

42. You have mentioned about the accumulator-pressure, and so on?—I never mentioned anything about the pressure.

43. Do you know from your own observation how many accumulators there are in the Addington Workshops?—No. They are not ample, that is all I know, from the remarks of the men working them and from my own observation.

44. What is the location of the new riveting-machine—is it anywhere near the old one?—I should say it was somewhere about where the old one was.

45. Has the hydraulic pressure any further to go to the new machine than it did to the old one?—I cannot tell you.

46. Do you know at what pressure the accumulators are worked?—No. I do not claim to be an expert engineer in these matters. I am a boilermaker entirely, and as such have not taken the extreme interest in this that you appear to think I have done.

47. You have mentioned the fact that at Addington the carpenters' shop does work of a more substantial character than other shops?—As far as my knowledge goes.

48. Is that from observation or from hearsay?—I said my attention was called to the fact, and the work was pointed out to me.

49. Is the Commission to understand that you examined this work yourself?—Not closely. As a matter of fact, I am not sure whether the work was panelling or tenoning.

50. This is somebody else's opinion, not yours?—Yes.

51. Presumably you do not know that all the new carriage-work is done to standard drawings?—I know it is supposed to be.

52. Do you know that in these standard drawings it is provided in detail for panelling, tenoning, and rabbeting?—I should say that it would be.

53. But you do not know of your own knowledge?—No. I have not gone into the blue prints as carefully as that.

54. You have mentioned that you were on particularly friendly terms with Mr. Henderson, the foreman boilermaker: do those terms still continue?—Yes, I think so. I have heard here that on this point I have had an extreme divergence of opinion with Mr. Henderson, and that I have taken this method of getting back on him. I give that an unqualified denial. My relations with Mr. Henderson now are of the most friendly nature, and have been for the last thirty years. There is no man in the Railway service who for quality and capacity is more deserving of recognition from the Railway Department. I do not say he has not got recognition. There is not the slightest truth in the statement that there has been any scene, or any quarrel, or any words between Mr. Henderson and myself. I have not spoken to Mr. Henderson since Christmas or perhaps November.

55. Can you state the dates when you visited Addington Workshops within the last six months?—No, I cannot tell you the dates.

56. Does one date happen to be during Carnival Week, when the shops were shut?—Yes.

57. Then nothing would be working in the boiler-shop?—I could not say. I should say there was.

58. Was the machinery going?—I do not think so.

59. The riveting-machine would not be doing work, I presume?—It may have been; I could not say. I do not remember the exact day I was in the works. It was one of the days in Carnival Week.

60. In your opinion work is done in Addington Workshops in a more substantial manner than elsewhere?—That is my opinion, and it always has been. I have expressed the opinion to you that I thought too good work was being turned out.

61. Does that apply to the boiler-shop?—No; I do not think too good can be put on a boiler that has to stand 250 lb. pressure.

62. Your remarks as to too good work being put in at Addington do not apply to the boilers?—I did not say that at all. I say that, taking it generally, the work is too good.

63. I am asking about the boilers. You said it could not be too good?—I said that on the boilers of the X engines too good work could not be put in. I would not say that all the boiler-work is done too well at Addington. Some can be done well and more economically.

64. You are not in a position to say what machine it was at Addington which was new and practically unused?—I called the attention of the Commission to an old machine which was at Petone, and I mentioned a planing-machine which has been at Addington for some years which has not earned its oil.

65. Where is that machine at Addington located?—Inside the door of the fitting-shop. I should say it was got from Mr. Anderson if I remember its history aright.

66. It is a planing-machine of considerable age?—It has been there quite a long time, to my own knowledge.

67. Your powers of observation in regard to the work are considerable: have you noticed that that particularly large planing-machine did particularly large work at any time?—No.

68. Is it within your knowledge that there is a certain class of work done on that machine that could not be done on any other machine in the shop?—No, it is not within my knowledge.

69. Then your statement was made without full knowledge of the capacity and requirements of the machine?—I do not claim to make the statements I have made on full knowledge.

70. Your statement about this machine is made without knowledge of the class of work that is done on it?—Yes.

71. You also made a further statement, so I understood, that there were no pneumatic hoists at Addington?—Yes, as far as my knowledge goes.

72. Does the particular question of the height of the riveting-machine appeal to you as being awkward or convenient?—I do not wish to express an opinion.