

14th. March, 1929.

Professor Bhai Balmukand,
Agricultural College,
LYALLPUR?
Punjab, India.

Dear Professor Balmukand,

I am sorry to hear that your business affairs have been troublesome, but glad that you are now "out of the wood" I hope you found your family well and happy.

The only enquiries I know of comparable to that which I suggest have been strictly urban, in which case in England, where the streets are all numbered, a random sample of one in twenty can be easily visited and full information usually obtained.

This procedure gives little help in the case of cultivators. On thinking over the methods of examining the data I believe it would be of the greatest service to record an approximate age. The nearest 10 years would be sufficient, so as to judge of the economic status, for example, of very old, and of young occupiers. Indeed for the specific purpose I have in view it would be quite suitable to restrict enquiries to occupiers of 40-60 years of age; but if you have in view the development of a technique of enquiry suitable for obtaining other knowledge, which administrative bodies are always

liable to need, this would be too narrow a method for general purposes.

The average number of children born to cultivators of such an age that their families will be approximately complete, and who are still active cultivators, seems the best standard for fertility.

For property, the great difficulty is evidently in joint ownership. You or your informants will be able to know I think if the assumption (i) that in the absence of contrary information the size of the holding should be a measure of the source of income, and (ii) if the treatment of joint ownership by assigning to each occupier an equal share of the common property would give on the whole a satisfactory property status to these individuals. I hope this would work. If you think so it will only be necessary to note joint ownership (e.g. between brothers) as it occurs. I shall not be going to the States this year.

Yours sincerely,