

Functions, Powers and Procedure of Boards.

Jurisdiction.
At least ten
employees to
be affected
by dispute.
Same dis-
pute not to
be referred
twice to
Board
within a
year without
consent of
parties.

21. Any dispute may be referred to a Board by application in that behalf made in due form by any party thereto; provided that no dispute shall be the subject of reference to a Board under this Act in any case in which the employees directly affected by the dispute are fewer than ten; and provided that no new application between the same parties and upon the same dispute shall be received or acted upon within less than one year after the rendering of a report thereon by the Board as between such parties and on such subject matter without the concurrence of both of such parties.

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Method of
referring
disputes to
Board.

22. Upon the appointment of the Board the Registrar shall forward to the chairman a copy of the application for the appointment of such Board, and of its accompanying statement and declaration, and of the statement in reply to the other party to the dispute, and the Board shall forthwith proceed to deal with the matters referred to in these documents.

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Duties of
Board.

23. In every case where a dispute is duly referred to a Board it shall be the duty of the Board to endeavour to bring about a settlement of the dispute, and to this end the Board shall, in such manner as it thinks fit, expeditiously and carefully inquire into the dispute and all matters affecting the merits thereof and the right settlement thereunder. In the course of such inquiry the Board may make all such suggestions and do all such things as it deems right and proper for inducing the parties to come to a fair and amicable settlement of the dispute, and may adjourn the proceedings for any period the Board thinks reasonable to allow the parties to agree upon terms of settlement.

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Where
settlement
effected,
memorandum
of same with
report to be
forwarded to
Minister.

24. If a settlement of the dispute is arrived at by the parties during the course of its reference to the Board, a memorandum of the settlement shall be drawn up by the Board and signed by the parties, and a copy thereof with a report upon the proceedings shall be forwarded to the Minister.

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Where
settlement
not effected
Board to
make report
with recom-
mendations.

25. If a settlement of the dispute is not arrived at during the course of its reference to the Board, the Board shall make a full report thereon to the Minister, which report shall set forth the various proceedings and steps taken by the Board for the purpose of fully and carefully ascertaining all the facts and circumstances, and shall also set forth such facts and circumstances, and its findings therefrom, including the cause of the dispute and the Board's recommendation for the settlement of the dispute according to the merits and substantial justice of the case.

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Form in
which recom-
mendation
shall be
made.

26. The Board's recommendation shall deal with each item of the dispute and shall state in plain terms, and avoiding as far as possible all technicalities, what in the Board's opinion ought or ought not to be done by the respective parties concerned. Wherever it appears to the Board expedient so to do, its recommendation shall also state the period during which the proposed settlement should continue in force, and the date from which it should commence.

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