

C. S.

<u>PUBLIC WORKS</u> (Labour)	
No.	210/46

1946.

C. S. O.

SUBJECT.

1946.  
8th October

Previous Paper.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Work by Contract

121/42 Policy Regarding Labour  
0041  
161/46 Back work for aged & infirm  
288/46 Labour Working hours.

Subsequent Paper.

MINUTES.

1. Excerpt from Minutes of P. R. C. Meeting of 23. 9. 46

2

*N.B. This is associated with the mention of piece-work in gangs wh. was also dealt with by the P.R.C. See 121/42 and 199/39 (nd 51).*

2. *P.R. B. for next P.R.C. meeting wh. I may mention this matter w.r. to Hudson's piece.*

*ABE*  
11.x.46

*B.W. 14/10/46*

3. *E.E. / I did (as at ② §2). P.R. opt. at times. Do you remember about x ~ ①?*

*ABE*  
21.x.46

Announcement Colonial Secretary.

as to x on ①. The point that it was suggested that His Excellency should refer to P.I.L.F

/koo

was I believe, not the question of contract work  
but the question arising out of this proposal - i.e.  
the dismissal of men (permanently) by the Contractor.  
& their subsequent re-employment by Govt. If  
I am right then n.f.a. is necessary as the point  
has been dealt with in (134) & (141) & (142) of 121/42.

W. E.  
22.x.46

5.

E.E. is right & we must take n.f.a.

The conversation moved from piece-work done  
by gangs at 'contract' rates for the State  
Gang under a self-chosen person to  
the more properly styled 'contract work'  
undertaken by a contractor as principal  
with the E.E. as Govt.'s agent.

PA. Able  
23.x.46

6.

Put a copy of R 6. in 206/46 w  
has a liaison pt.

W. E.  
14.12

Minute from Ex. Engineer of 5. 11. 46

7.

PA. Able  
11.3

1

EXCERPT FROM MINUTES OF P. R. C. MEETING WITH HIS EXCELLENCY THE ACTING GOVERNOR OF 23. 9. 46 (original filed in 129/46 "P. R. Committee")

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... ..

~~H. E. then referred to the question of roads and said that it seemed better to keep on building temporary roads rather than to lay more permanent types, because, there was the labour side of the question. Owing to some commitment in Governor Hodson's time, the Government had more or less to employ anyone who came along asking for work. Even men from the Camp with compassionate grounds for leaving were taken on. Mr. Hutchinson thought this very hard lines on the farmers who all at the present time were short handed. His Excellency agreed, and said that the problem of getting men to go to the Camp to work was a very difficult one indeed, and if it continued to get worse the Falklands might as well pack up. The Government he said seems to get the rejects of labour from other employers and he has often seen men being late for work and slacking while at work.~~

~~The General feeling of the Committee on this point was that poor workers and timekeepers should first be warned and then dismissed.~~ The Committee felt that if the work was given out on contract basis to someone, and that the men were paid according to the amount of work done by them, the men who had the contracts would see to it that the men done a good days work. By this method the good worker would benefit and so would the Colony by getting more for its money. His Excellency thought this an excellent idea, and Colonel Woodgate agreed, but said the difficulty would be to get a contractor to come forward with a price. It would be referred to the Labour Federation His Excellency said, and he expressed the hope that it would work. ... ..

Copy.

*Original filed in 206/46  
Estimates 1947 P.W.D.*

7.

No. 206/46.

MINUTE.

(It is requested that, in any reference to this minute the above Number and the date may be quoted.)

5th. November, 1946.

To The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary.

From

The Executive Engineer,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

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Block Labour Vote - 1947 Estimates.

A rather important point has arisen in connection with the tentative proposal to make a block Labour vote for P. W. D. which I should like to record for future reference. With a view to expeditious completion I let the cutting of the new by-pass at Surf Bay on piece work. There were five men employed by the man who accepted the job and they finished it in about three weeks but the amount they earned in this period would have kept eighteen men employed at hourly rates for the same period. From this it will be seen that any extensive use of contract or piece work will have the effect of making the provision made for the block vote inadequate, as it was based on so many men at hourly rates for one year.

(Sgd.) J. A. Woodgate  
Executive Engineer.