

British Parliamentary Papers, Royal Commission on Labour. Minutes of evidence, Volume I. Textiles. 1891 [C.6708-VI]. pp. 302-8.

http://gateway.proquest.com/openurl?url_ver=Z39.88-2004&res_dat=xri:hcp&rft_dat=xri:hcp:fulltext:1892-069120:310

Sample extracts:

7479. You are the President of the South of Scotland Chamber of Commerce?
At present I am.

...

7493. How many people do you employ yourself?

590, I think, was the figure I gave the Commission. I answered for our firm the questions of the Commission, and then I gave the exact figure, but as I am not here answering for our particular firm, I have not the figures with me. That is, however, about the number.

7494. And how would they be divided between men, women and young persons?
I should think about probably 300 to 350 women, and perhaps 70 to 80 young persons, and the rest would be men.

...

7502. What would the women earn there?

We have two classes of looms in our trade. One of our slow looms runs 50 picks a minute, and the other, a fast loom, runs 84 to 90, and I tell our people I cannot have a woman who cannot earn 16s. a week for herself. I will not keep her if she cannot. That is with a slow loom. If she is on a fast loom she ought to earn at least 11. a week, and if not, I shall not be satisfied.

...

7561. What is the amount of your fine for want of punctuality?

I think it is one halfpenny for the first quarter of an hour; doubles itself for half an hour; and then if a person is more than three times late in the week it doubles again, but practically it comes to very little money. I should say further that the money is divided among those who are there in time all the month, that is to say, the money, whatever is kept off, is repaid to the others who have been there in time.

...

7607. Up to what age do the people work in your factory?

It is rather difficult to tell that. We have one or two men above 60, but not many.