulating the grants-in-aid to other than railway schools during the period that the old and new principles of assistance are in force.”

2. The report now submitted thus forms a continuation of my main report dated the 5th August 1931 and my supplementary report dated the 14th August 1931 which dealt with educational facilities provided by the Eastern Bengal Railway and also with the general questions of—

- (a) recurring grants-in-aid by railways to non-railway schools, and
(b) the administration of railway schools.

3. The facilities referred to are in respect of general education in the usual school curricula and do not relate to instruction or training in technical or professional subjects.

4. The information collected in the course of the educational census held on the North Western Railway on the 26th October 1931 relates to the children of both permanent and temporary subordinates (excluding Labourers and Inferior Servants).

But for reasons given on pages 77, 79 and 80 of my earlier main report the estimates of the cost to the N. W., E. I. and G. I. P. Railways for parental

educational assistance under the New Rules of September 1930 are in respect of *permanent* subordinates only (excluding labourers and inferior servants). The numbers of such permanent subordinates were approximately :—

| | | |
|--|----|--------|
| North Western Railway (on 26th October 1931) .. | .. | 18,769 |
| East Indian Railway (on 31st March 1931) — | — | 19,425 |
| Great Indian Peninsula Railway (on 31st March 1931) .. | .. | 14,697 |
| | | 52,891 |
| Total .. | .. | 52,891 |

5. At this point in elucidation of paragraphs 1 and 2 of my present terms of reference, it may be stated that it was considered of doubtful validity to calculate the cost of parental educational assistance for these 52,891 men from the estimates for 8,396 Eastern Bengal Railway permanent subordinates prepared from the data of the E. B. Railway educational census of the 16th February 1931. The N. W. Railway educational census thus enabled one to investigate a larger sample, in an entirely different area and with a different pattern of communities. The results on the North Western Railway for the three lowest ranges of remuneration which contain 99% of the subordinates were found to agree quite well with the Eastern Bengal Railway results. It thus became possible to calculate the averages of the costs on the N. W. and E. B. Railways per 100 men of each community and to apply these averages to known numbers of subordinates, by community, on the E. I. and G. I. P. Railways.

6. I wish to acknowledge the abundant assistance which I have continuously received from the Railway Board and from the Administrations of the N. W., E. I. and G. I. P. Railways. In particular the completion of the Educational Census on the North Western Railway in the short space of 61 working days would not have been possible except for the assiduous co-operation of the Chief Personnel Officer and the Divisional Personnel Officers of that Railway. My cordial thanks for information supplied are due also to the Imperial Census Commissioner (for figures of the 1931 Census in advance of publication), to the Educational Commissioner with the Government of India, to the Directors of Public Instruction of the nine Provinces concerned, to the Committees of the seventy Railway schools and to the Heads of ninety-six non-Railway Schools aided by the Railways.